

ARM INJURY ENDS WILLIAM TIGHE'S CAREER

8x 20-GAME WINNER WAS NYL'S POTY IN 1875, THEN MVP IN 1876

ALBANY, N.Y. (June 8, 1878) – Minuteman #1 William Tighe took the ball to pitch at Eagle on in Upstate New York earlier this week, but he had to exit with after just 2/3 of an inning upon telling field manager William Sprecher that he felt something “rip” in his pitching arm while making a delivery to Eagle RF Jonathan Capehart.

With time having been given for any pain and swelling to go away Tighe found himself still unable to use his pitching arm and, faced with the realization that he'd suffered a catastrophic injury, the 40-year-old Tighe has decided it's time to call time on his baseball career.

Tighe, a native of Philadelphia, entered the N.B.B.O. with St. John's in 1865. Although he never won the Tucker-Wheaton Cup while in Providence, Tighe was 89-36 with a 3.48 ERA over four seasons pitching for St. John's – he likely would have won N.E.L. Pitcher of the Year in 1866 had the award existed then – before he controversially left for Mutual ahead of the 1869 season. The decision to move to Mutual in New York City was a blunder for Tighe, who posted records of 18-17, 13-28, & 12-14 over three seasons in green & white, leading the N.Y.L. in Losses in 1870 while also posting a career-worst ERA.

Tighe left Mutual for Minuteman in 1872, and that put his career back on track. Tighe's first five seasons in Albany:

- 1872: 23-17, 3.17 ERA, 35 K, 31 CG, 2 SHO, 1.27 WHIP, 5.4 WAR
- 1873: 21-19, 3.15 ERA, 21 K, 19 CG, 1.28 WHIP, 4.4 WAR
- 1874: 24-11, 3.23 ERA, 35 K, 24 CG, 1.33 WHIP, 6.5 WAR, **A-S**
- 1875: **27-16**, 2.74 ERA, **35 K**, **52 G**, **358.2 IP**, 27 CG, 1 SHO, 2 SV, 1.24 WHIP, 6.8 WAR, **A-S, P.o.t.Y**
- 1876: **28-11**, 2.44 ERA, 98 K, **31 CG**, **2 SHO**, 2 SV, 1.19 WHIP, 7.3 WAR, **10.6 rWAR, A-S, M.V.P.**

After winning N.Y.L. Pitcher of the Year in 1875, Tighe's career peaked in 1876, when he led the N.B.B.O. in Wins & rWAR, won a memorable Game Five in the Tucker-Wheaton Cup to bring Minuteman its first title, and took home N.Y.L. Most Valuable Player honors.

Tighe had a lackluster 1877 for Minuteman in which he was 14-17 with an ERA above 3.50. However, he was off to a brilliant start in 1878 – 9-3 with a 2.81 ERA over 102.2 innings – when he was struck down at Eagle.

The final word on [Tighe's career](#):

- 14 YRS: 279-190, 3.37 ERA, 489 K, 4,169.1 IP, 291 CG, 13 SHO, 3 SV, 1.31 WHIP, 1.2 K/BB, 75.0 WAR, 58.5 rWAR
- AVG: 20-14, 3.37 ERA, 35 K, 298.0 IP, 21 CG, 1 SHO, 0 SV, 1.31 WHIP, 1.2 K/BB, 5.4 WAR, 4.2 rWAR

- 1876 Tucker-Wheaton Cup winner
- 1875 N.Y.L. Pitcher of the Year
- 1876 N.Y.L. Most Valuable Player
- 6x N.B.B.O. All-Star (1866-67, 69, 74-76)
- 2x N.Y.L. Team of the Year (1875-76)

- 8x 20-game Winner (1866-68, 72-76)
- 3x league leader in Wins (1866, 75-76)
- 2x league leader in Complete Games & Shutouts (1866, 76)
- 1x N.Y.L. leader in RA/9 WAR (1875)

Tighe plans on going back home to Philadelphia to work in the private sector, and word is that he'll look for a coaching job in the P.C.B.L. The team to hire Tighe will find themselves lucky to have the services of the decorated pitcher.