What Happened Next?

• Abner received an appointment to the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York. He graduated with the class of 1842.

• He served in the United States Army with distinction for the next 30 years of his life.

• General Abner Doubleday fought in several famous Civil War battles, including the Battle of Gettysburg, Antietam and the battle of Fort Sumter.

• In 1907, the Mills Commission credited Doubleday with "inventing" the game of baseball, though the evidence that he did was weak. Later, the Baseball Hall of Fame was built in Cooperstown in the belief that this was where Doubleday invented baseball.

Who Invented Baseball?

Games of bat and ball have been played in North America since the first English settlers landed. There were many different games, with shifting rules; you have seen some of them played in this book. Baseball grew out of these games, so it was not actually invented. Perhaps one person may have put down the first set of rules that we would recog-

nize today as the rules of baseball. Some people have pointed to Alexander Cartwright, in Hoboken, New Jersey, in 1845, as that person. Others think it happened earlier or later.

Many think that so widely played a game can not be credited to one person, and that it's most accurate to say that America invented baseball.

From the author of *Abner Doubleday, Boy Baseball Pioneer*—"The reason I was specific on Baseball *Pioneer* . . .I don't want the emphasis on THE inventor. . . . but rather on Abner Doubleday as one of the many boys who played baseball, and who contributed to the evolution of the game.

"The Baseball Hall of Fame was founded in Cooperstown as a result of the 1907 Commission that determined Abner Doubleday was baseball's inventor, and the baseball field was named Doubleday Field in his honor. Perhaps those two events were Doubleday's greatest contribution to baseball."

For more information and further reading about
Abner Doubleday, visit the **Young Patriots Series** website at
www.patriapress.com