LIVE WASHINGTON TOPICS.

THE MESSAGE AND BLAINE'S COMMENTS THE CHIEF SUBJECT OF TALK.

Democrats and Republicans Agree that the Issue Presented Makes Blaine's Nomination Certain—Hiscock Beats Farwell for Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee—Indian Agent Williamson's Resignation Brought About by a Special in The Sun—Amendments to Hous. Rules—Mr. Randall Preparing a Tax Reduction Bill.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—Congressmen yesterdy talked about nothing except President Cleveland's bold message. To-day they talked about little except Blaine's fighting reply to it. The Blaine Republicans are full of enthusiasm, the anti-Blaine Republicans are beginning to think they will have to surrender to the Maine man again, and the Democrats pronounce Blaine a tricky statesman but a brilliant politician. The general opinion is that Blaine's interview has settled in advance the Republican nomination for President, and set up the tariff question fair and square as the only issue for 1888. Senators, Representatives, National Committee members, Government officials and politicians generally talked to-day of the sensation in politics. Nine men out of ton declared that the fight in 1888 would be for Cleveland and tariff reduction against Blaine and protection. The friends of Sherman and Hawley, and of Allison and all the rest, admit that Blaine stock has advanced several points to-day. The time for Blaine to speak could not have been more opportune. The National Republican Committee is in session, and the leading politicians of many cities are at the capital.

"I am not an advocate of Blaine's nomination," said a prominent Western Congressman to-day, "and I voted against his nomination in 1884; but I must confess that, whether he should be the candidate or not, no one can deny him the right to be called the leader of his party. His Paris interview is a master stroke of political genius. Cleveland's was good, but Blaine's is better, because, while Cleveland was speaking as the President, Blaine is but a private citizen. I have been afraid for several months that Blaine would be nominated. I know it now. Nothing but death can prevent it. They tell us he is a sick man, but it cannot be true. Sick men do not grasp political opportunities at the turning of the tide as this man has done. He is a wonderful politician, and if he wants to be nominated for President no combination can defeat him."

This Congressman voiced the sentiments of almost every Republican who was heard to talk about the Blaine interview to-day. The out-and-out Blaine men are, if possible, even more enthusiastic in their talk, and declare that from now on no candidate will be seriously talked of as a competitor to Mr. Blaine. The Democrats say the same, and add that they are happy, because Blaine is the easiest man to beat.

Nearly all the Republicans in Washington are having a high old time time to-night at the rooms of the Republican League. The National Republican Committee had its sessions there to-day, and the League is giving the committee a reception. The Chicago crowd predominates, not only at the reception, but all over town. The hotels are full of Blaine shouters, and the town is like a miniature Chicago on the Convention nights of 1884. At the Arlington could be seen Powell Clayton talking in earnest tones with Simon B. Conover, ex-Senator from Florida. Ex-Customs Collector Harvey Walbridge of Charleston, S. C., pleaded with Stephen B. Elkins to tell him why he opposed holding the Convention in Chicago, and other groups of Blaine leaders monopolized the reading rooms and lobbies. Elkins pretended he was against Chicago as the Convention city all day, but was willing that the Convention should be at any other place. He started out by talking for Richmond, Alexandria, and Culpeper, Va., and wound up by going with the majority. It is supposed that Elkins took this course merely as a blind, and that other Blaine men are rejoicing that Chicago was selected, and predicting that if the Convention should be held to-morrow the magnetic man would be nominated on the first ballot. Before going to the reception this evening the citizens from the cities whose claims were ignored met at the Arlington Hotel as guests of the Chicago committee. Wine was opened freely, songs were sung, and a general jollification was had. Through all the merriment ran the song that Blaine was the coming man. To-morrow morning the Chicago delegation, with some of the visitors from other cities, will call at the White House and tell Mr. Cleveland that, as he was nominated at Chicago, he should favor the movement, which will be made at the February meeting of the Democratic committee, to hold the National Democratic Convention there also.

Several resolutions for the amendment of the rules were offered in the House to-day. Mr. Springer offered one embodying the various propositions advanced by him at the beginning of the last Congress. Briefly stated, it provides for the abolition of the Committees on Pacific Railroads, Invalid Pensions, Mileage, Militia, and Improvement of the Mississippi River, and the transfer of their functions to other committees. Provision is also made for a general increase of the membership of the remaining committees, and a rearrangement of their duties to some extent. The other resolutions offered were as follows:

By Mr. McCreary of Kentucky—To amend rule 21 by adding thereto the following: "And all general appropriation bills shall be reported to the House within sixty days after the appointment of standing committees at the first session, and within forty days after the commencement of the second session."

By Mr. Belmont of New York—To make privileged equally with appropriation bills measures for the reorganization of and retrenchment of expenditure in any branch of the legislative, executive, or judicial departments of the government.

By Mr. Hudd of Wisconsin—To require every member to be present within the hall of the House during the session, unless excused or necessarily prevented, and to vote on all votes but ——, and on each roll call, unless personally or pecuniarily interested in the proposition, under pain of liability to expulsion.

By Mr. Gallinger of New Hampshire—To create a Committee on the Public Health, to consist of thirteen members.

By Mr. Springer of Illinois—To provide that the Committies of the whole House shall consist of 100 members, which number shall constitute a quorum to do business. Whenever the Committee of the Whole finds itself without a quorum the Chairman shall cause the roll to be called, and thereupon the committee shall rise and the Chairman report the names of the absentees to the House. But if a quorum appears to be present the committee shall resume its sitting without further order from the House.

To provide that after any revenue or appropriation bill has been considered in Committee of the Whole under the five minute rule for one days it shall be in order to move in the House to discharge the Committee of the Whole from the further consideration of such bills.

To provide that all private bills and bills for the improvement of rivers and harbors and for the establishment and change of post routes shall be handed to the Clerk, as in the case of petitions and memorials for reference to appropriate committees. When private bills are reported from committees with favorable recommendation they shall be read a first and second time, printed and referred to the Committee of the Whole on the private calendar.

All of these resolutions were ordered to be referred to the Committee on Rules when it shall be appointed.

The Committee on Mileage was announced as follows: Mr. Rogers of Arkansas, Mr. Howard of Indiana, Mr. Burnett of Massachusetts, Mr. Belden of New York, and Mr. Felton of California.

Mr. Randall is carefully preparing a scheme of tariff revision and revenue reduction that he will offer as soon as he can complete it, probably before the holiday adjournment. He will take a sixty-million reduction of revenue as his basis, and divide the reduction about equally between tariff and internal taxes. His internal tax reduction will cover tobacco, reduced duties on imported tobacco and domestic sundries, and a rebate on whiskey used for other than drinking purposes. His tariff reduction will not touch sugar, but will enlarge the free list as far as practicable to aid manufacories, possibly including free coal from Canada, to open free markets for our coal in that Dominion. It will reduce protective duties on competitive articles to the standard of the protection of labor as recommended by the President, and correct the many glaring imperfections of the administrative features of the present tariff laws. He will provide for specific duties wherever practicable. The question of free coal from Nova Scotia is strongly urged by some of the heaviest coal producers, who say that it would admit not exceeding 300,000 to 500,000 tons a year in New England, but would be of great benefit to New England manufacturers, and open a free market for not less than 3,000,000 tons of our coal in Canada that would soon grow to five or six millions. The Canada duty on coal is a reciprocity duty, and our coal would be free in Canada the day we admitted their coal free here. Mr. Randall is carefully studying the free list with the view of making it as large as possible without material injury to our industries.

The Senate Caucus Committee that is arranging the Republican representation upon the standing committees of the Senate meets daily and remains in session several hours. The members preserve as great secrecy as they do in executive session, but the secrets leak out. Thus it was learned to-day that several interesting little skirmishes have taken place between the able Senators over the places upon the good committees. Senator Sawyer of Wisconsin and Senator Palmer of Michigan both wanted to be members of the Committee on Commerce. It was decided that both Northwestern States could not be represented, and, therefore, either Sawyer or Palmer must yield his claims. Senatorial courtesy prevented each from doing this, however, and so the matter was left to a vote. Palmer had his forces better organized than Sawyer, and he won. The latter must be content with his prominence as Chairman of the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads. Senator Hiscock won his first Senatorial victory also. He looked horns with Senator Charley Farwell over the vacant place on the Finance Committee. Farwell was at first booked for the place. Hiscock wanted it, and, as the former was well provided for in other directions, Hiscock won. This will prevent his appointment to the Chairmanship of the Committee on Rules, to which it was thought he would be appointed. Members of the Caucus Committee said to-day that they felt confident of being able to announce the committee list on Monday.

Henry E. Williamson, the agent at the Crow agency, has sent in his resignation, to take effect on Dec. 31. Mr. Williamson is an uncle of Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs Upshaw. He was appointed to the office from Mississippi on Sept. 25, 1885, at a salary of $2,000 a year. His resignation, which was called for by the Secretary of the Interior, is practically the result of an investigation recently made by Inspector Armstrong during his late trip to the Crow agency to investigate the causes of the outbreak there, the results of which are embodied in a long report and list of charges preferred by Armstrong, which are now lying in the Interior Department, the Secretary having declined to make the reports public. Gen. Armstrong has been in the city for several days, but has steadfastly refused to make public the results of his investigations until the Secretary has given them out himself. It is learned from good authority, however, that the substance of the reports is as follows:

Gen. Armstrong was first sent to the Crow agency at the time of the outbreak there, upon the strength of a Washington special printed in THE SUN, which gave some details of Williamson's neglect to comply with the Secretary's orders regarding the advertising of the grazing privileges on the reservation, thus leaving the monopoly in the hands of one syndicate of cattle men, who had simply a private agreement as to their occupancy. As soon as Sword Bearer's little revolution was put down, Gen. Armstrong turned his attention to the cattle matter, and found that a very few men had a monopoly of the grazing, and will hold it until next spring. Williamson's failure to advertise allowing them to remain so late upon the reservation that they could not be turned off without great damage to their stock before next spring. The treaty with the Crows provides that their grazing may be leased out for the benefit of the Indians, the details of the leases to be fixed by the Secretary of the Interior. This Williamson was ordered to do, but wrote back counselling delay, as the Indians wanted these stockmen who were on the lands to have the grazing. No reply was ever written to this letter of Williamson by the Secretary.

Gen. Armstrong also discovered that Williamson had made a contract with two persons named McCormick and McNutt, giving them the exclusive privilege to cut hay on the Crow reservation for sale to the army posts. In return for this they were to cut 140 tons of hay for the use of the Government horses and to pay any Indians upon whose allotment hay had been cut a certain price per ton to be afterward fixed. Williamson claimed to make this contract for the United States, although he had no right to make any contracts whatever. He said that he thought he was benefiting the Government, but was given to understand that he did not represent the Government, but the Indians. McCormick and McNutt are said to have made about $15,000 a year out of the contract. There were few Indians who had allotments, and the contractors claimed that under the terms of their contract they were not compelled to pay for hay cut upon preemptions or other claims made by the Indians. Gen. Armstrong told them their contracts were worthless, tore them up and then said they should not remove a ton of hay from the reservation before they had paid every Indian from whose land they had cut hay, whatever his title to it was, at least $2 per ton for all cut. This the contractors cheerfully agreed to do. Otherwise the Indians would have gotten nothing out of the contract whatever.

Other charges of a personal nature were made. Williamson is said to be loud mouthed, profane, and quick tempered. He lost strength and influence with the Indians, and before Gen. Williams made his report two councils were held, in which the Inspector was requested to ask for the agent's removal. His influence being gone, he was almost a useless agent, and his resignation was requested.

Secretary Fairchild has recommended to Congress that the salaries of the Assistant Treasurers at Boston, Philadelphia, and San Francisco be raised to $6,000 per annum, and the Assistant Treasurers at Chicago, New Orleans, and St. Louis to $5,000. This is an increase of $1,500 in the offices at Philadelphia and San Francisco, an increase of $500 in the offices at Chicago and St. Louis, and an increase of $1,000 in all the other offices mentioned. It is recommended also that the salary of the cashier at the New York Sub-Treasury be increased to $5,000.

The Clerk of the House to-day submitted to that body his annual report, which shows that the amount appropriated for salaries for the Clerk's office for the year was $369,297, of which $347,547 was expended, leaving a balance of $21,750. For miscellaneous expenses, including Capitol police, material for the folding room, fuel and oil, furniture and repairs to furniture, folding room, stamp boxes, for postage, miscellaneous items, newspapers and stationary, and for personal payment, $133,549 was appropriated, of which amount $115,275 was expended, leaving a balance of $18,274 still on hand. John C. Telier of Virginia was to-day appointed Index clerk of the House in the place of W. T. Hutchings of Virginia, resigned.

McCreery & Co.'s Display of Silks and Velvets.

Curiosity to see something of the inside of one of the largest houses in this country which makes a specialty of dress goods, silks, satins, plushes, and velvets, led a reporter to the store of James McCreery & Co. at Broadway and Eleventh street. A special display is made in the department of evening, party, and wedding silks, and a Pompadour moire antique stripe in all the light evening tints is among the beautiful goods shown. Dazzling metal silks, with gold and silver tinsel wrought into the fabric, are used alone or in combination with faille français of satin to match. There are white moire antique and moire français for weddings and evening dresses in almost endless variety. For street wear there are Bengalines and cotes plushes, with Persian Pompadour stripes. Plushes are much more popular than velvets just now, because of their handsome sheen and durability. McCreery & Co. have a very large stock of plush worked in geometrical figures for street wear. The moire antiques with plaid effects, made by bright hues and fine lines, and resembling scotch, the Scotch plaids, are now at the height of their popularity. A handsome novelty in their stock is a black satin moire with an antique stripe which resembles water with the sun shining on it. They also have a special line of dress patterns for the holidays of crepes, gauze, and tissue with pendants. The lace department is worth a visit. Creams and black laces for overdresses, drop beads, and point for bridal veils, and lace handkerchiefs at all prices are there. Although the prevailing color of ladies' silk hosiery is black, McCreery & Co. have some beautiful evening shades, such as pistache, heliotrope, pink, and blue. Their latest novelty is imported fancy silk underwear for ladies. Besides these specialties they keep a full line of all those articles usually found in a large dry goods establishment.

Bids for a Big Dam.

The bids for building the new dam at Sodom, which were opened by the Aqueduct Commissioners on Wednesday, were as follows:

Sullivan, Rider & Dougherty	$366,000
Andrew O'Rourke	369,867
Brown, J. S.	377,015
Page, Carter & Co.	379,950
Ryan & McDonald	384,131
Smith, Ripley & Brown	436,360
Quackenbush, John R.	438,515
Clarke & O'Hair	441,470
O'Brien & Clarke	442,070
Nolan Brothers	447,000
Malone, R. A.	465,270
Cose, John & Co.	484,147
Byron, Jerry	489,216
Colins, Jerry	498,000
Arnold & Stephens	493,870

Sullivan, Rider & Dougherty, the lowest bidders, have recently been engaged on a section of the new aqueduct. Mr. Sullivan has been engaged recently in building the aqueduct on the Welland Canal across the Chippewa River.

Merchant Schwab's Death Pronounced an Accident.

A Coroner's jury found yesterday that the death of Jacob Schwab from a fall down the elevator shaft at his lace store, 555 Broadway, was accidental. It will be remembered that the firm made an assignment a few days after his death and compromised at fifty cents. He was heavily insured against death and accident. Lawyer H. C. King, representing the Mercantile Mutual Accident Association, brought out these facts at the inquest.

ALMOST A BLOCKADE.

The London and Liverpool Clothing Company's Great Sale.

From early morn until late in the evening the corner of Hester street and Bowery was blockaded with men, women, and children. With great exertion a reporter entered the store. The manager explained matters by stating that the London and Liverpool Clothing Company were selling their entire stock of men's overcoats at $1 18 to $7 50 after an examination of the garments referred to he did not wonder at the tremendous business they were doing. Piles on piles of silk and satin lined overcoats in all the colors and materials that the most fastidious man could wish for. After inspecting the stock for over an hour the manager escorted him to the second floor, where thousands of overcoats met his gaze. "These," said the manager, "are the royal Israel and Kersey. We are the sole and only agents in the United States for the sale of the products of this celebrated mill. They make the richest and handsomest garment in the world. Of course, we have to sell them according to our advertisement, at $11.90." After leaving the store he was not surprised at the crowds that surrounded the London and Liverpool Clothing Company, at 86 and 88 Bowery.—Adv.

Henrietta says Anti-Chap is booming. At druggists', 25 cents.—Adv.

HONORED BY THE SULTAN.

The Decoration of Commander of the Medjidie Conferred Upon Dr. Henry.

Dr. Morris H. Henry of New York city is the third American who has been honored by the Sultan of Turkey with the decoration of the Commander of the Medjidie. Congressman Samuel S. Cox and Gen. Lew Wallace also have the decoration. They have represented this Government at the court of the Sultan. Dr. Henry has never been in Turkey. The decoration is given to Dr. Henry for his attainments in that branch of medical science which was especially interesting to the Sultan because it had to do with his army. Owing to the climate, diseases of the veins are common, and unfit the subjects of the Sultan to perform military duty. Dr. Henry's writings on the subject are well known to medical authorities in Europe and the East, and he invented an appliance called the phimosis forceps, which has been of use in Turkey for several years. Dr. Henry received three years ago from the Greek Government the decoration of Officier of the Royal Order of the Savior and the insignia of the Gold Cross. As the Sultan desired to distinguish Dr. Henry, it was necessary for him, in accordance with Eastern custom, to present him with a title of higher rank than that which he already had. The rank next above Officier is Commander.

The decoration was received by Dr. Henry at his residence, 581 Fifth avenue, from M. Mavroyeni, the Turkish Minister at Washington. It was created by the father of the present Sultan. In Turkey it is conferred only on officials of the rank of General in the army. The decoration is worn suspended from the neck by a red ribbon with a green border. It consists of a pendant, on which is a gold star and crescent with red enamel, and below this a large seven-pointed silver star, with a circle in the centre surrounded with red enamel, in which are Turkish inscriptions. In the centre, on a gold ground, is the word in Turkish, "Medijie." The inscriptions Sunset Cox had translated, but Dr. Henry doesn't know what they mean yet.

Dr. Henry was born in London on July 26, 1835. His father was an Oriental scholar. He received his education in Belgium and came to New York in 1854. In 1857 he was assisted to the chair of surgery in the New York Medical College. In 1861 he entered the navy, and was in Farragut's Mississippi campaigns. From 1870 to 1875 he was editor of the Journal of Dermatology, and in 1871 he edited the American edition of Dr. Tilbury Fox's work, published in England, on skin diseases. On recommendation of Gov. Dix in 1873 Dr. Henry was appointed Surgeon-in-Chief of the New York State Emigrant Hospitals. He is Fellow of the New York Academy of Medicine, permanent member of the American Medical Association, permanent Commissioner of the Medico-Legal Society of New York, and Honorary Local Secretary of the Anthropological Institute of London.

TRADE SCHOOLS AND TRADE UNIONS.

Col. Auchmuty Talks of an American Apprenticeship System.

"An American Apprenticeship System" was the subject of a lecture last evening by Col. R. T. Auchmuty before the Polytechnic Section of the American Institute in Clinton Hall. Col. Auchmuty is the founder of the New York trade schools, and his lecture was largely a description of the success of the schools.

An American apprenticeship system was a very good thing as a system, he said, but it was not calculated to make good American mechanics. The master had not time to give his personal attention to the apprentices. It was but another name for slavery, and it perished in our own times after having existed from the middle ages. The workshop is not the place to learn all that the modern American working mechanic needs to know. The ideal which promises the best result is a combination of a trade school and a workshop.

Col. Auchmuty showed two photographs of brick buildings, one at Sixty-third street and Ninth avenue and the other at Sixty-eighth street, near Second avenue, which were built by students who had had only a few months' instruction. Compare these houses with those in the neighborhood, he said, and the students' work would not suffer.

It is the unwillingness, Col. Auchmuty said, of the master mechanics and journeymen in trades to permit young men to learn trades, lest they should become rivals, that stands in the way of trade schools. This works a great hardship to young men. Take one trade, for example, that of bricklaying. The trades organizations in this city will not permit over eighty-five young men to learn in one year the bricklaying trade as apprentices.

"It is a question," Col. Auchmuty added, "whether young men should be given a chance to make a living. If not, God help this country. The American idea is to put work within the reach of all. It is a foreign idea that there is only so much work, and that the less there is done the more remains to do."

She Found a Husband After All.

Anna Krasz, a comely German girl, came to this country on Saturday last on the steamship Ems from Hamburg. Her intended husband accompanied her, but before the steamer's arrival in New York told her he could not marry her. At Castle Garden the disconsolate girl was left alone, without friends or money. Julius Jordan, a young German barber from Hartford, visited the Garden yesterday, and, seeing Anna in tears, asked the cause of her trouble. He was touched by the girl's story, and asked her to marry him. Anna jumped at the offer, and Father Ryland read the service that made the immigrant girl Mrs. Julius Jordan. Julius says that his father is a wealthy merchant in Vienna.

A Big Whale Seen off Sandy Hook.

As the British bark Alice M. Claridge was coming in over Sandy Hook bar at noon yesterday, Pilot Frank Van Pelt, who was in charge, saw an enormous whale come to the surface of the water. Soon after it had disappeared again the pilot saw a commotion on the deck of a coast schooner near by, the crew running about and looking over the side. Soon after this the whale was seen just astern of the schooner, and it was apparent that the whale in coming to the surface had struck the schooner. As the schooner held her course, she was probably not hurt by the blow.

It has been a great many years since a whale was seen off Sandy Hook.

A Polyglot Secretary.

The Musical Mutual Protective Union had its election yesterday. The tellers counted votes until they were tired, and then said they would let the members know on Friday who were elected. The present President, Alexander Bremer, has undoubtedly a majority of the votes, and H. E. Mayland will be elected Vice-President. There was a hot fight for Secretary. A polyglot was wanted by the opposition, and they elected him, in the person of Larry O'Reilly, a Dublin man, who can read, write, and speak English, French, German, and Italian. Henry Irving and Campanini were elected honorary members of the union.

The Hackmen Terrify the Ladies.

The Railroad Commission has been asking the Mayors of New York and Albany to try and get the hackmen not to prance around so and make so much noise at the Hudson River Railroad stations. Both Mayors have directed the police to enforce order, "and reasonable quiet" Mayor Thacher adds. The Commission says this nuisance is terrifying to ladies and exasperating to men.

Will Mr. George Vanderbilt Give Richmond County New County Buildings?

It was rumored yesterday on Staten Island that Mr. George Vanderbilt was negotiating for the purchase of the Seaman's Retreat property at Stapleton, which, if purchased, he intended to donate to Richmond county, the building to be converted into a county jail and Court House. It is said that the price asked for the property is $200,000.

A Jersey City Crook Caught in Chicago.

Burt Madigan, who was the confidential clerk of John H. Freeman, a cracker dealer in Jersey City, disappeared two months ago with $950 of his employer's money. Yesterday the Jersey City police got word that Madigan had been arrested in Chicago. Detective Clos was sent there to bring him back to Jersey.

The Governor's wife is highly pleased with Anti-Chap. At druggists', 25 cents.—Adv.

BASE BALL MEN.

The American Association Hard at Work Revising Rules.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 8.—The work of the base ball men to-day was rather slow. After the Arbitration Committee had finished their work yesterday, and had spent the night in seeing the town, the visitors did not feel like work. Presidents Day and Young left for home early this morning. The first work of the day was the meeting of the Board of Directors of the American Association. Their work was soon over. It consisted mainly of routine business, such as awarding the championship to the St. Louis Club, and receiving and accepting the report of the Secretary. The latter made the suggestion that the Schedule Committee make a regular schedule for the umpires, and that they have full charge of the men while on the field. Also, that an umpire be removed only on charges preferred by four clubs.

The association then went into executive session, and was kept busy till dinner time receiving committee reports. The suggestion to the Board of Directors by the Secretary was approved, and the new umpire rule went into force.

The report of the Board of Arbitration was received and approved. The report of the Committee on Playing Rules took up about all the afternoon, the main hitch being the two substitute players. The Brooklyn and Athletic Clubs are trying to make a deal for the transfer of players. Brooklyn has made an offer of three players, said to be Clarke, Mays, and McTammany for Stovey. The Brooklyn men say that the three men whom they offer to the Athletics will go far toward strengthening that team, and that while Stovey would not add so great an amount of strength to the Brooklyn team, he would be a good general, and could take command of the team. The Athletic men are holding off, as they say that they cannot afford to part with Stovey.

The Athletics signed Lyons this morning. It came out to-day that the Association umpires were paid these salaries:

Gaffney, $2,500; Ferguson, $2,200; Doescher, $2,300, and McQuade, $2,000.

It is not likely that any one will be found at the present meeting to take the Metropolitan franchise off the hands of the Brooklyn Club. It was said that Pittsburgh had made an offer for it, but this is not true. The meeting adjourned early and accepted an invitation to a dinner at the Queen City Club given by the Cincinnati Club.

The fifty-cent admittance question will be settled to-morrow. Representatives of the Philadelphia Club are watching the movements of the Association men, and as soon as the fifty-cent rule is passed by the Association the Philadelphia League Club will also raise its price to fifty cents. President Byrne is going to Chicago after the meeting to sign Carruthers.

The Association has rejected the two-men substitute in the playing rules, but they have given the League the privilege of using the rule if they wish. A strong objection was made to the base on balls being credited as an error and counting in an earned run. It was reported back to the Rules Committee. The Committee on the millennium plan asked for more time. The elections resulted as follows:

President, Mr. Wikof. Vice-President, Chris Von der Ahe. Board of Directors—Athletic, Baltimore, St. Louis, and Cleveland. Arbitration Committee the same as last year. Schedule Committee—Brooklyn, Cincinnati, Louisville. Finance Committee—Athletic, Cincinnati, and St. Louis. Rules Committee—Baltimore, Cleveland, and Louisville. Committee on Umpires—Athletic, Louisville, and Cleveland. Chairman, H. R. Von der Horst.

A resolution was passed not to publish the proceedings in the official guide hereafter.

The Carney-McAuliffe Muddle.

BOSTON, Dec. 8.—Patsey Sheppard denies the story published in the Boston *Herald* that he has had a meeting with the backers of Jack McAuliffe and agreed to draw down the stakes. He says that no words have passed between him and any of the Brooklyn man's representatives concerning the fight. Jimmy Ormond, the final stakeholder, has simply informed both parties that he will do nothing about appointing a referee, and says that their money is ready for them upon demand. It is probable that the money will be withdrawn within a day or two.

Guttenberg Races.

The weather was delightful at Guttenberg yesterday. A big crowd was in attendance, and the betting was very spirited. The track was heavy, but the racing was first-class.

First Race—Purse $200, for all ages; seven furlongs. Brier won easily by a length in 1:38¾. Change second, Capt. Warren third. Betting—Brier, 2½ to 1; Change, 2 to 5; Capt. Warren, 10 to 1. Mutuals—Straight, $6.85; place, $2.35; Change, place, $2.15.

Second Race—Purse $200; five furlongs. Binion and Editor had a hot race for the finish, Binion winning by a neck in 1:03, Petersberg third. Betting—Binion, 6 to 5; Editor, 9 to 5; Petersberg, 4 to 1. Mutuals—Straight, $21.25; place, $12.05; Editor, place, $5.90.

Third Race—Purse $200; five furlongs. Falsehood won with hands down by six lengths in 1:39¾, Boy second, Castilian third. Betting—Falsehood, 6 to 1; Roy Boy, 3 to 1; Castilian, 10 to 1. Mutuals—Straight, $3.70; place, $2.80; Roy Boy, place, $3.20.

Fourth Race—Purse $200, for all ages; three-quarters of a mile. Tony Pastor captured the race by three lengths in 1:23¾. Sailor second, Marguerite third. Betting—Tony Pastor, 4 to 1; Sailor, 4 to 5; Marguerite, 11 to 5. Mutuals—Straight, $10.85; place, $4.05; Sailor, place, $2.75.

Fifth Race—Purse, $200; one mile. Landseer won by a length in 1:52¾. Pocassett second, Ivanhoe third. Betting—Landseer, 7 to 10; Pocassett, 10 to 1; Ivanhoe, 12 to 1. Mutuals—Straight, $3.80; place, $3.50; Pocassett, place, $10.80.

Clifton Entries.

The entries and weights for to-day's racing at Clifton are as follows:

First Race—Purse $200; for beaten horses; three-year-olds and upward; seven furlongs. Castillian, Moonshine, Vindex, Anarchy, Nellie Van, Peacock, Dizzy Brunette, King Arthur, and Lizzie Mae (late Minnie St. John), each 115; Glenbrook, 113; String Ban, George W. and Sir Pierce, each 110.

Second Race—Purse $200; 20 pounds above scale, selling allowances; three-quarters of a mile. Rass Wiel, 135 pounds; Trumpum, 123; Bob May, 123; Rythelin (late Ardri), 121; Harwood, 120; Silver Star, 115; Tecoy, 110; St. Clare, Spring Eagle, and Carrie G., each 107.

Third Race—Purse $200; one mile. Lancaster, 118 pounds; Joe Mitchell and Sumner, each 115; Suitor, El Trinidad, and Relax, each 109; Zero (late Clay Sexton) and Traveler, each 108.

Fourth Race—Purse $250, handicap; mile and a sixteenth. Glendon, 114 pounds; James A. H., 112; Big Head, 105; Lucy Arnold, 102; Little Emily, 99; Kink, 95; Frank Mullins, 94.

Fifth Race—Purse $200, beaten horses; selling allowances; three-quarters of a mile. Harry, 135; Blizzard, 132; Lizzie Hopkins, 120; Compensation, and Black Tom, each 119; Theodorus, Zampa, Bravissimo, Cowdriver, and Velvet, each 116; Bekole and Lizzie C., each 107; Auditor, 110; Asig colt and Glen Queen, each 101.

New Orleans Races.

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 8.—The winter meeting of the Louisiana Jockey Club was continued to-day. The track was muddy. First Race—Five furlongs. Overton won by a half length, June Bug second, the same distance ahead of Watcheye, third. Time, 1:09. Post odds—Against Conkling, 2 to 1; Watcheye, Robolink, and Overton, 6 to 1 each; Princess, 8 to 1; Lomax, France, June Bug, and Jack Brown, 10 to 1 each; Stonywall, 15 to 1. Pool sold, $2,011.

Second Race—Selling; seven furlongs. Little Joe won by a neck, Ira Bride second, five lengths ahead of Red Leaf, third. Time, 1:29¾. Post odds—Against Little Joe, 1 to 2; Red Leaf, 7 to 5; Ira Bride, 4 to 1.

Third Race—Free handicap; six furlongs. Buckeye won by three lengths, Golightly second and Tucker third. Time, 1:17¾. Post odds—Golightly, 1 to 3; Buckeye, 4 to 1; Tucker, 40 to 1.

Fourth Race—Free handicap; one mile. Little Minnie won by two lengths, Governor second, two lengths ahead of Phil Lewis, third. Time, 1:52¾. Post odds—Little Minnie, 2 to 1; Governor, 8 to 5; Cupid, 6 to 1; Berlin, 3 to 1; Phil Lewis, 3 to 1; Belle Taw, 10 to 1.

Guardians of Trotting Interests.

The many cases on the docket of the Board of Review of the National Trotting Association, which closed its session yesterday, while not of sufficient importance to attract general attention, showed that tricky owners and drivers keep on putting in their fine work, mostly on the minor tracks. The cases embraced suppression of time, entering horses under fictitious names and pedigrees, and the evasion of rules. A case showing complications likely to arise from the disemberment of the parent association was an application made by the Janesville Association to divide penalties between the National and American Associations for violations of the rules. The application was overruled. This matter will probably come up again at the Congress of the National Association which will meet in this city Feb. 13, 1888.

As much business was transacted in executive session, the full proceedings will not be made public until Secretary Morse makes his official report.

It is understood that Judge James Grant of California, who has presided over the sessions eight years, will ask to be retired in February.

Sporting Notes.

A new double team has been put together in California, consisting of Arab and Conde, which won the third heat and race against Jane L. and Palatina in 2:18¾.

A number of men have gone into training for the Columbia king-of-war team, and there is very probability that the team next spring will be one of the best ever put into the field.

Mr. Bonner has had Maud S. brought down to the city from his farm at Tarrytown, and is driving her with Picard. They go evenly together, and may break the team record next year.

The mildewed chestnut that the American Jockey Club had purchased grounds for a new race course sent would be contractors and others to the office of the club yesterday to see if they could secure jobs. Treasurer Monson and other members said that they knew nothing about the reported change of base.

The athletic entertainment and reception to take place at the Twelfth Regiment Armory, Sixty second street and Ninth avenue, on Saturday evening, will present a varied programme of walks, runs, tugs-of-war, and bicycle races. A large number of athletes will compete, 253 entries having been received.

Richard K. Fox received a despatch yesterday from London saying that he had been asked to have Kilrain appear before the Prince of Wales in the Pelican Club London. Mr. Fox cabled back: "Cannot allow Kilrain to box before the Prince of Wales at Pelican Club until after he meets Smith. Certainly do so then."

A Long Deferred Sentence.

Peter D. Crume of 79 New street, against whom an indictment was found on May 13, 1886, for selling pool tickets, was fined $25 yesterday by Recorder Smith in the General Sessions. The District Attorney said that the young man had gone out of the business and was living in Brooklyn.

Royal Baking Powder, Absolutely Pure. For twenty-five years the standard.—Adv.

FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

New York Stock Exchange—Sales Dec. 8.

UNITED STATES AND STATE BONDS (IN $1,000s).

2 U. S. 4s, r	123¾	15 Tenn. Set. 3s	77¾
1 N. C. con 4s	94½		

CLOSING PRICES OF UNITED STATES BONDS.

	Bid.	Asked.		Bid.	Asked.
U. S. 4½s, r	107	107¼	U. S. 6s, 1886	110	—
U. S. 4½s, c	107	107¼	U. S. 6s, 1886	121¼	—
U. S. 4s, r	123¼	124¼	U. S. 6s, 1887	123¼	—
U. S. 4s, c	124¼	125¼	U. S. 6s, 1888	125¼	—
			U. S. 6s, 1890	127¼	—

RAILROAD AND OTHER BONDS (IN $1,000S).

10 Atl. & Pac. in	25¾	24 Lake Sh. 2d	120
1	25¾	2 Lon. & N. cn	118
10	25¾	2 L., N. A. & Ch. cn	91
16 Atl. & Pac. 1st	82	1 Mor. & Es. 1st	140
1 Alb. & Sus. con. 6s	116¼	1 Mor. & Es. 2d	109
1 Alch. & C. 1st	105	1 Met. El. 2d	105
1	105¾	30 Mob. & O. 1st, defd	44
1 Bur., C. R. & N. 1st	105	11 Mich. Cent. 5s	106
2 B'klyn El. 1st	100		106¼
1 Ch. & O. 1st, g	116	2 Mo. Pac. cn	100¼
2 Ch. U. I. & Ath 7s	110¾	12 No. P. 1st c	116¼
2 Can. So. 1st	105½		116
8 C. P. g. 1036	102¼	1 Nor. P. d s	105¾
2 Cl. & Pitts. 4th	104¾	5 N. H. & H. 1st	76
2 Col. Coal 6s	108¾	2 N. Y. & L. 2d	106¼
1 Den. & R. G. con	78¾	7 N. J. C. genl 5s	100¾
1	78¾	1	100¾
2 Det., Bay C. & A. 1st	100	4	100¾
1 Ellz. & S. 8. 1st	97	8 N. Y. El. 1st	119
3 Erie 2d ex	97¾	2 N. Y., Ch. & St. L. 4s	85¾
15 E. Tenn. 5s	95¾	8 Ohio & Miss. 2d	113¾
10 Ft. Worth. 1st	70¾	5 Or. R. & N. 1st	110¾
18	80	5 Om. & St. L. 1st	70¾
1	70	11 Or. S. L. con	106¾
10 Green B. in	34	2 Or. Imp. 1st	95
3 Harlem 1st	125¾	34 Rh. & W. P. T. 6s	88
5 H. Val. 5s	76¾	5th. & Ft. 1st	111¾
1	71	4 So. Pac. N. Rex. 1st	100¾
5 H. & Tx. C. 1st, W. D	113¾	1 St. P. & Ma. 2d	116
5	113	1 St. L. & S. F. 2d, C. B.	118
14	113¾	1 St. L. & S. F. gl. 6s	101¼
1 H. & Tex. Cent. gul.	60½	2	101¾
1 Ind. & Ill. in	20	1 St. P. 1st, C. & M. r. 5s	98
3 Iron Mt., Ark. R.	105½	1 Scioto & T. G.	90
2 Iron Mt. 5s	92¼	Oregon Imp. Co.	45¼
17 Kan. & Tex.	106	Pacific Mail	38