

GAFFNEY AND WARD IN TOWN

Come to Take Charge of Nationals.

Ward to Be Made President of Club Today.

Monte Cross May Manage Lynn League Team.

Taking time by the forelock, James E. Gaffney of New York, the new owner of the Boston National League Baseball Club, and John M. Ward, who is to be the new president, who are to attend the annual meeting of the club at 2 this afternoon in the headquarters in the Peddock Building, arrived in Boston at 5 yesterday afternoon.

Both men were pleased to arrive in Boston, a city which they claim is second to none as a baseball city. Immediately upon their arrival at the South Station, Mr. Gaffney and Mr. Ward went to the Hotel Touraine to secure accommodations. It is their intention to stay in Boston several days, as they figure there is plenty of work to engage them for the next three or four days.

Last night several of the officers and others connected with the Boston club were in consultation with the new owner and prospective president. Sec. Peter F. Kelley and others spent the evening with them, and the affairs of the club were thoroughly discussed.

Mr. Gaffney said he was pleased to be in Boston as the owner of the National League team, and he added that he expected to put this city on the National League baseball map again as quickly as money and good management could bring about such a result.

Mr. Ward also expressed himself as being gratified in coming to Boston as the head of the local club. Ward has always been popular with the fans of the city, and last night he said he felt as much at home here as he would in New York.

During the present visit of the owner and president little but the actual business of the club will be discussed. With the annual meeting over, Messrs. Gaffney and Ward will look over the grounds and attend to other work associated directly with the business end of the club, and will leave the question of strengthening the team until a little later.

While neither would admit last night that any steps had been taken toward building up the team, it is pretty well understood that lines are already out for several first-class players, so that when the team starts South for Spring training many new men will be found with the squad.

At the annual meeting of the club this afternoon Mr. Ward will be elected president of the corporation, and the board of directors will be made up by Messrs. Gaffney and Ward after looking over the talent on hand.

As Fred Tenney has signed up to manage the club for one more year he will draw down a handsome salary, even should some other man be selected for the place. Ward had a pretty good line on Tenney while he acted as field captain for the New York Giants and must be favorably impressed with Tenney's knowledge of inside ball.

John M. Ward is thoroughly familiar with the baseball conditions at the South End grounds and fully realizes that the team must be greatly strengthened in order to compete with the crack teams of other cities.

Mr. Ward is chairman of the National League playing rules committee and has already given out a statement saying that he is against the foul strike rule. No rule in the book can be changed without the consent of both leagues and the chances of any changes are very slight.

The playing rules have proven wholly satisfactory to baseball all over the country, and any radical change at this time would be a big mistake.

Hugh Duffy was about town yesterday, receiving the congratulations of his friends for getting out of the Providence Club at a fine profit. Duffy will now tie up with Charley Haver's Milwaukee club with a two-year contract calling for \$15,000—not a bad salary for managing a ball club.

M. J. Kelly, manager of the St. Paul club, called at the American League headquarters yesterday. Mr. Kelly will spend Christmas at his old home in Otter River for the first time in eight years. This clever baseball man started his career as a player with the Augusta, Me., club of the New England League 16 years ago. Later went to Newport, then to Brooklyn and finally drifted into the American Association, in which he has made a pronounced success at St. Paul. Last year he sold Marty O'Toole's release to Pittsburg for about \$20,000.

St. Paul has worked with the Boston Americans for several years in the exchange of players. The St. Paul team will do its Spring training at Little Rock, Ark., and Mr. Kelly will try and arrange two games there with the Boston Red Sox.

Now that Cincinnati has turned over to the Red Sox all its rights in the training grounds at Hot Springs, manager Jake Stahl will have the park to himself and his Boston brigade.

This will give the management a chance to try out the young talent while shaping up the regulars.

Steve Flanagan of Brockton is making a big hit as president of the National Polo League. Just now the New England clubs have the Empire State clubs on the run.

HUGH JENNINGS A PAPA.

Daughter Born in Room in Pennsylvania Hospital He Had Just Quit, After Several Weeks.

SCRANTON, Penn., Dec. 18.—The secret of Hugh Jennings' haste to leave the State Hospital, where he had been for weeks recovering from injuries received in an automobile accident, was disclosed tonight, when the stork presented to him a Christmas token in the form of a daughter. The babe was born in the room that Jennings had occupied in the hospital.

There was something lucky about the room, for Mrs. Jennings liked the environment, much as she wished to see her husband out of it. When it was announced last week that Jennings would be in shape to go home by Sunday, his wife immediately engaged the same room for the holidays, and Hughey took her place at home.

LYNN AFTER MONTE CROSS,

Former Philadelphia Player Wanted as Manager of Team—His Successor at Scranton Named.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 18.—Montford ("Monte") Cross, former Philadelphia player and manager of the Scranton team for two years, is giving serious consideration to a flattering offer received by him from the management of the Lynn, Mass., team of the New England League. The appointment of Fred Lake, whom the Lynn officials had hoped to get, as manager of the Providence team, is responsible for the offer sent to Monte.

Cross will give his decision as soon as his present dicker with Coleman of the Scranton team is brought to a definite close.

SCRANTON, Penn., Dec. 18.—James Mullen, captain last season of the Toronto International League team and for several years prominent as an East-

ern League player, tonight signed to manage the local New York State League team, to succeed Monte Cross.

BARS THE "HAS BEENS."

Players From Higher Class Leagues Who Have Deteriorated Are Not Wanted by the South Atlantic.

SAVANNAH, Ga., Dec. 18.—"Has-beens" from any higher class league are not wanted in the South Atlantic League. This was decided on at a meeting tonight when it was provided that "pitchers and catchers who have played in 10 games in higher class leagues, and in the case of other players 20 games cannot be carried on the payrolls of any South Atlantic League team."

New York 4, Almendares 1.

HAVANA, Dec. 18.—The New York Nationals defeated the Almendares team today at baseball, 4 to 1.

WANTS TO MEET ANDOVER.

Worcester Academy Negotiating on Football, Baseball, Basket Ball, Hockey and Track Games.

Worcester Academy, since its break with Williston Seminary, which was published exclusively in last Saturday's Globe, is negotiating with Phillips Andover Academy for football, baseball, basket ball, hockey and track games and meets.

Worcester Academy has organized basket-ball and hockey teams this winter for the first time. The students are enthusiastic over the possibility of having Andover as Worcester's rival.