

Erie office
Dec. 24th 88.

My dear Bigelow,

I regret that the Board should hesitate to order the printing of the Reports & other papers in the matter of Lawrence. They can hardly understand the indignation & impatience with which the leading members of the Club regard his conduct, and his impudent defence of it.

We are convinced that this is a grave crisis in the affairs of the Century. An opposition ticket will be put up by that faction, naming him for some office of consequence. They have been for some time, as I learn from unexpected quarters, sedulously spreading their version of the controversy, to the effect that it is a mere contest for power between the Treasurer and the House Committee, with an element of personal persecution. And they boast that at the election the only question

will be as to the size of their majority.

If they succeed, then the honor & welfare of the Century are sacrificed to a culprit and his pals.

The only way to defeat this manoeuvre is to put into the hands of every member the true statement of this matter, embracing particularly the acc-
ountant's report. It will then be out of the question for any business man to sustain him.

The sole conceivable objection to this course is that the scandal would become public. It is ~~too~~ late to prevent that. Reporters are on the scent, and already beset members. Shall the newspapers give the falsified version of the case, which discredits the Club, or the true one, which condemns the wrong-doer?

I beg, in the name of many of the best representatives of the Club, who have conferred with me, that you will give your influence to procure an order for printing and

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distributing to members the Report
and all the papers bearing
on the case.

Yours very truly
AR Muelson

Please show this at your meeting
on Friday, to Messrs Van Vorst,
Stowland, & Robb. I have talked
with other members of the Board.