

HARRISBURG LETTER.

Governor Stone Issues a Statement in Support of Quay.

BOTH SIDES CLAIM THE VICTORY

While the Governor Expresses Confidence in the Senator's Re-election, Mr. Van Valkenburg, the Anti-Quay Manager, is Equally Confident That He Cannot Win.

Harrisburg, Jan. 24.—Governor Stone gives the following signed statement on the senatorial situation:

"My opinion has not changed since I expressed the belief, after the action of the caucus making Colonel Quay the nominee of the Republican party for United States senator, that he would be re-elected. His supporters have not had a break in their lines since that time, and they have made gains. Pennsylvania is a Republican state, and unless there are some serious reasons why a regularly nominated candidate of the Republican party in the state should not be elected, it is usually safe to predict that he will win. More than two-thirds of the Republican members of the general assembly are already publicly committed to him. No one can honestly or fairly question the regularity of the nomination of Senator Quay. The caucus was regularly called and properly conducted. Stalwart Republicans generally throughout the commonwealth have accepted him as the candidate of their party and want to see him elected.

"The conspiracy case brought against him in the heat of the campaign has been fully ventilated and the political character of the proceedings is thoroughly understood by the people. The argument of Attorney Watson before the supreme court clearly demonstrated that there was nothing in the bills of indictment against Senator Quay, nor in the testimony, showing him to have violated any law. This has been made plain to all, as has the fact that this prosecution was inspired and instituted for the purpose of influencing votes against Senator Quay in his senatorial canvass. It is not my purpose or intention to quarrel with anyone who is opposed to Senator Quay. That is his right and privilege. But I do say that I believe that way down in the hearts of the nearly one-half of a million Republicans of Pennsylvania who voted for me for governor at the last election, there is a feeling of sympathy for Senator Quay in the present contest. He has been a brave soldier in the hour of his country's trials, he has been a gallant, able and victorious field marshal of the Republican party, not only in local and state campaigns, but in one of the greatest and most bitterly fought national contests ever waged in American politics. To him, more than to any one else, as chairman of the Republican national committee, did we owe the election of General Benjamin Harrison to the presidency. As a member of the United States senate, he has watched and zealously guarded the great industrial, manufacturing and commercial interests of our commonwealth. His influence was potent, not only in materially aiding in the passage of the McKinley bill, but, with the Democrats in control of congress, through his close relations with his colleagues on both sides of the house, and his statesmanlike course on the floor of the senate, he saved Pennsylvania's industries from ruin by the amendments he had inserted in the Wilson bill for their especial protection.

"Considers Quay's Election Sure. There should be no occasion for concern among the friends of Senator Quay on account of the present deadlock on the senatorship. Public sentiment in his favor is making itself felt among the members of the legislature. If Senator Quay's supporters stand firm, as I am convinced they will, his re-election will certainly follow in due time.

E. A. Van Valkenburg, who is managing the anti-Quay campaign, issues a statement in which he says the senatorial situation is no longer complicated nor uncertain. Mr. Van Valkenburg claims Senator Quay's strength was at high tide when he received 113 votes, which is just 14 short of a majority. Against him are 139 votes, 87 Democrats and 52 anti-Quay Republicans.

"The Quay managers have abandoned all hope of securing a single vote from the anti-Quay ranks," he adds. "But while admitting that no Democrat will vote directly for Quay at any stage of the contest, they assert with an air of mystery, rather than of confidence, that at the proper time enough Democrats will be found to supply the necessary 14 votes that Senator Quay must have to elect him. The Quay machine is bankrupt in the matter of political patronage. All the attempts of the Quay people to create friction between the Democrats and the anti-Quayites have signally failed. Senator Quay amassed all his strength to break the anti-Quay lines last Wednesday, and failed. Senator Quay may be able to prolong the deadlock, but re-elect himself United States senator from Pennsylvania, never."

"The feeling between the Quay and anti-Quay factions was intensified by an attempt of the former to boycott the latter in the matter of pairs, the Quay men refusing to pair with any but Democrats. This boycott was only partially enforced, but if it should be continued Flinn is likely to find some effective way of retaliating. He is devoting his entire attention to the defeat of Quay, and while he claims that this is already assured he proposes to be neither defeated nor punished. With the close of the ballot on Saturday there was a general exodus of senators and representatives for home, a corporal's guard remaining over.

Everybody is at sea. Beyond the fact that there is a senatorial deadlock that appears to be rock bottomed and copper fastened, everybody is at sea as to the future outcome. The preponderance of opinion is that Quay is elected, but very few are even

guessing as to his successor. Changes are looked for next week, but in what direction no one can tell. Three-fourths of the Democrats, recognizing that all their successes in recent years have been due to independent Republican votes, and that many of the present Democratic membership in the legislature owe their election to the Wamaker and Swallow campaign, would be willing to vote for an independent Republican for senator and end the deadlock. There are several, however, who would like a break for an independent Republican to give them a pretext for voting for Quay, so that for the present at least the Democrats will keep on voting solidly for Jenks.

The 52 anti-Quay Republicans are having an easy time of it in comparison with some of their Quay opponents. Almost to a man the anti-caucus senators and representatives have been sustained by their constituents, while several of the Quay members, especially from the country districts, have received a terrible scolding. One of the newspapers in Franklin county has been printing a roll of honor containing the names of senators and representatives from other counties who are steadily voting for Judge John Stewart, and a parallel roll of dishonor containing the names of the two representatives from Franklin county who are voting for Quay. In several other counties the Quay members are in the hottest kind of hot water with their constituents, and it will not be surprising if some of these will leave Quay for some other Republican after a few more ballots.

Many Absent Without Leave. There is some surprise expressed over the large number of absentees without leave. Representative Kendall, of Somerset, was the only anti-Quay member on this list. He was reported to have gone to the Scotland Soldiers' Orphan school on a visit with Captain W. Skinner for the day. Captain Skinner, however, having taken the precaution to secure a pair, Senator Higgins is still lying ill in the hospital here and is improving slowly.

The Republicans on the Quay side who failed to secure a pair are Senator Brown, of Westmoreland, who is said to be at home sick, and Representative Charles B. Noblit, of Philadelphia. The other three representatives were Democrats, who did not understand the value or necessity of pairing. They will be fully enlightened on this subject by their colleagues when they return next week.

Under the present system of pairs no man, not even if he be confined by a critical illness at home, need hereafter be recorded as absent and not voting. Pairs can be arranged by telegraph. Lieutenant Governor Gobin has now the manner of a Chesterfield and the courtesy of a Bayard while occupying the chair in the joint session. It is not likely that there will be any more complaint about the presiding officer's rulings hereafter.

There are vague rumors and mysterious hints here concerning the arrest in the near future of somebody for bribery in connection with the election of a United States senator. There are any number of Quay detectives here and they are exceedingly mysterious. One of them was asked if there were to be any arrests. He said that there would be, and that there was plenty of evidence to go with the arrest. As this particular sleuth was connected with the agency that was active for Senator Penrose two years ago very little credence is placed in what he says. In fact, the spreading of the story is regarded as a Quay bluff.

The Contest For Gobin's Seat. The Quay and anti-Quay issue is to be raised in the nomination and election of a senator from Lebanon county to succeed Gobin. The election will take place on Feb. 24, one week after the regular February election, and as it will not be complicated with any municipal issue the contest is certain to be fought out on the lines of the present senatorial contest at the state capital. The names of the Quay and anti-Quay candidates have not been announced, but the selections will doubtless be made this week. As Lebanon county is within easy reach of Harrisburg both the Quay and anti-Quay voters in the legislature are likely to be invited to address meetings of the Lebanon county voters.

Ex-Senator William H. Andrews, of Crawford, was a conspicuous figure on the floor. He was acting as a sort of director general of the Quay forces, although when the balloting began he took a retired seat to the right of the speaker, but watching every movement of either side with the utmost attention. Just prior to the entrance of the senate Mr. Andrews occupied a conspicuous position in the front seats of the house. This body had not been called to order, and for a little while there was considerable cross firing between Senator Flinn and Mr. Andrews. It was good natured, but full of stings.

"Come over here and sit down, Bill," called Senator Flinn to Andrews, who was discussing the situation with a Philadelphia member. "Oh, you are over on the Democratic side," replied Andrews, turning to the anti-Quay leader with a grin, referring to the seat that Senator Flinn was occupying temporarily.

"Well, it feels a good deal better to be on this side than it does to be over on your side," was the quick response, and the Democrats and anti-Quay Republicans applauded vigorously. The senate met last Wednesday evening to receive messages from the governor. Private Secretary Gerwig presented communications from the governor in which he announced that he had appointed Israel W. Durham, of Philadelphia, insurance commissioner, to succeed James H. Lambert, and Thomas J. Stewart, of Montgomery county, to succeed himself as adjutant general. The senate unanimously confirmed these appointments. Senator David Martin was present, but refrained from voting. At Wednesday morning's session of the senate W. W. Griest was confirmed as secretary of the commonwealth and John P. Elkin as attorney general. Governor Stone had requested the resignation of Colonel Lambert, commissioner of insurance. As no reason was assigned by the executive for the request and the term for which Colonel Lambert was appointed would not expire until May, 1900, he declined to resign. The governor did not reply to Colonel Lambert's letter of declination, but sent in the name of Mr. Durham.

WILKINS.

NEW YORK LETTER.

Special Correspondence.

It is a long step from the log felled across a stream, as a footway, to such a structure as the Brooklyn bridge. The suspension bridge is a creature of the last few years. Half a century ago there was no railroad bridge anywhere; trains were ferried, or passengers transferred across the great rivers within the memories of men who are by no means patriarchs yet. When the Brooklyn bridge was projected it was regarded as visionary. But the problem was solved; now there are longer spans in existence, and it is planned to throw one of 3,000 feet across the Hudson. But before that is done New York will have another Brooklyn bridge, larger in every way than the present one.

The new East river bridge was authorized by the legislature in 1895. Work on it has already so far progressed that the tower foundations on the Manhattan side are completed, and those on the Long Island side will be done in about three months. The anchorages on each side are being built, and will be finished next year. The cost of the whole is estimated at \$12,000,000. The work exceeds in magnitude anything of the kind ever done.

The following figures will give an idea of its magnitude. Its principal dimensions will be: Length of entire bridge between terminals, 7,200 feet; length of main span, center to center of towers, 1,900 feet; extreme width of bridge, 118 feet; height of masonry in tower foundations above high water, 23 feet; minimum height of bridge above mean high water of spring tides for 200 feet on each side of center span, 135 feet; height of axis of cables at top of towers above high water, 332 feet 8 1/2 inches; two stiffening trusses between towers, distance apart from center to center, 67 feet; width of carriage ways, each 20 feet; width of two foot walks, each 12 feet; width of four trolley car tracks, center to center, 9 3/4 feet; width of two elevated railroad tracks, center to center, 11 feet; grade of approaches, 3 per cent. The towers above the masonry, and the entire suspended structure, except flooring, will be of steel.

The total length of the present Brooklyn bridge is 5,980 feet; its stone towers are 276 feet high, and each weighs about 60,000 tons. Its four cables are each 15 3/4 inches in diameter.

The new bridge towers will be of steel; first, because stone towers would cost about \$2,000,000 more than steel and would take five times as long to build. Second, because steel towers can be made as strong and durable as the cables, which limit the life of the bridge. And third, because the bridge will carry six railroad tracks and two highways straight from end to end, and it would be impossible to carry these through stone towers, without converging them, and thus diminishing the use of the tracks.

Dr. Abbott and Plymouth Church. When Dr. Abbott first stood in Beecher's shoes, eleven years ago, there were many who felt that he must suffer by comparison. Confirmed as pastor, he brought to the famous pulpit a breadth of thought and a wealth of oratory and fervor which maintained Plymouth in its old and proud position, as one of the noted Christian temples of the world.

Dr. Abbott, who has been more than ever in the public eye of late, because of his assertions about the Bible stirred up men of less liberal views is now sixty-three years old. His view



REV. LYMAN ABBOTT.

of Jonah's adventures with the whale resulted in widespread criticism in January of 1897. He said at that time in a lecture:

"It makes no difference whether a great fish swallowed Jonah or not. No man is better for believing the story, and no man is worse for not believing it. Christ used fiction in parables in his discourses. Some people may be disturbed because they cannot bring themselves to believe the whale story. They should not go on their knees and ask to be coerced into believing it. The foolishness is in believing unbelievable things."

Dr. Abbott belongs to one of the best known of New England families. He is the third son of Jacob Abbott, and was born in Roxford, Mass., in 1835. He was a close friend and admirer of Henry Ward Beecher, after meeting him in Plymouth Church.

In Dr. Abbott's opinion the central question for the nineteenth century to solve is that presented by the difference between naturalism and supernaturalism—the question whether Christianity is an evolution from below and Jesus Christ the highest type of human development, or whether it is a gift from above and Jesus Christ a divine manifestation from God. On this question Mr. Beecher was a supernaturalist, and so is Dr. Abbott.

CYRUS THOMP.

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Luzerne county has established a precedent which should be followed by every county in the State. The Commissioners made application to the grand jury for authority to permanently improve, at the cost of the county, five miles of public road, and the grand jury has approved the application. This is thought to be the first instance in Pennsylvania where the county engaged in public road building.

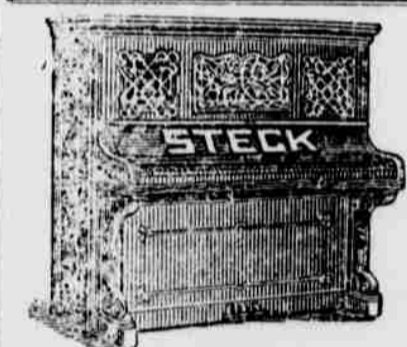
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