

PARTY TRAITORS BOUND TO FAIL.

Wanamaker's Democratic Fusion Scheme Meets With General Condemnation.

REPUBLICANS ARE LOYAL.

The Awful Fate That Befell the Leader of the Treacherous Scheme Against Senator Hanna in Ohio Recalled by Pennsylvanians.

(Special Correspondence.)

Harrisburg, Dec. 13.—The presence of quite a number of members of both branches of the legislature in town during the last few days, looking for accommodations at hotels and boarding houses, getting posted as to the method of allotment of seats and other matters which the wide awake member or senator always wants to know about, reminds us that the opening day for the state legislative mill is near at hand. Contractor Allen B. Rorke, of Philadelphia, who is in charge of the construction of the new capitol building, is rushing the work at a lively pace, and though he has but a few days left to complete the job, he promises absolutely that everything will be in readiness for the opening of the session. Of course, interest continues to center in the caucus for the speakership of the house of representatives. The Republicans will undoubtedly dispose of this matter in the caucus in an entirely harmonious manner, and the caucus nominees for speaker and the other officers of the house will unquestionably be elected.

A REPUBLICAN ADMINISTRATION.

The triumphant election of Colonel Stone to the governorship and the big Republican majority in both branches of the legislature insured a Republican administration through and through in both the executive and legislative branches of the state government. There has been no change in the situation on the speakership. It is still a free for all race, despite the rumors that this fellow or some other fellow has been slated by the party leaders. Voorhees of Philadelphia, Bliss of Delaware, McClain of Somerset, Farr of Lackawanna and Marshall, Ford and Hosack of Allegheny are all got their lightning rods up, eagerly waiting for the prize. The best evidence that there is to be no friction in the organization of the legislature, or in the election of the United States senator, is found in the harmonious relations that exist between the influential leaders of the Republican party in the state. Governor-elect Stone has already shown his capacity for leadership in his announced determination to consider all elements of the party in matters affecting his administration. The fact that Senator Quay has been in consultation frequently with Senator C. L. Magee, of Pittsburg, and Senator-elect David Martin, of Philadelphia, has brought about an unexpected peaceful condition of affairs, in view of past differences. They will all abide by the caucus action on speaker and United States senator, and the Wanamaker-Van Valkenberg-Blankenburg outfit will have but one thing to do, take their natural place with the Democracy. They were opposed to Stone for governor, and in every way sought to disrupt the Republican organization. They have taken themselves out of the Republican organization and they are everywhere regarded as allies of the Democracy.

The fusion scheme which is being nursed by the Wanamaker bureau is bound to fail. The first step, the calling of a conference in Philadelphia last week, was a complete fizzle. Representative John H. Fow, author of queer legislation and one of the slickest customers that ever sat in a legislative body, is working up the Democratic end in conjunction with the Wanamaker campaign, to line the Democratic members up to follow his leadership. The Wanamaker managers could not have made a more unfortunate selection. It is notorious that Fow is always looking after Fow's personal interest, and the old time Democrats have refused to follow his leadership, as they would never know when Fow would be "doing business with the other side," in order to be taken care of himself on choice committees which the Republican speaker will have to name. Fow, too, is looked upon as representing the Gordon Democracy, which is an annex of the Wanamaker machine, and the Guffey men positively refuse to have anything to do with him politically.

REPUBLICANS ARE TOGETHER.

While the Democrats are at odds, the Republicans are together, with a few exceptions. It has been demonstrated that the Democratic machine cannot be delivered over to a Wanamaker candidate for speaker. It is known, too, that nothing like one-half of the number of Republicans, 23, necessary with all the Democrats being together, to make the 103 votes required for an election for a speaker, can be drummed into any fusion scheme.

The principal reason for this is that there is such an intense prejudice among Republicans against bolting the party caucus, and particularly against the bolter. The politicians of the present day have not forgotten the famous bolt of 1881 and its results. After all their scheming, the bolters failed to carry out their program, a man in whom they had no special interest was elected United States senator, and he was never any use to any of them. Besides, their action resulted in the practical ostracism of almost every man among them. Those participating in the bolt were almost entirely obliterated from the field of politics. Of those who took part in this exhibition of party peevishness only two are in public life at the present time. Upon returning home their action was regarded

by their constituents and they were forever afterwards barred from participation in party councils and in the enjoyment of future honors at the hands of the organization which they had betrayed.

A TRAITOR'S FATE.

A more recent and even more striking case is that presented by the political situation in Ohio last year, when a desperate, though unsuccessful, effort was made to defeat the re-election of Senator Hanna, who, as chairman of the Republican national committee, was largely responsible for the election of President McKinley in 1896. His experience in many respects may be likened to that of Senator Quay's, who as the field marshal in the campaign of 1888, brought victory to the banner of Republicanism in the election of General Harrison to the presidency. Senator Hanna had to meet the work of a Republican traitor, and he triumphed in the end. In the Ohio state senate the Republicans had a majority of one. Senator Burke, an anti-Hanna Republican, combined with the Democrats and organized the upper house in their interest, thus depriving his party of the power and patronage to which it was justly entitled. In spite of this fusion Senator Hanna was elected and returned to the United States senate to uphold the administration of President McKinley, while State Senator Burke was a disreputable failure. Now, no one has charged Mr. Wanamaker with crime. He has not been hauled into court by political enemies. He has been permitted to conduct his bargain counter unmolested. He has posed as the great exemplar of all that is pure and good, and he has posed before the public as an honorable man. We have no charges to bring against Mr. Wanamaker. He did not rob the bank. Let us take him at his own estimate of himself. Let us agree with him that he is an honorable man.

All indications are that there will be few Republicans in this state who will attempt to follow in Burke's footsteps. Republican members of both branches of the legislature will stand loyally by their party colors. There will be a straightout Republican speaker elected who will co-operate with Governor-elect Stone. Senator Quay will be re-elected to the United States senate, and the legislature, under conservative and wise leadership, will redeem the pledges of the party and make a clean and economical record, which will redound to the credit of the Republican party and protect the interests and advance the welfare of the commonwealth.

QUAY'S ENEMIES ARE HALTED.

Supreme Court Blocks the Game of the Deperate Political Conspirators.

CONFUSION IN THE RANKS.

Sensational Turn to One of the Most Remarkable Cases in the Political History of the Nation.

(Special Correspondence.)

Philadelphia, Dec. 13.—At last the true character of the political conspiracy behind the attempt to defeat Senator Quay for re-election by the most infamous and desperate tactics resorted to in the history of this country has been exposed. The supreme court of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania has upon petition stepped in between Senator Quay and those who have been endeavoring to use the power of the local judiciary in this city to strike at him, besmirch his reputation and to gain political advantage in the pending contest for the senatorship. There is every reason to believe that a fair and impartial hearing, without personal spleen or political persecution, will now be given to a case which has furnished a startling revelation to the people as to what extent men vested with authority would use their positions to accomplish personal ambitions or satisfy a desire for revenge.

Probably no more lucid and manly comment has been made on the action of the supreme court, upon the appeal of counsel for Senator Quay that the case against him be withdrawn from the common pleas courts of this city, than was given by the editor of the Philadelphia Inquirer immediately following the announcement of the decision of the higher court.

"Two justices of the supreme court," said the editor of The Inquirer, "have halted the conspiracy to ruin Senator Quay, and their action will be commended by all fair minded men. They have taken into consideration the animus behind the persecution—we deliberately say persecution, not prosecution—and they have agreed that the case is of sufficient importance to be reviewed by the supreme court itself. This means that the warrants issued by the district attorney, the finding of the grand jury and the arguments upon the demurrers will be passed upon by the highest court in the state; that the trial will be taken out of the hands of the local courts, if the petition filed is sustained, and that a senator of the United States is not to be made the mere football of a far reaching political conspiracy which has in view, not his conviction—for conviction is out of the question—but, to quote the reasons officially set forth, 'the intimidation of the members of the legislature.'"

"The object of the persecution is to defeat Senator Quay for re-election, not to send him to jail, for he has committed no crime, and none know this better than the sneaking persecutors who have instigated the suit and who have such a poor opinion of themselves and of their hypocritical cause that they dare not face the public, the courts or Senator Quay himself, and dare not even permit their names to become known."

"A more contemptible attempt to ruin a man for purely political reasons and to satisfy the demands of personal spite and hatred is not on record. The men who have sought to make use of District Attorney Graham as their tool and their shield from public scorn and derision have been frustrated. Mr. Graham himself, with all his venom against Quay, disappears from the case."

"The supreme court justices who have penetrated the hypocritical and political surroundings of this case are to be commended for their sagacity. They have declared by their decision that personal spite and spite shall not prevail. They have made it possible for strict justice to be vindicated, and we are greatly mistaken if, as a result of this dastardly persecution, the mask of hypocrisy is not torn from the faces of the political conspirators, and public contempt will not be the lot of those who, to satiate a greedy appetite for revenge, would bring reproach upon the commonwealth of Pennsylvania and upon the high and honorable office of United States senator."

On the 7th of January the supreme court will assume jurisdiction, and this means that there will be a fair trial, and with a fair trial Senator Quay has nothing to fear—absolutely nothing. "What has Quay done?" he continues. "Let us draw a comparison between him and that great and pure and honorable man, John Wanamaker. 'The Keystone National bank received deposits of public funds from the state and the city. Mr. Wanamaker was a depositor, as he had a perfect right to be. Mr. Wanamaker was also a heavy borrower, so heavy a borrower, as a matter of fact, that the comptroller of the currency at Washington wrote several letters demanding that the loans be reduced. The capital of the bank was \$500,000, and under the law Mr. Wanamaker was entitled to borrow one-tenth of the capital stock, and no more—\$50,000. He very largely exceeded this amount, and he was a public officer, a member of the cabinet of the president of the United States, at the time, and most certainly should have been among the first to uphold the law. 'But this was not all. Mr. Wanamaker entered into a joint transaction with the president of the bank, Mr. Lucas, for a stock gambling speculation. Later the bank failed, and it was a disastrous failure. Now, no one has charged Mr. Wanamaker with crime. He has not been hauled into court by political enemies. He has been permitted to conduct his bargain counter unmolested. He has posed as the great exemplar of all that is pure and good, and he has posed before the public as an honorable man. We have no charges to bring against Mr. Wanamaker. He did not rob the bank. Let us take him at his own estimate of himself. Let us agree with him that he is an honorable man."

"Now for the comparison. 'The People's bank received deposits of public funds, Senator Quay was a depositor, as he had a perfect right to be. He may have borrowed at times, but he was not a heavy borrower, and the banking department was never forced to write letters of complaint. As a private citizen and public official he respected the law. He bought stocks, but not in a joint arrangement with the president. He simply made use of the cash, an old personal friend, as a medium of communication with the brokers. The bank failed, but Senator Quay does not owe it a single red cent. What more, the bank paid in full every dollar deposited by the state, and not a single solitary depositor has lost a dollar. Yet he has been charged with crime. Political enemies have hauled him into court, and he is denounced by his persecutors as the personification of all that is evil. We say that it is outrageous, and we look to the trial to reveal to the public the whole story of a dastardly political conspiracy."

"Judge Gordon, who was reversed time after time by the supreme court, and who was a politician rather than a judge, is mentioned in the petition to the supreme court as an instigator of the prosecution. The trial should show the truth or falsity of this statement. Judge Gordon was a candidate for the nomination for governor, with the indorsement and backing of John Wanamaker. The Wanamaker bargain counter statesmanship was agreeable to the attempt to deliver Pennsylvania over to the Democrats in this critical year of the nation. Judge Gordon knew all about the affairs of the People's bank. It is believed that he had access to the papers and letters upon which the prosecution is based, and that this fact will be proved. The bank failed in March. If Judge Gordon really believed that crime had been committed it was his bounden duty to call the attention of the district attorney to the matter. He did no such thing. Mr. Graham was kept in ignorance of bank matters, and it was not until October, just before the election, that some persons who have not had the courage to reveal their identity communicated with the district attorney. The latter apparently grasped at the opportunity to further the scheme to destroy Quay, and the warrants were issued. The district attorney went before the grand jury. So flimsy were the charges that, in spite of Mr. Graham's presence, but 12 out of 29 jurors could be obtained to support them. The change of a single juror would have discarded the bills. It was apparently the intention of Judge Gordon to sit upon the bench and rule upon the demurrers. Had he done so he would, in all probability, have been humiliated by the supreme court. He resigned, and just in time. Had he remained on the bench, as sure as the sun rises he would have been impeached."

"It is charged in the petition that Gordon holds Quay responsible for his defeat by the Democratic gubernatorial convention, and that his animus is thus accounted for. We have nothing to say on that point, but we do say that it is queer indeed that a judge should permit six months to pass before calling attention to a crime. Either the judge was untrue to himself and to the public, or else no crime was committed. Strange it is, indeed, that not until October was any move made, and this fact alone is sufficient to show the political plot behind the prosecution."

"We make no charges against anybody. We are content to say that the prosecution is persecution; that it is a political plot; that it was instigated by men who dare not reveal their identity; that the sole object is to affect the senatorial election, and that personal spite and malice and a desire for personal revenge are the sole motives for the most outrageous political conspiracy of modern days. That the district attorney, with all his known venom against Quay, should lend himself to the prosecution is beyond comprehension. He has got what he deserves. He has been eliminated from the case, in the furtherance of justice."

"The supreme court justices who have penetrated the hypocritical and political surroundings of this case are to be commended for their sagacity. They have declared by their decision that personal spite and spite shall not prevail. They have made it possible for strict justice to be vindicated, and we are greatly mistaken if, as a result of this dastardly persecution, the mask of hypocrisy is not torn from the faces of the political conspirators, and public contempt will not be the lot of those who, to satiate a greedy appetite for revenge, would bring reproach upon the commonwealth of Pennsylvania and upon the high and honorable office of United States senator."

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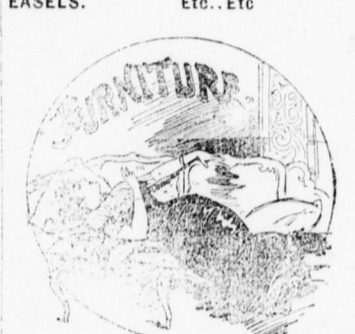
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