



TWELVE PAGES--84 COLUMNS.

SCRANTON, PA., SATURDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 15, 1894.

TWO CENTS A COPY.

CAPTAIN CREEDON TALKS

Inform the Lexow Committee of the Cost of an Appointment.

A PROMOTION COST \$15,000.

Was Promised the Plum for \$12,000, but as the Demand Exceeded the Supply Was Obligated to Pay a Higher Figure.

By the United Press.

New York, Dec. 14.—Police Captain Creedon in his testimony before the Lexow committee confessed to paying \$15,000 to secure his promotion. The captain told how Rappenhagen, the county Democracy man, called on him and informed him that he would see Commissioner Voorhes about his appointment; that subsequently he said the place would be had for \$12,000. This figure was afterwards raised to \$15,000 because another man, whom witness said was Sergeant Wiegand, was willing to pay \$12,000. Witness consulted his friends and they expressed a willingness to loan him the money.

The captain then told how Mr. Rappenhagen proposed that Mr. Shell should be made stakeholder for the money that was to be collected. "The matter went on for several days, until one afternoon John J. Martin came to me and said Commissioner Voorhes wanted to see me. I went to police headquarters and saw Commissioner Voorhes. He questioned me as to whether I had heard rumors that money was being raised for my appointment, and I said that I had not. I then returned to the station house, but was hardly five minutes there, before I was telegraphed from headquarters. I returned to headquarters, and when I got there I found I was appointed captain and assigned to the first precinct."

"The witness said he thought Commissioner Voorhes questioned him so as to expulate him if anything turned up in the future. "Did Commissioner Voorhes say anything to you after you were appointed captain?" "Yes, sir; he met me on the street one day and said he had heard a rumor that I had paid for my appointment. He told me if I paid anything I was swindled. He was not then a police commissioner."

"When you consented that your friends raise the money, it was with the intention that the person having the appointment, the police captain should receive the money as a bribe?" "Yes, that was the intention."

"And that Rappenhagen was to pay it to that person?" "Yes, sir."

"Did you see Rappenhagen when Commissioner Voorhes told you if you paid money you were swindled?" "Yes, sir. I thought it would be a waste of time."

Mr. Goff said: "Captain, the committee desires me to express their sympathy with you in the unfortunate position in which you are placed. They also desire me to say that they think public interests should not be served by distributing your present position as police captain."

Applause for the Captain. There was a great cheer at this. Then Captain Creedon shook hands with all the senators heartily, and with Mr. Goff. Another great cheer and handclapping took place as he left the stand.

Mr. Rappenhagen was called and wished to correct his testimony yesterday in regard to the \$15,000 he admitted to have received about the time Creedon was appointed captain.

He said he gave \$10,000 to ex-Assemblyman John Martin, who is chairman of the New York Democracy, otherwise called the Voorhes Democracy. He gave the money to Martin in order to prevent the appointment of Sergeant Wiegand as a captain. The other \$5,000 he kept himself. Martin was recognized as the man closest to Police Commissioner Voorhes. He gave Martin the \$10,000 in cash. The agreement between Martin and Rappenhagen was that Martin should get \$10,000 in cash on the appointment of Creedon. He knew the money was to be used as a bribe, and the man who had the power of appointment was John R. Voorhes. There was no understanding between Martin and the witness as to what Martin should do with the \$10,000. Martin told him to keep \$5,000.

After recess Rappenhagen was recalled and testified that it was his understanding that the money paid to Martin for Creedon's appointment was to go in whole or part to Voorhes. Chairman Lexow said at this juncture that he had received information that Superintendent Byrnes had filed charges against Captain Creedon and that the police commissioner had suspended him pending his trial.

There was much excitement for a time, and after a hasty conference with the senate committee Mr. Goff announced that he had issued subpoenas for the police commissioners and Superintendent Byrnes to explain their action. The spectators rose en masse at this announcement and cheered for several minutes.

Later Police Commissioner Martin and Superintendent Byrnes took the stand. They declared that when they decided to suspend Creedon they had not heard of the committee's recommendation that he be retained on the force. In view of these recommendations they stated that steps would be taken tomorrow to rescind their hasty action.

GROSVENOR ON PENSIONS.

The Bureau Management Is Severely Criticized for Its Methods.

Washington, Dec. 14.—The second week of the present session of congress closed with the session of the house today. In that time there have been passed three general appropriation bills for the year ending June 30, 1895, carrying a total of \$1,387,718,294, nearly one-half of the annual expenditures of the government, aside from the permanent appropriations. Beside these, an urgent deficiency bill for the current year has been passed, \$2,068,095, making a grand total of \$1,454,724,799.15 appropriated this far at this session.

Mr. Grosvenor said he complained particularly of the management of the bureau because it suspended and dropped enough pensioners to create a fund sufficient to pay the claims due on

account of new certificates issued. Most, if not all these, were dropped without notice and in defiance of every rule of justice, and as far as Ohio's quota was concerned, they were restored to the rolls mainly upon request of Democratic politicians for the purpose of making Democratic votes at the polls. The whole principle ought to be changed. Mr. Grosvenor said, by the introduction of two radical reforms. One was to make a soldier's certificate the only evidence necessary to place him on the roll; the other was to make gradations in pay depend upon service and not upon rank. "It is not right," said Mr. Grosvenor, "that the soldier who served to save my country should be made the foot ball of party politics."

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The political platform was next brought up, and the trouble began with the reading of the preamble, which recites "that the trade unionist of Great Britain have, by the light of experience, and the logic of progress adopted the principle of independent labor politics as an auxiliary to their economic action."

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