LIGHT SHED ON WANAMAKERISM

[Concluded from Page 1.]

said, 'we shall take care of all our people and we mean to win.' He could not say, however, that they would elect Wanamaker this time. I asked if he knew on whom the opposition would center and whether it would be Hastings or Penrose; he said he thought neither of them, and that Quay was now trying to sell out to the Philadelphia people for $100,000 and his reform claims were all poppycock. If he were in earnest he would probably try to get Hastings out of the way to put Lyon in his place. He said there was only one man in the state of whom they were really afraid; only one man who could lick them and they were not giving out who he was.

'Hastings,' he said, 'tried to put up a job on them from his own county and Leach almost fell into the trap; as a matter of fact, he would have fallen in if it had not been for VanValkenburg. It came about in this way: A fellow in Centre county wrote Wanamaker a nice letter, making a proposition to buy a man if he would furnish the money. VanValkenburg said Leach had a good head for a combination, but was easily played for a sucker by an individual. Leach favored accepting the man's proposition, but VanValkenburg saw the trap and stopped it.

VanValkenburg said he shut Quay's eyes once by playing a confidence racket and suppressing half the truth. He went to Quay and pretended he wanted to be clerk of the house and was traveling over the state to make acquaintance of the prospective members of the legislature. He then pretended to make a clean breast by saying that he was traveling about as an agent of the anti-Cameron people and was not working for any candidate in particular, and told Quay he would give him any combine news he might get hold of. He did give Quay a few hints, because it was in Wanamaker's interest that Quay should know them,and Quay did not suspect his real position for some time.

QUAY A SOFT MARK.

He said Quay had a great head for strategy and the management of combinations, but was an easy mark for any designing individual. He said he expected to have a report the next day as to whether Doctor Mackey could be depended on and if the word was favorable I should go and see Mackey at once and then I should come to Philadelphia and he would give me the money. On October 22 I saw Dr. Mackey in Scranton. He came to my room at the Hotel Jermyn at 8 o'clock, having previously received a letter dated the 19th saying he had concluded to write to me showing his readiness to support Wanamaker. He told me that he could get no help from Connell. He said there was some Wanamaker sentiment in his district and in addition to pecuniary aid he wanted us to create as much Wanamaker sentiment among his people as we could.

FARR ALL RIGHT.

He asked me if we had Farr all right. I said we had. 'Well,' said he, 'that's good, it divides the delegation even and we can support each other.' He asked what kind of a paper he would have to sign and I said it would be a pledge to vote for Wanamaker. He said: 'I have heard that Quay is going to be right there to look after the organization and his Reform legislative scheme; Wanamaker ought to control the organization if possible, as we could then say when it came to the election of senator that Wanamaker had the organization and we could get no legislation through if we didn't stay with him.' I asked how much it would take to pull him through. He said he ought to have $1,500 and I told him I would go to Philadelphia the next day and meet him on the following Saturday morning at 10 o'clock. 'All right,' he said, 'that's good. It will be a good time to meet, as the county committee meets on Saturday at 2 o'clock. I think Connell will offer me two or three hundred to help pay my expenses and I will tell him that I can stand alone and don't need any assistance. If I had not heard from you I would have taken it, but now I will not.'

THE MONEY SECURED.

I then arranged with my chief to have another detective in the room adjoining the one in which I was to meet Mackey to hear the conversation between us. The next day I saw Van-Valkenburg in Philadelphia and told him what I had done. He said: 'This is a cold-blooded piece of business and if I was not sure of you I wouldn't trust you at all, for you are surrounded by Quay influences. What does the doctor want?' I said: He sticks out for $1,500, but he can be had for less. $1,200 I think will do the business. 'Well,' he said, 'I will go and get $1,300 and you can keep $100 for your trouble. This is the most extravagant thing we have done. I have a special purpose in getting this fellow and I will tell you about it some day. We will make a big man of him if he will allow us.' He then wrote a letter to be signed by the doctor and made me copy it and would not allow me to have the original. He also took possession of the doctor's letter to me. Told me to take the envelope and date back the new letter to October 19th, which was the date of the first one. He told me to swell the doctor's head as to what they would do for him and to let fall incidentally that I was a detective, as it would paralyze him and keep his mouth shut, and he added: 'I am nearly distracted. I lost a fellow this morning I ought to have had dead easy.' He did not explain how he lost him.

He said "Westmoreland is a black spot. I don't know yet what we will be able to do with it. He said he would get the money for the doctor in $20 bills as he could not easily dispose of larger ones. He came back to my room, No. 427, at the Windsor hotel, at 3.20 with a package of bills and told me to count them. I did and found sixty-five $20 bills. "Now," he said, "settle with the doctor for $1,250, or as much less as you can, and keep the balance for your trouble. I want you to do this right," he said, "I told your friends that if I was thrown down they would have to take the blame. If you get this through all right I will have a lot of other work for you to do. I am not going to do anything unlawful any more than I can help. I think the end justifies the means and I would cold-bloodedly buy a block of twenty-five if we had to pay $100,000 for them, but I don't want to get myself or anyone else liable." He said, "Now, I am not going to take a receipt from you for this. You settle with the doctor for $1,200 and keep the balance. Not a damned soul but you and I will know anything about it, and I will be very much obliged besides."

THE MONEY PAID.

I arrived in Scranton on the 24th, and changed one of the $20 bills so as to make $1,250. At 10 o'clock the doctor sent his card up to my room at the Hotel Jermyn (No. 176), and followed immediately in person. Just at that moment the note came into me from one of my confederates and I said to the doctor: "That's all right, it is from a fellow from another county. I'll see him later; you don't think Wanamaker can be elected with your vote alone, do you?" And he said, "All right." I then told him that my people were ready to pay $1,250. I said that the Wanamaker people would make a big man of him if he stuck to them, and he agreed to go ahead. I then read the letter, which I wanted him to sign and he sat down and wrote as I had dictated on plain tablet paper, as follows:

Waverly, Oct. 19, 1896.

My Dear Sir:—In line with the conversation we had sometime since relative to the United States senatorship, would say that a careful inquiry among my constituents convinces me that the sentiment is for Hon. John Wanamaker.

As this is in harmony with my own feeling in the matter as previously expressed to you, I feel warranted in so doing and declare to you without reservation that if elected I will vote for and use my best efforts and influence to secure the election of Hon. John Wanamaker so long as he is a candidate and will deem it my duty to support all movements towards the organization of the house that will serve his best interests. Very truly yours,

N. C. Mackey.

I explained to the doctor why the letter was dated the 19th. I also showed him the letters Van Valkenburg had written me. I then reached into my pocket and drew out the money and said loud enough to be heard in the next room, "Count that over, doctor, I think you will find there 62 $20 bills and 1 $10." He counted the money over and said, "That's all right." He then shook hands with me and left. When I left my room I left the pad on which the letter was written behind me and dropped the wrapper which contained the money on the floor. I wrote to Van Valkenburg from Altoona enclosing the letter signed by Mackey under date of October 26th and had the letter registered. While at the Hotel Jermyn at Scranton during my meeting with Mackey I registered as John T. Nelson and went under that name."

Following this is the report of another detective who states that he saw Dr. Mackey come into the room of the man known as Nelson; that he heard the whole of the conversation; that he heard the letter dictated which was signed by Mackey; that he counted a package of money which Nelson showed him and which contained 65 $20 bills and that at his suggestion Nelson dropped the wrapper on the floor where he subsequently found it, together with the pad on which the letter was written; that the doctor counted the money and said it was all right. He fully corroborates all the details set forth in Nelson's statement. The receipt for the registered letter given to Nelson at Altoona and that of Van Valkenburg for a letter in Philadelphia are part of the evidence in this case showing that he received the pledge written by Mackey in return for the cash received by him. Corroboratory evidence of all of these points is in possession of the prosecution.

IN NORTHAMPTON.

Northampton county was the scene of operations next on the part of the detectives, it having been learned that attempts were being made to bribe W. C. Weiss, a member of the legislature from that county. In their operations there the detectives were aided by W. A. Winsboro, ex-postmaster of Bangor, and Mr. Weiss himself. The detectives pretended to be in search of some crooks who were supposed to be in hiding in one of the quarries in that county in which Mr. Winsboro was interested. The narrative of the detective who went under the name of Nelson at Scranton, is very circumstantial, consisting of daily reports of which the following summary

I reached Bangor, Northampton county, on November 16 and put myself in communication with ex-Postmaster Winsboro. He said that he thought Weiss was dissatisfied because Reeder had not helped him. He gave considerable details as to Weiss' attitude. I went to Philadelphia on November 18 and saw Van Valkenburg, who said that he was fishing for the Bethlehem man and my news greatly encouraged him. He had expected to reach him through his employers, who were favorable to Wanamaker, and he asked me if he would take money, and how much. He asked me if I thought I could reach him through Winsboro and I said that I could and that Winsboro was going to write to Frank Leach about me. Van Valkenburg said that he had just got home and was not thoroughly posted and would have a talk with Leach and see me in a day or so. He said they were going to have a conference and count noses to see how many votes they had. He asked me if I had told Doctor Mackey that I was a detective, and I said that I had not deemed it best. "I will tell him at Harrisburg, if he shows any signs of wavering."

"Yes," said Van Valkenburg, "we must have you at Harrisburg for at least a week at that time." He then went to see Leach and came to me an hour later. I told him that my chief had said the Luzerne delegation was shaky and that Mr. Reeder had been to see them. He said that delegation was all right and there would be some surprises when the vote came, that the people were playing the right sort of game; they were not declaring themselves now, as it was their best policy to play fast and loose. He said that the Wanamaker people were not going to fight Boyer for speaker, as it was too late for them to attempt that now. He told me he would be away and that his brother would attend to things during his absence. He said that Wanamaker was out of town and he could not see him that day, from which I inferred that Wanamaker was always consulted and had personal knowledge of what money went out. It was evident that Van Valkenburg did not want to take me into his confidence in any direction where he could help it. It was evident that he and Leach did not get on well together, for he refused to consult with him any more than he could help.

IN DOLAN'S HANDS.

On the 20th I saw him in Philadelphia in my room at Dooner's hotel at 3 o'clock p. m. He said that the Weiss case was in the hands of Thomas Dolan and that he would go and see him and call on me at 6.30. He left me and was followed by a shadow to the office of Dolan. He came in at 6.30 and found me talking to Jim Pritchard, ex-member of the legislature from Blair county. We left Pritchard and went into the wine room and sat down at a table and Van Valkenburg said: "I am knocked out, Blankenburg and the business men have got their damned Miss Nancy methods to the front. They have already written to Weiss and sent him some of their reading matter. Blankenburg expects that his literature and the pressure he can bring to bear on Weiss through his employers and the business men of Weiss' section will do the work. They will find out their mistake in a few days and then we will get our work in." He handed me an envelope addressed to Blankenburg and told me to get all the names I could of first-class business men in Northampton, enclose them in the envelope and mail it. He told me to see Winsboro and arrange to make the Weiss deal through him, saying: "If Weiss will give Winsboro a satisfactory pledge, we will pay the money through him. Don't tell him, of course, where you got it, but just say that you are very much interested in Wanamaker and if he can come with us you can help him out on election expenses. Of course we are not in so good a position to do that as we were before election, but I do not see any other form in which to put the proposition." He then asked me if I couldn't induce Winsboro to organize a local branch of the Wanamaker Business Men's league. I said that I did not think he wished to openly antagonize Reeder.

"I went on November 23rd to Pottsville and saw C. H. Dengler and asked him to help me get the names of some business men for the Wanamaker Business Men's League. We called on Editor Zerbe who is a rampant Wanamaker man. He said that the Schuylkill delegation stood as follows: Senator Losch, Wanamaker; Senator Coyle, Quay; Kirschner was for Wanamaker, because he did not like Coyle; Shrink for whoever would pay him most; Witman was under the control of Losch; Orme was for Quay; Kehler was controlled by Dave Phillips, one of Losch's local lieutenants. Zerbe claimed that Coyle had gotten $600 of Wanamaker's money prior to his election and charged that S. B. Edwards, the county chairman, had got $300 from the same source and both were now against Wanamaker. I called on Edwards, who talked favorably of Wanamaker and gave me a list of business men in Pottsville. I got a number of names from Ashland from J. H. James and some names from Shenandoah from other sources. I wrote to Rudolph Blankenberg that night sending him the list of names, telling him that I had been requested to do so by Van Valkenburg and suggested that he should correspond with them.

"On the 24th of November I went to Bangor again and saw Winsboro. He said he would not organize a Wanamaker club, adding, 'I don't think under the circumstances it would amount to a damn. In a fight like this members will be influenced by other considerations than public sentiment. He asked me if I was ready to take up the Weiss case and whether they would give a thousand dollars and said that he would vouch for Weiss being all right. Later in the day he telegraphed to Weiss to come to a hotel in Bethlehem which he named, and we went there. Weiss was not at home so Winsboro left a letter of introduction for me. I spent the day in getting the names of a number of men for Blankenberg and that evening I saw Weiss and told him I had found some of his constituents were for Wanamaker and offered to pay him $500 to help him out in the matter of expenses. He said the money would not influence him but he thought he could vote for Wanamaker if it would help him out of a hole and I arranged to see him later in the week, and reported to Mr. Blankenberg a list of all the names I had gathered.

VAN GROWS SANGUINE.

"On the 26th I went to Philadelphia and found that Van Valkenburg was away and called upon Fred Van Valkenburg at the Hotel Stenton and found him in company with a man whom he introduced as T. W. Evans, of Jersey Shore, Pa. He said he was connected with the Beach Creek railroad. Van Valkenburg said that I could talk before Evans and I told him of the Weiss matter. I said: 'I can go up there with $500 and bring back a pledge.' He replied, 'All right, we can't do anything today, business is suspended here but I will fix you up tomorrow.' He then went on to talk of the Luzerne delegation and said that they had every man solid including Miller, of Nanticoke. I asked him how the general outlook was. 'It is good,' he replied, 'We did better in the country than we expected and were not disappointed in Philadelphia. We expect very soon to have a majority of both houses pledged.'

"On the 27th I called on Fred Van Valkenburg at his hotel and found him in company with a man named Bacharach from Wilkes-Barre, formerly from Philadelphia, and a worker for Martin. Bacharach was a little shy of me at first for he knew that my chief was probably against him but I showed my credentials from Wanamaker's friends and it was all right. He said he thought that Wanamaker would do a lot of business for us as he was about to start his New York store. The only way to catch him,' said Bacharach, 'is to make it a matter of business.' I asked Van Valkenburg if he was ready to go on with the Weiss matter. He said, 'We have not go it arranged yet. A blunder of this sort would raise hell now. My brother has that now in hand and it is usually left to his judgment. Bacharach and I were turned down by Wanamaker this morning and we are going back now. He don't want to do it again as we must make provision for our families while the grease is running. Oh, no, when we throw him down rocks will preach.' He told me to come around the next day and he would try and fix it. I went with them to Wanamaker's place and bade them goodbye.

IN THE PRESENCE.

The next day I called on Van Valkenburg again and found Bacharach there and also a man who was introduced as Mr. Pease from Lebanon. Van Valkenburg asked me if I thought Weiss was all right. I replied that I did. "Well," said he, "I talked to Frank Leach about Winsboro and he vouches for him and Dolan thinks you ought to turn the job off to-day, but my brother has always been the final arbiter in matters of this kind in the country and I don't like to move without him. He will be home to-morrow." He told Bacharach to call up Bethlehem and arrange a meeting with Weiss later in the week. After some further talk Van Valkenburg said, "Well, come along to see Wanamaker and if Dolan is there we will fix it at once." Then he told Bacharach not to call up Bethlehem. Van Valkenburg, Pease and myself then went to Wanamaker's office.

Pease and I stopped in the outer office and Van Valkenburg went in for a few minutes alone and then called us in. Wanamaker greeted us quite affably and said, "There seems to be quite a political tempest gathering. Quay declares himself against me, but so far does not assign any reason for his antagonism." Pease said, "Yes, he does in this morning's Inquirer." Wanamaker got the paper and handed it to Pease who turned it over and handed it back. Wanamaker said, "Now, Mr. Pease, that is a delicate piece of flattery. You know very well what I like best. Do you know what article you have given me? 'A Meeting of Ministers to Arrange for Evangelical Work.'" Pease said, "I was not so smart as that; it is only a blunder."

He then turned to the article in question which said that Quay's reason for opposing Wanamaker was that Wanamaker influenced Harrison against him after Quay had got him appointed postmaster general. After reading it Wanamaker said, "Now, right there Quay is showing stupidity. That is not true and Benjamin Harrison will brand it as a lie. If I had really wished to secure absolute control of Pennsylvania patronage at that time I could have done it, but I had no such ambitions. There are some things, however, that I am afraid of as there is sufficient color of truth in them to make them plausible. A lot of miners in Schuylkill county get together the other night and passed resolutions charging me with having imported foreign labor and being fined for it. It is true the firm was fined $1000, but it was not because of my doings." He then went into a long explanation of his connection with the Philadelphia street car strikes in which he admitted that he knew the executive committees of the Unions who had called him in as an arbiter were being bamboozled on the terms of settlement and he had 'mildly' pointed it out to them, but when they were obtuse and insisted upon accepting the agreement he did not seem especially called upon to obstruct the settlement. He then said, "These politicians tell me I am going to win this fight and if I do I tell you I am not going to have all the patronage cut off by civil service rules."

He here called in a stenographer and addressed a letter to the chairman of the Civil Service commission asking for information as to the places left open. He said, "Neither Mark Hanna nor Major McKinley will at all consider Quay. He has done nothing for them. He fought McKinley's nomination with the energy of desperation and in the end went in out of the rain, which must have been very humiliating to him, although it was a smart move. It would be hard for any man to point out anything that he did that was of any value in this campaign. Quay is tied up to Hastings, Widener and Penrose with promises and I don't see how he can extricate himself from his dilemma."

ANOTHER POSTPONEMENT.

Van Valkenburg had sent out for Mr. Dolan but the latter had not come in when Mr. Wanamaker was called into another room. Van Valkenburg said, "Come to my hotel at 2 o'clock. You can leave for Bethlehem at 4.05 p. m." I met Van Valkenburg at the Stenton hotel at 2 o'clock and he said that positions had been reversed. Mr. Dolan had become cautious suddenly and wanted to wait until Ed. Van Valkenburg returned. He said they had just learned that a job of the kind they had done in Connellsville without consulting Ed had gone wrong and the opposition had got an affidavit. He said 'We did not do this ourselves, but a friend of ours did it and I laid awake a week at nights worrying over it and it has turned out as I had expected.' He continued: 'You have done a mighty good job though and you have got credit for it with Wanamaker and Dolan. I told Wanamaker yesterday that you had got us another man. You won't be forgotten for it whether it goes through or not. I think we ought to go right ahead with it, but perhaps Dolan is right for a bad break now would make a hell of a mess.' He then had me wire Winsboro, "Impossible to keep engagement today. Look for letter tonight." I told him I was going to Scranton and he said, "We will have a council on Monday and I will wire you. I shall advocate it going through as we will need every vote we can get."

On the 1st of December I received a telegram at the Westminster hotel at Scranton, from E. A. Van Valkenburg, signed Hazlett, saying they had concluded to close with Weiss and telling me to come to Philadelphia. I said in reply I had to go to Pottsville and asked him to meet me there. He met me shortly after 9 o'clock at the Merchant's hotel and I told him I had been so busy at other work I had not been able to get away or do very much for him. He said, "I wanted this job to go through. The day you saw me at Leach's office in Philadelphia I went to see Dolan about the position of Weiss' employers. They had been against us all along and Dolan went to see them again. He did not get much satisfaction, but a few days later Mr. Whitney, a member of the firm of Whitney & Kemmerer, coal merchants, in the Girard building, wrote and said he had written Weiss and asked him to vote for Wanamaker. Weiss replied without committing himself. "This looks," said Van Valkenburg, "as though he wanted to do business with you in the meantime and then notify his firm that he was for Wanamaker. I will give you the money now. When do you think you can see him again?" I said, "Not before Friday or Saturday." He replied, "That will do. Write the pledge the same as the one you got from the doctor and mail it to me at Philadelphia. I will expect to get it by Saturday."

THE MONEY SUPPLIED.

He gave me the money, which was in hundred dollar bills as follows: A75614, National Bank of Norristown; A319022, Mechanics National Bank of Philadelphia; A203659 National Bank of Norristown; A95357 Montgomery National Bank, Norristown; A10176 Boston National Bank. I marked them all with the stroke of a pen across the last cipher, in the upper left hand corner. I did this of course afterwards when I was alone. Van Valkenburg registered at the Merchant's hotel as "A. E. Crawford, Buffalo," and had room No. 53. After marking and recording the numbers of the notes given me by Van Valkenburg I sealed them up and gave them to the head of our agency. At this time I was taken sick and had to go home, when I received the following letter:

"Bourse Building,
Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 5th, 1896.

Mr. ———,
Altoona, Pa.

Dear Mr. ———: I am just in receipt of Mrs. ———'s letter of Dec. 4th, and am very sorry to hear of your illness; I sincerely trust it is nothing serious, and that you will soon be about again. I have information through a source I cannot say very reliable that the party you were in operation with had written a letter that he would not do as you might wish him to. It is important enough so that I think we should talk the matter over before proceeding further. I wired you at Scranton as soon as I obtained this information not to proceed further, and I am very glad matters are in the shape they are now for we must be very cautious. I shall be very anxious to hear how you are getting along.

Very sincerely yours,
E. A. V.

"On Dec. 12 I reached Bethlehem and went to Weiss' residence, where I apologized for not having seen him sooner. I told him I had with me the money agreed upon and would expect him to sign a pledge to vote for Wanamaker in the shape of a letter to myself, saying that on inquiry among his constituents he found that the sentiment was in favor of Wanamaker, which was in harmony with his own feelings. Weiss answered: "I have made inquiry and find the majority of my constituents are not for Wanamaker. It is quite on the contrary. The larger number of them are for Penrose. I have never taken any money of this sort in my life, and I do not see my way clear to do it now. I will do nothing hastily, and we will let it rest for the present, and if I change my mind will notify you." I asked him if he would treat the matter confidentially, but he did not make any definite promise and I left him.

ANOTHER TALK WITH JOHN.

On Dec. 15 I went to Wanamaker's store and was told he was confined to his house by a severe cold. His clerk recognized me and told me to go to his house, 2032 Walnut street. I went there and sent in my card. Mr. Wanamaker saw me in the parlor. I told him that I had a matter of importance to discuss with Van Valkenburg, but could not find him and had come to the house at the suggestion of the clerk at the store. Mr. Wanamaker said: "Have you ever had any work in Harrisburg in the matter of detecting attempts to bribe legislators?" I said I had not. Said he: "We are going to win this fight unless the other side buy too many people. "They are at it," I said, "and are paying big money." "Have you the proofs?" he inquired. "I haven't got the proofs," I answered, "but I think I have a moral certainty and want to talk it over with Van Valkenburg." "You have done some things for him, have you?" said Wanamaker. "Yes," I answered, "I am dealing now with a member at Bethlehem, Northampton county." "Well, they have been setting traps for us," said Wanamaker. "A man named Baldwin, at Connellsville, early in the fight wrote to us offering to support me for a certain sum and this, of course, put me on my guard against him. He now alleges that I introduced him to Van Valkenburg at Connellsville. This part of his statement is true. There was a reception at the tavern there and I naturally introduced him to Van Valkenburg, who was standing beside me, but the very fact of his proposition in writing and signed put me on my guard against him and I said but little to him. I don't think he got a cent of our money, as Dunn states that he (Dunn) raised the money himself. But we must be very careful. I shall not talk to a member of the legislature again unless there are some of my friends present."

"They will not catch me," I said. "I have been in this business too long for that. I will know just where I am at before I deal. I want to see Van Valkenburg and my movements are uncertain. I may be kept here a week or two or I may be obliged to leave tonight."

"Don't go without seeing Van Valkenburg," said Mr. Wanamaker. "And if possible call here again before you leave. This is going to be a great fight and if I win it means a new order of things."

"An epoch in Pennsylvania politics," I said.

"Yes, that is just it," said he. "Call again before you leave town."

I then left and went to my hotel, where Van Valkenburg joined me in room No. 4 at Dooner's. He asked me if I had seen Weiss. I said: "Yes, I meant to give him $300 down if he signed the pledge and the balance when he wrote to his employers that he was for Wanamaker. His head is swelled and he wants more money."

VAN GROWS SUSPICIOUS.

"I think he is putting up a job on you," said Van Valkenburg. "He has written to his employers, saying that he cannot be for Wanamaker under any circumstances. They are setting up pins to strike at us for bribery. Be on your guard every minute. They may strike at you at any time. If Weiss comes at you, you must say that you were only feeling him on your own account and when you came back to your people they would not put up the money. The orders have gone out that every man connected with the Wanamaker management must be struck at wherever it is possible. Quay is perfectly frantic. It is the first time he has had to oppose such an aggregation of talent."

"They are after you at Connellsville," I said. "It was my brother," he replied. "I told him at the time he was a fool, as Baldwin would put a job up on him. I have not been caught because when I had an interview with any of those people I always had a friend with me. Chief of Police Faust, of Altoona, was with me when I met one of the Westmoreland delegation, and after he left Faust said: 'You made a mistake. You did not go far enough with that fellow. You never mentioned money.' Dr. Mackey was in to see Frank Leach and is all right, and I had Leach write him a short letter, warning him to be on his guard. I hope it will do no harm. I wish you could go into the other camp and do some buying for them. We do not propose to put in any more money, as it is dangerous."

"Where do you think you are?" I asked. He grinned and said: "We are gaining. I never said we would win, and I don't say so now. Quay's attack on the Business Men's league shows he is badly rattled. You had better let Weiss alone. Keep out $50 for yourself, and express me the balance to the corner of Eleventh and Walnut street."

On December 17th, at 10.30 a. m., I called at the office of the Business Men's league, in the Bourse building, and inquired for Mr. Van Valkenburg. They said he was not in, and I sat down. Rudolph Blankenberg sat down just inside the rail and Mr. French behind the screen in the outer office. A man named Oppenheimer came in and informed French that he had four representatives on a string and if they were looked after they might be landed. Three of them were Hatfield, Hartman and Lloyd, all Philadelphia men. The name of the fourth I could not catch. Ned Patton was named in some connection and French said: "We can't touch him." Fred. Van Valkenburg came in and I told him I had got permission to work for them at Harrisburg. He said: "We are going to make Rome howl. They can't beat us unless they buy a lot of votes. I want you to arrange to get in with some one on the other side and buy some of our fellows for them."

AGAIN THE WILY DOLAN.

I remained most of the day on December 18 at the offices of the Business Men's league and was introduced to Thomas Dolan as a man who had been doing some nice work for their side. Van Valkenburg told Dolan that the representative from Adams county would be there that day and Dolan said: "Bring him to my office in the Drexel building at 3 o'clock." Van Vankenburg complained that the detectives were trying to establish a connection between the Reverend Mr. Duffy and Wanamaker, so as to arrest Wanamaker for conspiracy to defame Penrose.

During the next two or three days Bacharach was summoned to Philadelphia and was sent out by Fred Van Valkenburg on several missions among them to Boiling Springs in Cumberland county where he was told "Don't give him any checks or anything of that sort, but if you find him all right and he is short on expenses fix him up."

On December 21st while in Scranton I went to the office of the United States Express company and in the presence of witnesses put the five $100 bills which I had received from Van Valkenburg for Weiss in an envelope, wrapped in a letter to E. A. Van Valkenburg. The envelope was addressed to that gentleman at the Hotel Stenton in Philadelphia.

SOME DIRTY WORK.

I came back to Philadelphia on December 22nd, and met Fred Van Valkenburg and Bacharach. We walked to the "Telegraph" building and Van Valkenburg went in. Bacharach began talking with me about the head of our firm. He said "I was for Scott for senator in Luzerne and John Lenahan and your boss were for Harvey. I got Billy Bauer, one of your bosses' men, watching me. I had a lot of men in the room fixing them up for Scott and he had his men outside, but he can't prove I gave them any money. I gave Billy Bauer $25 and he voted for Scott. Billy could not resist the cash. Van Valkenburg came down and said, "Our detectives can't make anything out of Penrose. He has covered his tracks too well." In the evening Bacharach sent for me to come to the Stenton, and asked if I had a couple of shadows. Fred Van Valkenburg was with him and a man named Hick from Philadelphia. Van Valkenburg said "Baldwin of Connellsville, is here drunk. We want you to locate him and we will try to have him arrested on some charge. We think he is here to make another affidavit and we must head it off, if possible." We went to the Hotel Walton to look for Baldwin but he was out. It was suggested that Bacharach and I should go to the office in the Bourse where there was a picture of Baldwin. On the way Bacharach told me about the primaries in Luzerne county last spring. Sometime before they occurred Fred Van Valkenburg came to Bacharach's saloon and introduced himself and said he would like to meet some of the candidates. Bacharach introduced him to Col. Scott. Sometime later Van Valkenburg came back with a letter from a top-notch politician in Philadelphia, probably from Dave Martin. Bacharach telegraphed the Philadelphia man and was told that Van Valkenburg was all right. Shortly after this Ed. Van Valkenburg arrived at Wilkes-Barre.

At the start both of the Van Valkenburgs were for Harvey for senator, as it was understood that he was for Wanamaker and was giving Quay the throw-down. Bacharach refused to desert Scott. He and Van Valkenburg agreed on a slate for members of the house and it was understood between them they should fight it out for the senator. Harvey had the odds in his favor as Quay was for him with his influence and Wanamaker with his money, but Scott won the fight. Ed. Van Valkenburg got scared about one member and came to Bacharach at midnight, who said "I can take you to a man tonight who can deliver delegates enough at Nanticoke to nominate him," so they drove about five miles across the river and woke the fellow at 2 a. m. and he agreed to deliver the goods. When he named his price Van Valkenburg was astounded at its cheapness. He said, "Leach gave me the names of people to see in this county and they are all back numbers. I have been spending my time and money fooling with them." Van Valkenburg paid over the money and Miller had 33 votes in the convention. Bacharach remarked we have got all the Luzerne people but one and he and his brother-in-law are hunting me now."

MARSHAL BARRING TALKS

Not Employed by Quay but by a Number of Representative Business Men. The Case Against Van Valkenburg to Be Pushed to the End.

Mr. H. Barring, of the detective firm of Barring & McSweeney, whose names appear in the late developments with regard to the Van Valkenburg-Wanamaker scandals, was seen yesterday by a reporter of The Tribune. He was shown the published statement of Mr. Van Valkenburg made by the latter after his arrest by Daniel McSweeney. Mr. Barring said in substance that Mr. Van Valkenburg was evidently making a pretty stiff bluff but it would avail him nothing. "For the last three months," continued Mr. Barring, "we have been at work upon this case, and we have had a man on the very inside of the Wanamaker syndicate, and we know all about the details of their boom. We know what money was spent, who got it, who paid it, and who acted as middlemen and stool pigeons. We shall expose the whole business, but of course we are not ready now to give our whole case away. The most interesting parts will develop at the hearing and during the trial in court. We have not only one case against Mr. Van Valkenburg, but probably half a dozen, and we shall keep him busy making statements and explanations. He is not the only one of the Combine who is liable under the law, but it will depend upon counsel whether others will be arrested or not.

NOT HIRED BY QUAY.

"This talk about the desperate straits of Senator Quay is all rot. Senator Quay had absolutely nothing to do with this case and when he first heard of it the facts were as much a surprise to him as they will be to Mr. Wanamaker before we get through. Senator Quay had the first intimation that we were at work upon this case about two weeks ago, and it is only within a very few days that he was made acquainted with the details. We were not employed by Senator Quay nor by Senator Penrose, nor by any other party immediately interested in the success of Quay or Penrose.

At the time when we were employed everybody was at sea as to the candidate who might get the endorsement of Senator Quay and his friends. Half a dozen names were mentioned at that time. We shall go to the bitter end with these cases; these are our instructions, and it is entirely immaterial who is elected for senator so far as these charges against E. A. Van Valkenburg and others are concerned. It is perfectly natural that Senator Quay should take some interest in this matter now, and I should not wonder if his friends would furnish information which we have not been able to obtain; they would be perfectly justified in doing so.

THEIR COUNSEL.

"Some of the ablest counsel in Pennsylvania have been retained, for instance, John T. Lenahan and Henry W. Palmer, of Wilkes-Barre, and W. J. Whitehouse, of Pottsville, and arrangements will be made to retain a certain gentleman of the Lackawanna county bar whose name I am not at liberty to give.

"There is no sentiment with us in this matter, and no political prejudice whatever. We are under the instructions of our clients and we shall obey their orders. The worst feature about this whole dirty business consists probably in the fact that there does not even seem to 'honor among thieves.' Some of the under-strappers of the Wanamaker syndicate, or combine, as you may be pleased to call it, have certainly been lining their pockets, and I dare say that Mr. Wanamaker will be the most surprised of all when our disclosures are complete. Whether he knew all that was going on, I cannot say; he certainly was acquainted with some of the details, to judge from his conversation with our operative, however, I am willing to give the gentleman the benefit of the doubt. He has been victimized badly. Some of the men in charge of his boom were ready to throw him down any time, and with them it was entirely a question of dollars and cents. If someone had come along and offered them a bigger price they would have sold Mr. Wanamaker, body and soul. Nothing else can be expected of men who follow the buying and selling of votes as a profession and call it politics."

VAN VALKENBURG'S HEARING.

He Pleads Not Guilty and Is a Second Time Arrested.

Pottsville, Pa., Dec. 31.—E. A. Van Valkenburg, manager of the Wanamaker headquarters at Harrisburg, who was arrested in that city last night on the charge of attempting to bribe Representative Weiss, of Northampton county, to vote for Wanamaker for United States senator, was given a hearing here today before 'Squire Kuebler. After some testimony had been offered Mr. Van Valkenburg waived a hearing and entered $1,500 bail for his appearance at court. During the hearing another warrant was served on Van Valkenburg, charging him with conspiracy to bribe Dr. N. C. Mackey, of Lackawanna county. Bail in $1,500 was also entered by Mr. Van Valkenburg in this case. The first mentioned alleged crime is said to have been committed in Schuylkill county, hence Van Valkenburg's presence here for a hearing.

The hearing was held in the office of 'Squire Kuebler. The prosecution was represented by W. J. Whitehouse. Van Valkenburg's interests were looked after by Atorneys Bergner, of Harrisburg; ex-District Attorney Koch and Attorney Snyder, of Pottsville. The hearing began at 11.45 o'clock. Attorney Whitehouse was assisted in the prosecution by James T. Lenahan, of Wilkes-Barre. Van Valkenburg pleaded not guilty.

The prosecution then called J. N. Tillard, who said he was a detective in the employ of the Inter-state Detective agency, of Scranton. His residence is Altoona. He was sent to the Wanamaker people early in the summer to hire out to them and then disclose all information he could get to his superiors. He went on at great length to describe interviews between himself and Van Valkenburg wherein he said it was agreed that he was to help Van Valkenburg secure votes against Quay's candidate for senator. His testimony followed the lines of the statement begun on page one of The Tribune. The hearing was adjourned at 1.15 for an hour.

The defendant's counsel at the afternoon session waived a hearing and entered bail in 1,500. Ten prominent citizens of Pottsville volunteered to go on the bail bond. After the bail was entered, the prosecution, which had opposed the waiving of the hearing, resumed the examination of Tillard, and he narrated the story of the alleged conspiracy. The defendant and his counsel had left the magistrate's office. During the trial of the case, another warrant was served on Van Valkenburg, in which he is charged with conspiracy to bribe Dr. N. C. Mackey, of Lackawanna county. Bail in the sum of 1,500 was entered for his appearance in this case.

Van Valkenburg says the detective's story is mainly a tissue of lies, and that the whole thing is intended by the anti-Wanamaker people to get into the newspapers a lot of senseless charges that they dare not otherwise publish outside of a hearing; that the whole thing is a farce to weaken the Wanamaker cause.

WEISS IS FOR PENROSE.

But He Says He Did Not Instigate the Prosecution.

Harrisburg, Dec. 31.—Representative Weiss, of Northampton, came to Harrisburg this afternoon and made a statement in the Van Valkenburg bribery matter. He says that the first he heard of the case was when he read the papers this morning. He has not seen Van Valkenburg since the adjournment of the last legislature, and Van Valkenburg has never approached him in Mr. Wanamaker's interest.

"I do not know the complaint in the case against Mr. Van Valkenburg and I am not a party to the suit nor had I any knowledge of it."

Mr. Weiss says that he will vote for Penrose.

THE LEADER

124-126 Wyoming Ave.

A Happy New Year

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In the course of 1897 we shall endeavor to demonstrate that the manner in which we conduct our business is a boon to the public, as we shall set an example in low prices that will go down to posterity as a condition unequalled before.

Beginning with January 2 our business will be conducted on the department system, thus enabling us to keep each department in a sound, up-to-date condition. In order o keep our stock moving at a ively rate there will be no end of bargain sales, and low prices will reign supreme at all times. Our first enterprise will be a special

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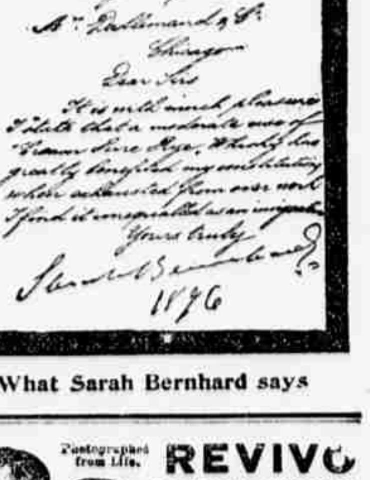

What Sarah Bernhard says

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