QUAY PLEDGES BALLOT REFORM.

Republican Leader Ready to Meet the Democrats to Agree Upon

a Fair Measure. INSURGENTS PLAY TO THE GALLERIES

Misrepresentations to Make It Be-Heve That They Are the Only Champions of Reform, But Senator Focht Shows That the Measure He Has Presented Meets a Popular Demand.

(Special Correspondence.) Philadelphia, March 5.-A lot of cheap notoriety is being given several members of the legislature who have presented bills providing for changes in the present ballot law.

Whenever any one of these bills is opposed by a regular Republican the cry goes forth from insurgent Republican organs that the Republican leaders are against ballot reform. The insurgents who offered these bills probably knew at the time they were offered that the regular Republicans, who are in control of both branches of the legislature, intend to assume the responsibility for any changes that are made in the system of voting. They do not propose to permit any insurgent to dictate to the Republican organization as to what changes shall be made in the ballot.

Senator Quay, while in Harrisburg, last week, conferred with Governor Stone and leading Republican members of the legislature, and it was agreed that no one should be permitted to interfere with the carrying out of every pledge made by the Republican party for ballot reform. Col. Quay had a conference with Senator Benjamin K. Focht, of Union county, who has introduced a ballot reform bill, and who is chairman of the senate committee on elections, which will have to pass upon all ballot and election measures this session.

TO CONFER WITH GUFFEY.

Senator Quay stated that inasmuch as the Democratic party has also declared in favor of ballot reform, he would be pleased to confer with Col. Guffey, the leader of the state Democracy, with a view to an agreement upon a fair election ballot bill which Republicans and Democrats alike could support. It is manifest that Col. Quay does not believe that the Republican organization should shirk its duty of giving the people an honest ballot re

There are several other reforms which the Republican leaders desire to see accomplished.

While the insurgent newspapers miss no opportunity to misrepresent the ac-tion of the Republicans in the legisla-ture on the ballot reform issue, when the legislature shall have adjourned the people will know that the Republican party has fulfilled all its pledges. THE FOCHT BALLOT BILL

A bill which is attracting much attention and which will be amended to meet any program that the stalwart Republicans may determine upon, is known as the Focht bill. It was introduced by Senator Focht.

In explaining the provisions of this measure, which is now in the hands of the elections committee, Senator Focht

"First-Recognizing that party organization is fundamental to any elec-toral system, it is proposed to divide nominations into those made by regu-lar political parties and those made by non-political and individual effort

"For a party nomination it is requi-site that there be either a national state or county organization, governed by a set of rules and requiring a fixed minimum public notice of the time and of making nominations. is the first step toward legislative regulation of primary elections, and by giving official recognition to party unities will naturally lead up to this

Provision is also made for free nominations by any group of citizens not affiliated with any political party. Such nominations are all grouped under one head as independent nominations. It would seem most unwise to allow any group of citizens, having probably no affiliation outside of their own municipal division, to dignify their efforts blance of party regularity. The Mar-tin bill, in 1899, required representa-tion from every county in the state for nomination by papers; this is an onnomination by papers; this is an on-erous requirement, and would practi-cally be prohibitory. The proposed law requires representation from at least ten counties for a place upon the state ticket, and was so fixed for the reason that it does not seem right that a disaffected group of citizens, or any number of citizens not members of any political party, should be able to secure a place upon the state ticket without definite representation in some regu-lated number of counties.

CANDIDATESGROUPEDTOGETHER "Second-In the printing of the ballot the names of all candidates for any particular office are to be grouped un-der one heading, giving priority of place to the dominant party, and arranging all other party nominations in the order of votes cast at the last state election. Following these are the names of all independent candidates. arranged in alphabetical order, under office, following each name with the designation 'independent nominee.' Except that independent nominees are not permitted to choose a party designation, this provision does not differ from the Martin bill or any other proosed measure for decreasing the size of the ballot or doing away with party

The provision for following all the nominees for each office by as many blank lines as there are persons to be elected to that office gives opportunity for every voter to east his ballot strictly in accordance with his views with-out danger of losing his vote through

marking in different columns and so not being counted by either the haste

or neglect of an election board.
"Third—For the same reasons that recognition is specifically given to parnominations provision is made for voting a party ticket by placing a horow of circles across the top of the ballot, printing therein the names of all parties making nominations, arranged in the order of party dominants in the last preceding spring election. In order that there may be no misunderstanding as to the import of these circles, this instruction is to be print-

ed underneath TO FACILITATE VOTING. TO VOTE A STRAIGHT TICKET MAKE AN X MARK WITHIN ONE | a gar's are no boys.

OF THE CIRCLES, AND DO NO. MARK THE BALLOT ELSEWHERE "TO VOTE A SPLIT TICKET, THAT IS, FOR CANDIDATES ON DIFFER-ENT TICKETS, DO NOT MARK IN ANY CIRCLE, BUT MAKE A MARK AFTER EACH CANDIDATE VOTED

"Fourth.-The vexed question as to how assistance can be rendered to a voter who is unable to mark his ballot is compromised between those who would allow a free choice of any voter and those who would restrict this duty to members of the election board, who now have more than they can well do, by restricting the choice of the assistant to one of the duly appointed watchers, and each watcher is required to take an oath prohibiting the disclosure of the way in which he marked any ballot, and is further subjected to all the penalties imposed by the bill upon

the penalties imposed by the bit upon election officers for any such offense. "So far as possible, the lines of the existing law which are now fairly un-derstood and reasonably well settled by judicial interpretations have been closely followed, except so far as it seemed possible to simplify either the method of nomination or the form of the ballot. The time within which protests must be made is limited and nom-inations are required to be filed with the officers promptly so that neither the office of the secretary of the commonwealth nor the Dauphin county court will be congested with a multi-tude of contests within a short time of the election

IN CASE OF CONFICT

"When two or more bodies seek to use the same political name, claiming to represent the same party, the secretary of the commonwealth is required to accept and file the first papers ten dered, and the other party is compelled to look to the court for redress. Except as to matters of form the duties of the secretary of the commonwealth are made purely ministerial, although he may reject any certificate or nomi-nation paper for patent fraud in its ex-

Every candidate is restricted to single place on the ticket, and where a candidate receives nominations from more than one party or group of voters he is held to prefer to have used on the ballot that one which shall be the first filed, unless he shall within a limited time file a paper under oath ex-pressing preference for some other

mination This absolutely prevents any name appearing twice on the ballot, and yet grouping all candidates, under each title, gives ample opportunity for every candidate receiving the votes of all of his friends. It is senseless for a candidate's name to appear more than once when no elector is entitled to more than one vote.

"It is estimated that this ballot, on account of its reduced size, will cost from two hundred to many thousands

less for each county each year
"The question of registration does not form any part of this Focht ballot bill, because the constitution must be first amended before any reform in that line can be provided for by legislative

A GAME THAT TWO COULD PLAY. Only Old Man Ritchie Played It Better Than His Partner.

"Old man Ritchie was a great character in the early days on the Mississippi," said a local sportsman, spinning yarns about antebellum gambling and gamblers. "He had made a living out of cards for years and, of course, was up to all the tricks of the trade, but he such a bland, innocent looking old that he was continually being picked out as a mark by sharpers. On one occasion, while he was loating around Little Rock, a very smooth individual of the name of Gridley, who had just drifted into the country from somewhere up in New Eng-land, made his acquaintance and, after sixing him up pretty carefully took his land, made his acquaintance and, after sizing him up pretty carefully, took him. The speaker finally obtained order, aside and proposed that they go in together and open a game of faro.

"I have \$3,000," said Gridley, and if you can raise a similar amount we will from every section of the state. This start a nice little gentlemen's club, cater-conduct was in line with the action of ing to none but the boiled shirt trade, the insurgents who organized a ramp and the chances are we can clean up a house during the last session of the big pot of money.' 'I guess I can get the three thousand all right,' replied the old but we will have a mighty small capital. Somebody may come in and break us in an evening.' 'Oh, that's a and risk we've get to run,' said Gridley, 'but

we won't encourage high play. Our spe-cialty will be tone and respectability.'
"To make a long story short, they went in together, and on the first night Ritchie went out to get supper, leaving his part-ner in charge. When he returned, Grid-ley pulled a long face. 'We've had bad-luck,' he said. 'While you were gone a little bowlegged fellow came in and won \$500,' 'Oh, well, that's a risk we have to 8500. 'Oh, well, that's a risk we have to run!' replied Ritchie and said no more about it. Next night it was the same story. 'That confounded bowlegged fel-low was in again while you were eating,' said Gridley, and won out another \$500. Too bad,' grunted Ritchie, 'but I guess we'll catch even on somebody else.

"The following evening the old man said be didn't feel hunary and offered to look after things while Gridley got a cup of coffee. The New Englander was back in about three minutes. Well, partner, said Ritchie, sighing, fortune certainly does seem to be ag'in us.' 'Why, how is that? asked Gridley, looking startled. That doggoned bowlegged feller was in ag'in,' replied the old man, heaving another deep sigh. The New Englander changed color and for a mo-ment seemed at a loss to know what to 'Well-er-what did he do?' he leans Times-Democrat.

The Clergyman and the H.

A true anecdote of the old election days, which Mr. Gladstone used to relate, will perhaps bear retelling at the mo ment. At the celebrated election in 1865, at which Mr. Gladstone lost his sent for Oxford university—becoming, to use his own phrase, "unmuzzled"—his opponent was Gathorne Hardy. The practice at a contested election was for each elector to

teliers for each party.

The late Professor Henry Smith was netling as teller for Mr. Gladstone, when

"I claim that vote," quietly put in Professor Henry Smith. "No, no," proteste

did not finish the name."
"Quite so, but you did not even begin

he had an interview with the pope. The conversation was carried on in several languages, including ecclesiastical Latin | that the battle is only in its prelimi-

It is a pretty fashion to give the first

GREAT TRIUMPH FOR REFORM.

Flinn Ring Beaten in the State Legislature.

COL. QUAY LED THE FIGHT.

Citizens of Pittsburg Who Have Secured Their Desired New Charter Strongly Commend the Action of Regular Republican Leadership.

Harrisburg, March 5.-Citizens of Allegheny county are already at work In a campaign to get forthetaxpayers of that county the full benefit of the passage of the reform charter bill by the

legislature last week. There is reason to believe that the ring which has been dominating the official life of Pittsburg, under the lead-ership of Insurgent Chief William Flinn, is about to be broken and that the demand for a reform administra-tion of public affairs in that municipality will be complied with through the efforts of the leaders of the Re-publican organization of the state.

After a most remarkable battle, a struggle lasting several weeks, the Flinn contingent and their Democratic allies and a few recruits from the ranks of those who started out as stalwarts in the senatorial campaign, were finally beaten in the house on Thursday morning last, when the so-called "ripper," or charter reform bill, was passed finally exactly as it came from the senate, by a vote of 106 to 93. Under the provisions of the constitution 103 votes were required to pass this measure, so that there was but a small margin over this in the final vote

INSURGENTS WERE SURPRISED. Flinn and a full hundred of his lieutenants from Pittsburg were on hand lobbying against the bill, and they had counted upon 12 majority against it when they on Wednesday night, called for a vote upon a motion to indefinitely postpone consideration of the bill They demanded the year and nays, and were given a terrible shock when they found that 102 members voted against postponement and only 92 in favor of sidetracking the measure

From that moment the stalwarts became stronger and the Flinn men weaker and weaker, although the Flinn lobby remained at work all night, many of them not going to bed at all, and they still hoped when the vote for final passage was taken that there would be one or two votes, or less than the constitutional majority, for the bill.

RING METHODS INTRODUCED.

In their desperate efforts to prevent vote on the bill the Flinn henchmen resorted to fillibustering tactics of the most drastic character. One of the Flinn supporters, Representative Ho-sack, in defiance of the rulings of the speaker of the house and in violation of parliamentary law, refused to take his seat and continued to interrupt the clerk while he was calling the roll When an assistant sergeant-at-arms. in pursuance of instructions from the chair, went to Hosack and requested him to be scated, he still refused, and then he was firmly pressed down into who attempted to break up the session has called forth very severe criticism legislature, when they were working against Col. Quay for senator, but it quite surpassed in the desperate character of the work anything attempted

two years ago. Col. Quay, who arrived from Florida to personall direct the forces in favor of the reform charter bill, expressed great satisfaction over the victory of

the regulars. The people of Pittsburg fully appreciate his services.

Copies of resolutions passed at a large meeting of influential citizens of

Pittsburg have just been received here COL QUAY PRAISED. These resolutions, after referring to

the passage of the reform charter bill, set forth: That it is the duty of all friends of good government, without party dis-tinction, to lend their hearty co-opera-

tion to the work which has been so

splendidly begun.
"That the earnest thanks of the whole people of Pennsylvania are due to the legislature and to the Republican state organization for the adoption of the above act for the better adminis-tration of second class cities; and particularly should popular congratula-tions be extended to the Hon. Matthew Stanley Quay for the aid he gave in

this timely victory of upright civic principle, the assertion of which at this juncture and in this manner is, as finally managed to inquire. 'He busted he reminds us, merely the redemption us,' said the old man calmly."—New Or- of pledges made by the Republican party of this commonwealth; and Whereas, It is publicly announced by those whose interest it has been to antagonize those pledges that the fight against the fulfillment of the Republi

can party's obligation to the people has only been opened, and whereas it is beyond doubt that they will continue their opposition with all the means and

all the energy at their command.

WILL FIGHT FOR REFORM. "Resolved, That the Republicans of record his vote by word of mouth before this assemblinge pledge themselves to use every honorable means to complete the political regeneration for which act of the legislature has opened the an uncouth country clergyman entered, door; that we promise to inaugurate and, to the usual request for whom he wished to record his vote, replied, in his once the organization of our respecconfusion, "I vote for Mr. Glad-I mean tive districts and renewing our campaign for the bringing of the city and county government into closer rela-tion with the interests of the taxpayer protested the clergyman. "I and the private citizens, where we left fight of 1896; and that we stand ready the other," retorted the professor.—Lon-don Chronicle.

to join with the leaders of the reform movement in any and all steps necessary for the consummation of the work Professor Thomas Davidson was a mase of many languages. On one occasion legun. We accept the implied challenge of the champions of the ring government contained in the declaration his visitor must be an Italian. "Ego sun Scotus," replied Professor Davidsen; "I am a Scotchman,"—London Sketch. has been joined and upon which it will

"Resolved further. That the chair, boy of the family his mother's surname for a Christian name. If the name is not too masculine, it may often serve for a girl's first name in a family where the family where are no boys.

Resorved thirmer, that the chairman of this meeting be authorized thereby to appoint a committee of whom he shall be one, to confer with and co-operate with any similar committees that may be an-

pointed to carry on the fight for good government in other parts of the city

and the county. FLINN RING DESPERATE.

The Flinn ring has, as above indicated, already started in to fisht for their political existence in the last ditch. They propose to interpose all manner of legal and other obstacles to the enforcement of the new charter, which provides that within 30 days of the date upon which the governor at-taches his signature to it, the governor shall appoint a recorder for each of the three cities affected—Pittshurg. Scranton and Allegheny. The present mayors of Pittshurg and Allegheny in-tend to resist the enforcement of the law, which legislates them out of of-fice, and a hot struggle in the courts will result

In Scranton Mayor Moir seems to be willing to accept the pledges of the party leaders that only where the in-terests of reform demand shall changes be made. He was one of the most ac-tive supporters of the bill when it was up before the legislature. He says the citizens of Scranton desired the passage of the bill, and he joined with them in advocating it.

NO EXCISE COMMISSION.

There have been many reports mis-spresenting the attitude of the Republican leaders regarding the grant-

ing of liquor licenses.

There has never been any intention on the part of the influential leaders of the Republican organization to adappointment of excise commissio who shall have full control of granting of liquor licenses. The policy of the Republican leaders is to have the judges of the courts of common continue to pass upon all applica tions for liquor licenses.

It is believed that the story that the party leaders were going to take this power away from the judges originated from the desire of one of the judges, who is opposed to granting any liquor licenses and who wants to be relieved of what to him is a very unpleasant

WHAT LIFE IS.

A little crib bestde the bed. A little face above the sprea A little frack behind the dos A little shoe upon the floor.

A little lad with dark brown hair, A little blue eyed face and fair; A little lane that leads to school, A little pencil, slate and rule.

A little family gathering round, A little turf heaped, tear descel mound;

A little added to his soil, A little rest from hardest tell. A little silver in his buit, A little stool and cary chair; A little night of earth lit gles A little cortege to the tomb.

WHAT WE CALL OUR WEIGHT.

And What It Would Be In Entirely Different Circumstances.

You step upon a weighing machine, drop a penny in the slot, the band goes around the figured dial and, stopping at a certain point, tells you that your weight is so many pounds. You know by this, in a sort of comparative way, that there is a certain amount of the matter which composes the universe confined under your skin. You have appropriated a certain portion of it in the construction of your flesh and bones. There is a definite unt of the elements combined together which produces an effect upon the machine, and that effect is translated into pounds. You do not know exactl, what a pound is, but it is some sort of an arbitrary measure of the force of gravitation, and after reading the figures on the scale you know about how much there is of you by comparison with other objects that have weight and

When you stand outside of yourself, there seems to be no reason why you should have any weight. The mind, which is the most important part of you, does not appear to have any weight, is a matter entirely outside of yourself. You can-not increase or diminish it by any act of will, though sometimes in dreams you seem to have divested your body of the downward pull which you call weight and find yourself floating as easily as a mote in a sunbeam. It may be that this is a sort of recollection on the part of the matter which enters into our composition of a time when it was really not subject

this tugging called gravitation and floated free. In our present environment, however, this law of matter has us in full control, and we-cannot escape it for the smallest fraction of a second. It operates steadily all the time, and we are obliged

always to take it into account. But does the scale actually tell us how much we weigh? It simply calculates the balance between two forces that are working against each other, the one tending to drag us down to the center of the earth and the other to send us spinning out into space. The pull of gravitation out into space. The pair of gravitation has the advantage by so many pounds, otherwise we should leave our happy homes in a hurry and start on a journey from which we would never return—go ing out into space to hobnob with comets and asteroids and other celestial wander ers. This old earth is a whirler and a twirler. It has more curves than a base ball in the hands of an expert pitcher. You have seen the experiment of swinging a pail of water over the head without spilling the water. The earth is giving us the same sort of a swing.

It is as if some giant were stationed at the point of space where the center of the earth is, with a string upward of 3,000 miles in length attached to us and were swinging us around at the end of it. This rate of circular motion is approximately 1,000 miles an hour. It is a pretty rapid swing, and the fact that on account of this rapidity we have a considerable tendency to take a long jump several thousand miles into space must make a con siderable difference in the pressure when we step on the weighing machine. If the earth were to stop its whirling some day for a short time, we should all suddenly become beavy weights, and it is a ques tion whether the ordinary weighing ma-chine would be adequate to measure the tendency which our bodies would have to is plain, therefore, that we should weigh a good deal more if it wasn't for the giant swing given us by the planet upon which we are involuntary residents.—Pittsburg

Voting in France.

In France voting is by ballot. The per-sons who help in receiving and counting the vote are volunteers drawn from the ranks of the electors. Prior to the open ing of the poll at each station the pre-siding officer unlocks the urn provided for the reception of the votes and satis for the recepton of the votes and anti-fies those present that it is empty. He then locks it again, places the key in his pocket and hands a duplicate to one of his helpers, who are termed assessors. The poll is open from 8 in the morning until 6 at night, and at the close the votes are counted on the spot by the volunteer helpers. The result is then for warded to the central bureau.

The Chinese have a record of a fall as far back as 644 B. C., and they have an older tradition of a mass of 40 feet in height which fell from the sky in the sole item contained therein: "To one memorandum book, 25 cents."

BULLIED THE BULLY.

ONE RAILWAY TRIP FOR WHICH TERRY THE TERROR PAID.

On This Occasion the Bad Man Fell In With a Train Conductor Who Was as Brimful of Resources as He Was of Discretion.

James Terry, the terror of the Red Rock mining district, had a reputation for trying to ride on railway trains without paying his fare. So when the train-men saw him get aboard they thought

there would be trouble.

As the train moved out of the station and the conductor, Billy McMasters, started through the cars to collect tickets the Terror, who had dropped into a rear seat in the last car, was very much in-terested in as much of the passing landscape as be could see out of the car window in the gathering darkness. Finalthe conductor reached the Terror and received out his hand for a ticket. But it was no use. Mr. Terry kept his eyes fustened on the whirling processing of lights outside. McMasters began to real-ize that he was booked for trouble. ize that he was booked for trouble.
"Ticket, please," said McMasters,

He mit no response. Becoming slightly unnoyed, he placed his hand on the shoulder of the Terror. That worthy then turned and seeing the conductor's outcetched hand grasped it heartily, ex-

Howdy? I'm glad to see yer." 'leMasters, losing patience, shouted:

"Aw," said the Terror, "is t'at all? Why, I'm a fren' of t'e president of this here poke, 'n I ride for nuttin. See, t'at

Well, it don't go, either," said Me-Masters. "You either pay your fare or get off." And he raised his hand and led the signal cope, notifying the en-The train stopped, but Mr. Terry made

"Here, you boys," called McMasters to a couple of brakemen who had been standing near in anticipation of hostili-

from his seat, whipped out two revolvers and issued an ultimatum on the spot. "Now, you look here," said James Terry, "I want ter put yer nex' to t'e fac' r'at I'm goin ter Red Rock, about 30 miles from here. Where's me ticket? Right here is me two mits, 'a if yer ge ter any queer business I'll put ye fellers a t'e Upper Sandusky in two shakes.

Conductor McMasters was a good conflictor McMasters was a good strategist. He saw at a glance that it would be a needless risk of life and blood to carry Terry's intreached position by a frontal attack. He therefore reached for the signal cord and started the train, at the same time waving his hand to the priving re-enforcements to follow him

There was an immediate session of the board of strategy in the baggage car at which a plan of campaign was mapped out, although each member of the board seclined to be interviewed at me close of the session. The Terror meanwhile re-mained standing with his back to the window and his eyes searching the situation before him to repel any attack from

the front. When the train stopped at the next station, Hedgerove, a figure moved stealibily along the station platform from the laggage cur to a position directly under the wimlow where the Terror of Red Rock stood, master of the situation There had always been animosity be tween the Hollygrovers and the Red Rockites, and it took very little to provoke a mix up when men from the two places met. When the figure, which was that of one of McMasters' brakemen, reached the Terror's window, he uttered

"I kin lick the best man from Red Rock that ever lived. I kin lick two men from that dead town with my right hand tied behind my back," was what the fig-

Rock with two revolvers was the juiciest

kind of cherry pic."

This was too much. The Terror hesitated no longer. He would uphold the honor of his town, come what might. Quick as a flash he threw up the windew sash and stuck out his head and

"Where's the mut that wants to fight?"

But when he put his head out of the window and turned his back on passing events within the ear the Terror played right into Conductor McMasters' long suit. Following the plan of campaign mapped out in the bagenge car, the conductor was near at hand when Mr. Terry stuck his head and half his body out of the narrow car window. McMasters made a quick motion and before the Terror could realize his position had shut the window half way down and fastened it so that the bottom of the such passed across the small of the Terror's back,

holding him as in a vise, Conductor McMasters had provided himself with a flat stick which made as ing the Terror the worst puddling he ever had in his life. A brakeman came niong and joined in the flank attack with n entiteding five from another puddle The Terror's pistols were about as much ise as a divining rod is along the Chi-

Under this terrific punishment from th car the Terror soon capitulated and impped his revolvers to the platform. So the attack censed, and the om Red Rock was allowed to draw his head in and pay his fare, although he protested that it was a swindle to make a mun pay his fare who was compelled to stand up the rest of his ride owing to the stress of recent events,-New York As Usunt.

"Isn't it a nuisance to button one's gloves?" remarked the fair young girl whose engagement had recently been an-

"I always let my husband do me," said her married friend. "He but-tons them in a jiffy. Why don't you let ss toward the center of the earth. It lain, therefore, that we should weigh od deal more if it wasn't for the giant

Explained.

"Strange that you have never played olf when you live so near the links."
"Hardly strange. My mother-in-law who lives with us, is a fiend at the game. -Brooklyn Life.

His Memorandum Book.

The Green Bag says that it occurred to the late Hall McAllister shortly before his death that it would be a idea to purchase a memorandum book in which to jot down the items of his daily expenditure. "I can compare notes from day to day," he said, "find out how much I spend and so learn to regulate my ex-penditure here and there." So the book was bought. After the great lawyer's death his executors, while going over his effects, came across the book. Interested know how successful McAllister had been in "regulating his expendi-tures," they opened the book to find this,

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