

# STRAIGHT FROM THE SHOULDER.

Every Wanamaker Charge Fairly  
and Squarely Met.

## AN UNANSWERABLE SPEECH

The Chairman of the Republican State Organization Takes Up the Various Allegations and Calumnies of the Anti-Republican Bureau of Defamation, Points Out Their Falsty, and Does Not Leave a Shred of Them That Holds Together With Another.

(Special Correspondence.)

Philadelphia, Sept. 19.—The event of the week politically was the masterly arraignment of the Wanamaker defamation mill by State Chairman John P. Elkin, in a speech at Media, on Saturday. It was the formal opening of the campaign in Delaware county, and the court house was packed with people, who received the speeches of Colonel Stone and Mr. Elkin with tremendous enthusiasm. Colonel Stone devoted himself largely to a discussion of the national bearing of the campaign. The state chairman took the gloves off and spoke substantially as follows:

It is a source of pleasure to appear before an audience of Delaware county Republicans. I recall with pleasure the returns received from your county at our headquarters in the city of Philadelphia on the evening of the presidential election in 1896. The returns at that time certainly entitle your county to be called the "Little Giant of the East," and I know of no good reason why you should not continue to be regarded as a stronghold of uncompromising Republicanism. In that campaign the Republican party promised if that splendid type of American citizenship, William McKinley, should be elected president of the United States, prosperity should again be restored throughout the nation. The repeal by the Cleveland Democratic administration and a congress in sympathy with him of a Republican protective tariff law and the passage of the Wilson bill resulted in the reduction of the annual output of our manufactures about one-half, and the opportunities and wages of the laboring people were reduced in the same proportion. You will recall that the wheels of industry had stopped under the baleful influence of that administration, the marts of trade in many instances were closed, capital was idle and unproductive, and many of the wage-earners of the country marched up and down the face of this fair land begging for leave to earn a livelihood. It has now been about one and a half years since President McKinley was inaugurated. In that short space of time, however, business has revived, capital is being invested, labor is rewarded with good wages and ample employment, and the business conditions of the country from one ocean to the other and from the lakes to the gulf have steadily improved. The administration of President McKinley has already made itself felt to the advantage of our country and people in two hemispheres. Our nation is respected on the continent and in the orient as it has never been respected before. Our soldiers and sailors under the direction and patriotic guidance of the present administration have won distinction for valor and courage which have merited and received the approbation of the civilized world. Under these circumstances it would seem as though every person who voted the Republican ticket in 1896 would feel proud to continue his support of a party that had performed such valuable service to the country and the world. In that presidential contest Pennsylvania stood at the head of the column of Republican states. It was a splendid record to make under adverse political conditions, and every true Pennsylvanian is proud of it. The administration of President McKinley is now on trial throughout the country. Up to this time the state elections held have voted confidence in his administration. Oregon, off on the Pacific coast, led the way several weeks ago, and the result there has been followed by the Republicans of the Green Mountain and Pine Tree states. It is our desire that Pennsylvania shall hold its fort to the position she has already attained as the foremost Republican state of the union.

### SELFISH AND PERSONAL INTERESTS.

There are those, however, who, notwithstanding the glorious history of the party in the past, and its splendid achievements at the present time, for selfish and personal reasons have conspired to encompass its defeat. These people for several months past and now are going about the state making charges by innuendo and otherwise against our party in the hope that the people may be mystified and misled by their highly colored misrepresentation of facts. In my opinion the time has come when these deformed pictures of morbid imaginations should be stripped of their colorings and reduced to their real dimensions. The difficulty of combating with such antagonism to the Republican party as was expressed by a leading merchant of your neighboring city in a political harangue delivered by him at Honesdale yesterday, while still posing as a Republican, is much like that which confronts those who do battle with the devil fish. It is characteristic of this sea animal, which is composed of numerous arms and a stomach, that when it seeks to strike its prey it first clouds the surrounding waters with a foul and noxious fluid which it ejects from its own person, and under this concealment stretches out its tentacles in all directions, seeking what it may absorb into its jelly like body. Against every weapon it is as evasive as a rubber ball, and as rapidly as one grasping arm is smitten off another reaches out in its place. The only way to deal with it is either to satisfy its omnivorous appetite or to pursue it through the waters it has discolored for the purposes of its own disguise, and destroy both grasping arms and hungry stomach. I, therefore, even at the risk of being considered tedious, deem it my duty to correct

what is untrue in his statements and explain what has been purposely misconstrued or misrepresented.

1. The central figure and financial promoter of the opposition to the Republican party at this time is Mr. Wanamaker, who was a candidate for election to the office of United States senator to succeed Mr. Cameron. The Republicans of the state defeated him in his aspiration for that office. He then announced and prosecuted a campaign for the Republican nomination for governor of the commonwealth. After an aggressive contest waged by himself and friends throughout the state he was defeated for the nomination.

With these disappointments fresh in his mind he attempts to defeat the party in which he so recently sought but did not receive political preferment, and now denounces the very same party leadership which he was anxious and willing to serve so long as it aided him in securing desirable offices. He and his friends have made charges of all sorts against the Republican organization.

Many of these charges were answered by me in a statement given to the public several days ago, and I shall now ask your indulgence while a reply is made to his more recent utterances. One of the charges which has been industriously circulated in every part of the state is that the regular organization of the party, in some mysterious way not apparent, has been able to get a candidate in opposition to the re-election of Hon. Charles W. Stone. I take this opportunity to say that this charge is absolutely, unqualifiedly and maliciously false. It has not the shadow of foundation in fact. It is a fabrication worked out of the inventive imagination of designing persons who do not even believe it themselves. The regular organization of the party is anxious to elect a Republican congressman in every congressional district in the state, and will spare no efforts to accomplish this result. The candidate for governor who sits with me on this stage will soon appear on the same platform with the Hon. C. W. Stone in his district, advocating the election of the whole Republican ticket. It is our confident expectation that the hands of President McKinley will be upheld in the next congress by as many Republican congressmen from Pennsylvania as now occupy seats in the national house of representatives.

### HOW KAUFFMAN WAS DEFEATED.

2. It is further charged that Senator Quay or his friends in the Republican organization secured the defeat of Senator Kauffman at the primaries in his senatorial district. My answer is that he did not. If such orders had been given, as chairman of the Republican organization I would have been apprised of the fact, and I desire to state in the most positive and unequivocal language that Senator Quay never said to me, nor to anyone else, so far as I know or am informed, that he even desired the defeat of Senator Kauffman. It is a well known fact that the leaders of the Republican party in Lancaster county who made the fight against Senator Kauffman complained because Senator Quay would not take part in that contest. There is another significant fact in connection with that controversy that may have escaped his notice, and that is that ex-Senator Cameron favored the re-nomination of Kauffman, and influential friends of the latter gentleman living in his district succeeded in getting Cameron to espouse the cause of Kauffman with Senator Quay. That contest was a local one from start to finish, and the only interference from the outside was that made by Mr. Wanamaker himself, who went into the district, and in several speeches openly and aggressively supported his friend Kauffman. He may or may not know that the primaries in that district are held under the popular vote system, and the people decide by direct vote whom they prefer as their candidates for public offices. It looks to me, although in this my judgment may be at fault, that the Republican voters, or a large majority of them, in that district resented the attempted interference of Mr. Wanamaker. As a rule voters in the country districts do not take kindly to city chaps who volunteer to tell them how to vote, and I have no doubt that the Lancaster county Republicans felt themselves entirely capable of choosing their own senator without the aid of the merchant politician. At any rate a candidate was chosen by a large majority of the Republicans who took part in the primaries, and since we live under a form of government where the majority rules it is our duty to accept their decision as final and conclusive.

3. Another charge made by these political disturbers is that Senator Quay and Colonel Stone defeated the re-nomination of Congressman Stahl in the Nineteenth district. To this charge I reply that it is untrue. I answer in this positive manner because there is in my possession the convincing evidence that the re-nomination of Congressman Stahl was defeated by a barter and sale deal made by the friends of Mr. Wanamaker and in his interest. So that all may know why such a deal was made, it will be helpful to state the political situation in that district, which is composed of the counties of York, Adams and Cumberland. York is a Democratic county, Adams is close, while Cumberland often elects Republican members to the house. It was well known to the Wanamaker managers that York county could not give him any Republican votes in the legislature, while it was thought the chances of electing the two Republican members in Cumberland county were good. The candidate for congress in Cumberland county had at that time the close friendship of the two Republican candidates for the legislature. He desired the nomination and wanted the support of York county. The friends of Congressman Stahl in York county were the head and front of the Wanamaker forces. Under these political conditions the deal was started. One of the principal agents and leading representatives of Mr. Wanamaker in his campaign for United States senator consummated the deal in the city of Philadelphia. The arrangement was that York county should help nominate and elect the Cumberland county candidate for congress, and in lieu thereof, the two members from Cumberland county should support John Wanamaker for United States senator. Before the deal was consummated the two Cumberland county candidates for the legislature were required to sign a written pledge to this effect. There were other

conditions connected with this transaction which I shall not mention at this time, but I trust that what has already been stated will be considered sufficient to convince any one that Senator Quay and Colonel Stone did not defeat the re-nomination of Congressman Stahl. For further information concerning this political deal, I refer Mr. Wanamaker to the Carlisle Weekly Herald of September 8, 1898.

### ELKIN DREW THE INTEREST BILL.

4. It is further charged that the Republican organization has robbed the state for years of interest on state deposits for the benefit of the bosses and at the taxpayers' loss. This charge evidences a lack of knowledge on the part of those who make it, of the law, that cannot be overlooked in persons who hold themselves before the people as professional reformers. They speak and willing to serve so long as it aided him in securing desirable offices. He and his friends have made charges of all sorts against the Republican organization. It requires a peculiar quality of reasoning faculty to justify the recklessness of an assertion that charges somebody or something with robbing the people of that which it must be admitted they never had, and which under the law they were not entitled to receive. I am at a loss to understand how any person, outside of a professional reformer or a disappointed office-seeker—and the ordinary rules of logic do not apply to such individuals—can bring himself to believe that someone has never owned or had in his possession, and which, under the provisions of the law, he could not possibly own or have in his possession. Since the passage of the act of 1897, interest is charged on all state deposits and daily balances and the receipts of the treasury are correspondingly increased. It is also asserted that the present law was the work of what they are pleased to call the "76." If this is true, then the speaker must be a member of that much advertised group, for I have a distinct recollection of drawing the bill and aiding in its passage. This is not a fancy of the imagination but a real fact which will not be gainsaid by anyone who values his reputation for truth.

5. It is also charged that the Republican organization has secured federal appointments for confessed plunderers. The Republican organization does not make federal appointments. This is the prerogative of the president and his cabinet advisers, and it comes with bad grace from those who pretend to be Republicans to cast such a reflection upon their party. Do they seriously mean to contend that President McKinley would appoint, or that the United States senate would confirm, a person for public office who was a criminal or a plunderer? They show meagre appreciation of the foremost president of this generation when they suggest such a thing. The McKinley administration has been peculiarly fortunate in the selection of persons to fill federal places, and these charges shoot beyond the mark.

### THE SCHOOL FUND ISSUE.

6. It is also charged that school funds are withheld from the counties, compelling the latter to pay interest on money borrowed to pay their teachers. This statement, like all the others, is made without any knowledge of the facts in reference to the distribution of the school appropriation. Of the thousands upon thousands of school districts in Pennsylvania, I venture to affirm that a dozen cannot be named, and it is in my opinion that they cannot suggest half that number, that ever paid interest on money borrowed to pay their teachers. On the other hand, I know of several districts that have money either deposited on time certificates or loaned to individuals, both drawing interest in favor of the school districts. It was not the intention of the legislature that the annual appropriation to the common schools should pay all the expenses connected therewith. It was the expectation of the members of the legislature that the local school boards should provide by taxation at least half the amount necessary to support the schools. In many districts, however, the state appropriation pays all or nearly all of the entire expense. In a district which relies almost entirely on the state appropriation, there may be some occasion now and then to borrow money to meet current expenses. It may not be generally known, but it is a fact, nevertheless, that the school appropriations are paid at the end of the school year. The appropriation is never made until the president of the school board for each district makes his annual report, which sets out, among other things, the number of children in attendance, the number of months during which the schools were open, and many other important matters required by law. These reports cannot be made until the school year is closed, and hence the necessity of withholding the appropriation until the end, instead of paying it at the beginning of the school year.

7. A friend of Mr. Wanamaker's, through the public prints a few days ago, commanded me to "stop appealing to the past glorious history of the Republican party." When one starts in to disrupt the great political organization, whose history is a continuous record of noble deeds and splendid achievements, and whose efforts have accomplished so much to advance the cause of humanity and civilization, I have no doubt it is embarrassing to have these things recalled to memory. It may not be pleasant to these disappointed office-seekers to read day by day as this campaign advances, the glorious record of our party, but fidelity to the law involved will compel the story to be told, even if it does grate harshly on their sensitive ears.

### THE WANAMAKER WAR RECORD.

8. This spokesman of Mr. Wanamaker's also rushes into print to assure us that the Republican party in Pennsylvania will be defeated "by the army of American volunteers and Rough Riders who have at heart the honor of state and nation." The loyal American volunteers and courageous Rough Riders must have suppressed a smile as they read this beautiful picture of his lurid imagination. How the patriotic heart of the nation must swell with manly pride as it contemplates the efforts of Colonel Wanamaker and his obedient corporal, like knight errants of old, charging against some imagined barrier, at the head of the volunteers and Rough Riders of America. Ever now I stop to catch my breath as I

think of these daring and heroic military exploits. Such an exhibition of courage is in keeping with the spirit of Mr. Wanamaker and his friend during the dark days of the rebellion. The story was told by Mr. Wanamaker himself in a speech made in Bradford county when he stated that his patriotic impulses were aroused when in the prime of young and vigorous manhood he stood at the corner of Sixth and Market streets in 1861 and watched the soldier boys in blue as they marched by to the beat of the drum and the shrill note of the fife, on their way to the front in defense of their country. He assured his hearers that his heart was touched with sympathy as he saw the brave boys march by. In this connection permit me to recall that in the early months of the present year I read almost daily about the regiment Colonel Wanamaker was going to equip and rush to the service of his country. It seemed to me, from the patriotic zeal manifested in the newspapers that he would be in Cuba before the secretary of war had time to recall him. Since then I have looked in vain through the records of the war of the rebellion and the published reports of every battle of the Spanish war, but have failed to locate the gallant colonel. The story of Santiago, El Caney, Porto Rico and Manila, and the splendid courage of the Rough Riders and volunteer army of America has been beautifully and graphically told in song and story, but as yet I have failed to get even a glimpse of any account of the chivalric colonel. If justice has been done his military record I trust in the interest of history and truth it may yet be told. The world loves a good fighter, and delights to honor a brave soldier.

9. Mr. Wanamaker complains that the state chairman has attempted to read him out of the party. In this he is equally mistaken, as he is in the other charges he so recklessly makes. The state chairman has earnestly tried to keep within the party lines every person in Pennsylvania who believes in Republican principles. I personally waited on Mr. Wanamaker and extended to him as well as to others an invitation to join in the campaign this fall. He read himself out of the Republican party by his speech at the bourse meeting when he openly proclaimed it to be his intention to take up the fight against the party in this state.

10. The unreliability of the statements made by Mr. Wanamaker is shown in the charge made against myself that the farmers of the state are not willing to follow my administration of the regular organization of the party because I was in favor of legalizing the sale of oleomargarine to the damage of the pure butter interests in the state. This is a wilful and deliberate misrepresentation of the facts. The truth is that while I represented Indiana county in the legislature in 1885, at the request of the farmers of my county, I prepared and introduced a bill prohibiting the manufacture and sale of oleomargarine in Pennsylvania. The bill was pushed through the legislature through the efforts of a few of us who represented agricultural districts. The bill became a law and has remained on the statute books ever since. If Mr. Wanamaker will take the time to turn to the legislative record of 1885 he will discover what I had to say in the contest between pure butter and oleomargarine. That record will show that he does not know what he is talking about or is wilfully misrepresenting the facts.

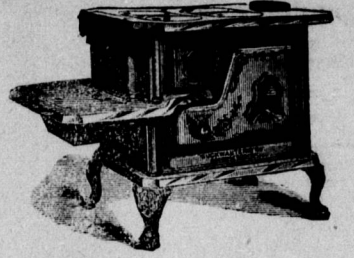
### MISREPRESENTATIONS ANSWERED.

11. His attempt to misrepresent the facts connected with the indemnity bond is proof conclusive that he does not desire to be fair or even truthful in such matters. There was no attempt to take money improperly out of the state treasury. A number of extra employees had been agreed upon by the governor, state treasurer, auditor general and the members acting on the slate committees of the house and senate. These extra employees were doing their work at Harrisburg and were entitled to receive their compensation from time to time just as members of the legislature and their employees were. Inasmuch as there was a bad feeling in the legislature growing out of the contest for United States senator, the state treasurer did not feel willing to take the responsibility upon himself of paying the salaries of these extra employees. Most of the employees were poor men and had families to support at home. They needed advances on their salaries in order to pay board bills and take care of their families. An agreement in the nature of an indemnity was prepared and signed by a number of persons, whereby it was stipulated that the state treasurer should pay these men their salaries as they earned them. In the event of the treasurer suffering any loss the signers would be responsible for the same. It will be noticed that it was not an attempt to take money improperly from the state, but was a security to the state. No one connected with it had any interest in the matter except to serve a number of poor men whose families needed the wages of their labor.

12. It has also been charged that the state chairman contributed to the support of candidates for the legislature. As stated, it is intended to be misleading. In the campaign of 1896 there were many close contests in the congressional, senatorial and legislative districts of the state. The organization extended aid for legitimate and proper expenses in every close congressional, senatorial and legislative district. This help was extended without exacting any promises or pledges of any character. It was given in the general way to help the Republican cause. In this respect it differed very much from the aid extended to the members of the legislature by and through friends of Mr. Wanamaker. It is well known that a large amount of financial aid was extended to members of the legislature throughout the state by persons interested in his candidacy for United States senator. In nearly every instance, however, while help was extended through these channels, all candidates for the legislature were required to sign a written pledge agreeing to support John Wanamaker for United States senator. We are entirely willing that the Republicans of the state should decide who acted in the best faith, the chairman of the organization who extended help in every close congressional, senatorial and legislative district, or Mr. Wanamaker.

Continued on Page Four.

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