FOR STATE CHAIRMAN.

Frank Willing Leach Announces That He Is a Candidate.

Reasons Why the Present Chairman of the Republican State Executive Committee Should be Promoted—His Abilities as a Political Tactician and Organizer.

PHILADELPHIA, March 17.—Frank Willing Leach today announced himself as a candidate for chairman of the Pennsylvania Republican state committee, to succeed Senator Quay, who will not accept a re-election. Mr. Leach is now the chairman of the executive committee of the state committee. After having made the announcement he was asked whether or not Senator Quay favored his candidacy, and to this inquiry he replied:

"Last summer, when Senator Quay made known the fact that he was in the field for the chairmanship, I resigned the office I then held in this city, and at once took charge of his campaign, devoting the entire summer to it.

"Where is it likely that Senator Quay would be in the present contest for state chairman? He is not the kind of a man to exhibit the ingratitude which he has so vigorously denounced in others. While I

FRANK WILLING LEACH.

do not expect him to resign any office, or devote two months to the work, in order to secure the chairmanship for me," said Mr. Leach good humoredly, "I of course look for his cordial support.

"It is not my desire, however, to be made state chairman simply because of my friendship for him or devotion to his political fortunes. If the office is given to me it must be solely because of fitness, by experience and otherwise, for the work of organization, and because of a desire on the part of active party workers throughout the state, whose wishes should be consulted and followed, that I should be placed at the head of the state organization. Unless that fitness and the existence of such a desire shall be made manifest I will not ask for or accept the office."

"What special object have you in view," Mr. Leach was asked, "in desiring the state chairmanship?"

"Simply to bring the state organization, in this important presidential year, to the highest possible state of perfection. In the campaign of 1885, when I first became identified with the state committee as first assistant secretary, our organization comprised 15,000 voters—that is to say, we corresponded with that number of people. The work was considered quite stupendous. In the following year, when I became chief secretary, our list embraced 30,000 voters. From time to time the scope of our work has been broadened, until last fall, when we gathered the names and addresses of over 400,000 Republicans—in fact, every single Republican voter in the state, except in three counties. During that campaign we spent for postage alone $9,634, of which sum $8,000, representing 400,000 two cent stamps, was spent within a period of forty-eight hours. I am satisfied this line of work added from 50,000 to 100,000 to our majority of 174,000.

"I shall not consider the perfection of organization to have been attained, however, until the state committee has in its archives the name, address, politics and vocation of every one of the 1,000,000 voters in Pennsylvania. If made chairman of the state committee I would start in within twenty-four hours after the adjournment of the state convention to gather the data in question, with the hope of carrying the state by the largest majority ever given in a presidential year. While, during the past ten years, great advances in the line of organization have been made by the state committee, I want to make the effort to broaden it yet further before I give up the work of political development."

"But could you not do this as chairman of the executive committee?"

"Possibly, but I will not. Under no circumstances will I continue in my present office."

There is no man in Pennsylvania better known than Frank Willing leach as a systematic, thorough organizer. From 1885 to 1893 he was secretary of the state committee, being associated with Chairmen Cooper, Andrews, Watres and Reeder. From 1888 to 1892 he was also assistant secretary of the Republican national committee, under Chairmen Quay and Clarkson. Last August, immediately after the state convention, Chairman Quay selected him as chairman of the executive committee.

That the enormous majority given the state ticket last fall, 174,000, was largely due to Mr. Leach's shrewd and effective work was generously conceded by Chairman Quay himself. A day or two before the election a party had gathered in the senator's room at the Hotel Metropole, when one of the party, a newspaper man, said:

"Senator, now that you are through with the hard work, what do you think the majority will be?"

"Why," was the quick reply, "you will have to ask Leach that question. He is the man who has done the hard work, and he ought to have the knowledge. He has been running the campaign."

In 1888, acting upon behalf of the national committee, Mr. Leach spent two months in North Carolina, and conducted the state campaign there. He made an effective still hunt. His mission was only discovered a few days before the election. Although his life was threatened, he held his ground until the close of the polls. He perfected an organization such as had never been known in any southern state before. Mr. Leach had the satisfaction of knowing that, though the state was lost, three Republican congressmen were elected, which really saved the house of the Fifty-first congress to the Republican party, for despite the Democratic wholesale counting-in tactics the Republicans secured the house by a majority of five. A change of three votes would have given the Democrats a majority of one.

As a result of the methods of organization introduced in 1888 by Mr. Leach North Carolina is now a Republican state, the present legislature having a large Republican majority.

Probably nothing ever gave Mr. Leach greater prominence, or gained him so fully the respect of the public, as his action last summer in resigning a $6,000 office—that of real estate deputy sheriff—in order to take charge of Senator Quay's campaign for the state chairmanship, the office for which Mr. Leach is now an aspirant. That the success of that memorable campaign, which opened under such adverse circumstances, was largely due to the systematic, persistent work of Mr. Leach, at his Chestnut street headquarters, is conceded by those familiar with the development of that great political contest.

If chosen to the chairmanship of the state committee he would bring to the work a wider experience as an organizer than is possessed by any one in Pennsylvania outside of Senator Quay himself.

Senator W. H. Andrews, who was chairman of the state committee in 1890, during the Delamater campaign, is also spoken of as a possible candidate for the chairmanship this year.

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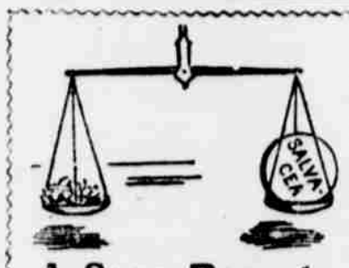

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In the Estate of E. C. Manbeck, dec'd. } In the Orphans' Court of Snyder County.

The undersigned, Auditor appointed by the Orphans' Court of Snyder Co., Pa., to distribute the balance in the hands of Mrs. Tillie E. Manbeck, Administratrix of the Estate of E. C. Manbeck, late of West Beaver Township, Snyder Co., Pa., deceased, will sit for the purpose of his appointment at his office in Middleburgh, in said County, on Thursday, April 16 1896, at 10 o'clock A. M., when and where all persons interested are notified to present their claims or be forever debarred from coming in for a share of the fund.

March 24, 1896. F. E. BOWER, Auditor.

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