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 Political Tactician and Organizer.

PRILADELPHIA, 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 be replied:
"Last summer, when Senator Quay
made known the fact that he was in the fold for the chairmanship, I resigned the office I then held in this city, and at once took charge of his campaign, devoting the

"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. Walls I



PRANK 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 o. a desire on the part of active party workers through-out the state, whose wishes should be con-sulted 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 parfection. 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 car responded with that number of people. The work was considered quite stupendous. In the following year, when I became chief secretary, our list embraced 80,000 voters. From time to time the scope of our work has been broadened, until last fall, when we gathered the names and dresses 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 90,634, of which sum \$8,000, representing 400,000 two cent stamps, was spent within a period of forty-eight hours. I am satis-fled 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, how ever, 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 so 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

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 Chair men 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 com-

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,

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

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"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 elec ted, which really saved the house of the Fifty-first congress to the Republican party, for despite the Democratic whole-sale 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 organiza-tion in reduced in 1838 by Mr. Leach North Carolina is now a Republican state, the present legislature having a large Republican majority.

Probably nothing ever gave Mr. Leach

rester prominence, or gained him so fully ice respect of the public, as his action last nmer in resigning a \$3.000 office -that real outside deouty sheriff -in order to be charge of Senator Quay's campaign he state chairmanship, the office for a Mr. Leach is now an aspiran. That success of that monorable campaign, mes, was largely due to the system a re

reston work of Mr. Leach, at his time treet headquarters, is concoded by those vulliar with the development of that reat political contest.

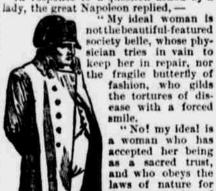
If chosen to the chairmanship of the state committee he would bring to the work a wider experience as an organizer than is possessed by any one in Pennsylvania outside of Senator Quay himself. Senator W. H. Andrews, who was chairman of the state committee in 1890, during the Delamater campaign, is also spoken of as a possible candidate for the chairmanship this year.

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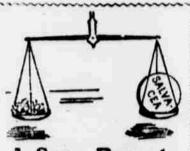
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ters' physical development.
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