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## DELAMATER.

### How He Captured Cambria County.

#### CHAIRMAN ANDREWS' METHODS

**The Pittsburgh "Chronicle Telegraph" Gives the "Man of Victory" a Scathing—Boodle and Promises Played Their Part—The Way the Convention Was Packed for the Crawford Statesman—Some Party Secrets Made Public—Republican Political Methods in the County Laid Bare.**

Tuesday evening's Pittsburgh Chronicle Telegraph contains the lengthy, but interesting article given below:

JOHNSTOWN, PA., March 24.

#### "THE MAN OF VICTORY."

"If ever there was a man of victory, that person is Senator G. W. Delamater; he captures all hearts and passes on from station to station, climbing higher and higher on each occasion."

"All eyes are now turned upon us; we are passing in review before the Republicans of Pennsylvania."—[From an editorial by Chairman Andrews in his Meadville Tribune-Republican, March 4, 1890.]

How does the "man of victory" capture hearts?

What is the result of the passing in review?

The county of Cambria was stolen by Chairman Andrews for Delamater.

The political history of Pennsylvania contains no chapter more shameful.

The audacity of the men who planned this cold blooded steal was not accompanied by an equal shrewdness and carefulness.

Thinking that the endorsement and support of Andrews would shield them, the men who stole Cambria and sold it to the State Chairman and his Standard Oil Company gubernatorial candidate, threw prudence and caution to the winds.

Several counties of this Commonwealth have ostensibly selected delegates to the State Convention in the interest of G. Wallace Delamater, of Meadville.

Cambria is one of these counties, and the story of the methods employed in it by Andrews illuminates the dark spots in all them.

Not a single legal vote was cast in Cambria county at the January Republican primaries, yet it rolled up 3,976 votes for Boyer at the Fall election, two months previous.

Fifty-four districts had representatives in the so-called "Convention" of January 27th, at Ebensburg, and 104 votes were recorded.

Not a single man who was present had a right to vote.

There was not a legally elected delegate in the Convention.

George T. Swank and Florentine Barker, who were selected as "delegates" to the State Convention and "instructed" to vote for G. Wallace Delamater, have no more right to a place in the Republican Convention which names the candidate for Governor, than two newboys from the slums of New York.

#### HOW THE STEAL WAS PLANNED.

It was in September last that the plot to steal the county was born. Chairman Andrews visited Johnstown with H. K. Boyer, then a candidate for State Treasurer, and had a conference with several Cambria county officeholders and office-seekers. Then he visited Ebensburg and saw the postmaster, who hitherto has had some strength in the northern districts of the county. After this there were several conferences between Andrews and Delamater on the one side and these Cambria men on the other. These meetings took place in Pittsburgh, in Blairsville, on the trains of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and at other places where they were not likely to attract attention and arouse suspicion.

The final conference to settle the details of the programme, to deliver the last installment of cash and to distribute promises of reward in the shape of Federal offices, was in Blairsville January 23d; two days before the time fixed for the primary elections.

At this time George W. Delamater met Florentine Barker, Chairman of the Republican Committee of Cambria county, Henry W. Storey and Henry D. Kinkadee, and the scheme was agreed upon and accounts were settled up to date. No less a personage than Mr. Delamater himself is authority for this statement. The Cambria politicians were too shrewd to go openly to a hotel and register. They held their meeting in a private residence where they could be free from surveillance.

Delamater went to Blairsville from

Pittsburgh. His brother told a gentleman that "George had gone to Blairsville to see some fellows about the Cambria delegation."

Later this was recognized as a mistake, and the same gentleman was told that Andrews' candidate for Governor had not gone to Blairsville on a political mission, but had gone there to "see a sick relative."

After the meeting the Cambria leaders hurried home to carry out their bargain. These men had everything in readiness to hand the county over to Andrews a week before this, but they took care to impress Andrews and Delamater with a belief that they had a difficult task. They did no belittle the undertaking, you may depend on it, and although the price was run way up it was paid promptly.

#### ANDREWS' ACCOMPLICES IN CAMBRIA.

In order that the Andrews-Delamater plot may be fully understood it is necessary to say a few words about the conspirators.

Delamater was, Faust, Margaret was the poor, betrayed Republican party of Cambria, and Chairman Andrews was the Mephistopheles who was the suggestor of the crime.

Two of them are too well known in these characters to need any description at this time.

It is with the inferior satellites of Mephistopheles that I will deal at present—agents of that tempter who for the nonce discards his wonted scarlet and appears in blue—the familiar color which is a trade mark of the Standard Oil Company.

George Thomas Swank is the editor and proprietor of the Johnstown Tribune, one of the newspapers always at the command of Andrews. Mr. Swank has power in the southern districts of Cambria because of his owning a newspaper. He is an active, shrewd, scheming politician with much influence. He was postmaster of Johnstown for twelve years. During the progress of the Andrews-Delamater plot he was ill at home with the grip, and could only advise and counsel those who managed the matter in his absence.

Swank's first lieutenant is Henry Wilson Storey, an attorney, who has been promised the Johnstown postoffice in Quay's name by Andrews and Delamater. Storey came to Cambria from Blairsville. While agent of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company at East Conemaugh he drifted into politics and managed Swank's affairs in that district. He was, after that, Burgess of Johnstown. In 1889 he was a candidate for District Attorney and was beaten worse than any man on the Republican ticket in the county. He is a clever political worker, smooth, plausible and faithful to his superiors.

Henry D. Kinkadee was born in Ebensburg, worked for Thomas Griffith, the lumberman, and became a politician in the northern districts. He was beaten for County Treasurer, six years ago, and then came to Johnstown and worked in the Gautier Steel Works office. He was a Deputy Sheriff under Griffith, was beaten for Register and Recorder last fall, and then was made Deputy Collector of Revenue for this part of Collector Warmcastle's district. He is the most nervy and active politician in the Republican party of Cambria.

Florentine Barker, Chairman of the County Committee, is a son of A. A. Barker, once a Congressman, who is a wealthy lumber merchant. The Chairman has three brothers. Two of them, Valentine and Constantine, look after the general store at Ebensburg, which is owned by the brothers; the other, Augustine, is one of the leading men at the Cambria bar. He is a man of much force, a clever lawyer, a man of gentlemanly and scholarly habits, popular even with the enemies of his brother and rarely takes a hand in politics except, sometimes, when there is an important move on foot. Then he loads the ammunition which the others fire off. Florentine is simply a politician with the selfishness of a self-made boss. He was once a candidate for Congressional nomination, but was defeated. He was made postmaster at Ebensburg shortly before these primaries.

Thomas Davis is a lumber merchant. To distinguish him from the others of the same name he is called Thomas Davis (Jackson) because he used to live in Jackson township and boasts that he owns it politically. Davis is a ring politician and is not too popular. He is credited with betraying the party more than once. In 1874, when Steel Blair was Republican candidate for Congress against John Riley, Davis was for Blair up to a short time before the election. Then, for reasons known to himself, and to the writer, he gave earnest support to Riley and to him was due the election of a Democrat in a strong Republican district. He has often been a candidate and was elected but once or twice.

Samuel Davis, brother of Thomas, is the worker for him in Jackson and other townships. He has been deputy something or other about the Court House as long back as people can remember.

David Davis, another brother, runs Lower Yoder township, near Johnstown, and Tim R. Davis, also one of the

brothers, looks after things in East Conemaugh.

Edward James, of Ebensburg, was postmaster there for two terms, was a candidate for Legislature, but was beaten, although his colleague, John M. Rose, was elected. Mr. James is a druggist in Ebensburg; is a pleasant, popular merchant, and his store is the lounging place of Republican politicians and the birthplace of many small political schemes.

Henry Slick, of Johnstown, a sewing machine agent and member of the County Committee, also did some of the work in the Johnstown wards.

These were the men in charge of the Andrews-Delamater plot.

In addition to the men named who handled the Andrews-Delamater cash and promises, there were some others worthy of mention.

On the 29th of January, in answer to the clamor of the people of the county and the indignant protests of the party in the State at large, Swank's paper, the Tribune, published a two-column defense of the Delamater set up. It was the joint utterance of the manipulators after conference and can be regarded as their official reply. In alluding to the charge that Federal officeholders had run the convention, the Tribune said:

"The Quay and Delamater men instead of leaving no stone unturned scarcely turned a stone to secure the result. It was not necessary, the drift was all one way. The postoffices were not used; we believe there were not three postmasters in the county in the convention and one of them was Peter Campbell, of Carrolltown, who introduced the Hastings resolution." \* \* \*

#### THE OFFICEHOLDERS AND SEEKERS.

This declaration was in keeping with the methods used, bold and false, foolishly and easily shown to be absurd.

Here is a partial list of those who have either hopes or the realization of them

George T. Swank, candidate for Congress.

Henry W. Storey, applicant for Postoffice at Johnstown.

Henry D. Kinkadee, Deputy Collector Internal Revenue.

Ed. James, candidate for Legislature.

Among the delegates who were present at the convention were:

Florentine Barker, Postmaster at Ebensburg.

D. B. Wilson, Postmaster in Ashville township.

F. A. Thompson, Postmaster at Lilly.

W. W. McAtee, Postmaster at Loreto.

J. H. Veil, who got Scalp Level Postoffice for his mother-in-law.

Dr. J. C. Luke, Postmaster at South Fork.

W. W. Empfield, Postmaster at Belsano.

John Wendroth, Postmaster in Croyle township.

T. R. Davis, in business with his son, Postmaster at East Conemaugh.

J. A. Troxell, Postmaster at Portage.

C. H. Perry, Postmaster at Chest Springs.

J. W. Hall, in Census Department at Washington.

W. P. Reese, Deputy Revenue Collector.

Does this look as though "the Post-offices were not used?" Does it look as though there was no "stone-turning" and log rolling, too?

Chairman Barker was busy with his correspondence the week before the convention and wrote to men he could trust in the northern and central districts, either telling them to come themselves as delegates or directing them to send other persons whom he named. His watchword was "silence and a sure thing."

Tom Davis and his brother Samuel personally looked after their particular districts.

Harry Kinkadee and H. W. Storey attended to the Johnstown wards and the southern districts in a general way.

On the day of the primaries, January 25th, there was not a word in the news or editorial column of Cambria county newspapers calling attention to the election. The advertisement was in the Tribune it is true, but there was not the usual discussion of the merits of the candidates, no praise for Delamater and demand that the party voters should turn out and insure the election of delegates favoring him. The advertisement was purposely hidden and the primaries were held weeks before the regular time, although even the Barkerites can give no reason for such action.

No indeed! Nothing was said or done to attract public attention. Such wholesale steals are not a success when heralded with brass bands.

Chairman Barker knew that Ebensburg and the northern districts were safe, so he came to Johnstown early on the day of the primaries and remained until Monday. On Saturday he was active in a number of the wards, seeing that by no mischance the Republican voters got wind of the primaries and turned out to upset the plans of the ring. He particularly looked after the Second, Third, and Sixth wards of Johnstown. Swank being confined to his house could not superintend things, and this was why Barker came down into a field of operations usually managed by his ally.

#### OFF TO EBENSBURG.

On Sunday and Monday morning there was much to be done by Andrews' henchmen. A large number of districts had not only had a pretense of an election, but there were no men on hand to go to the convention as delegates from these

districts. This had to be remedied and there was a busy time of it making out credentials, sending messages to tell men they were to be delegates and drumming up the lagards.

Some men who had not even heard of the primaries or the proposed "Convention" were given their credentials and railroad tickets Monday morning at the same time that they were told of the Ebensburg meeting and that they were to attend it. This was the very cream of Andrews' county methods, locally applied.

"Make it a full convention," he had told his leaders, "send men from as many districts as possible."

"Do the thing so it looks all right," had been the command of Delamater two days before at Blairsville.

A full convention it should be said, a full one it was. Swank's Tribune, the editorial defense already quoted from, declared: "The convention was remarkable for several reasons: First, because of the unusual fullness of representation, especially when it is remembered that there was no work to be done except electing delegates to the State Convention and declaring the choice of the party in the county for Governor."

That was a bad editorial! Methinks the editor doth protest too much! His assertions are crude falsifications and his arguments are absurdities. It crucifies the Andrews ringsters in the light of the now known facts. It holds them up to public scorn and derision, and was as unwise, imprudent, and unnecessary as many of the violations of law committed before and during that memorable and disgraceful gathering at Ebensburg.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company's depot at Johnstown was a lively place on the morning of January 27th. The twenty-seven delegates from the Johnstown wards and at least thirteen from the adjacent districts were there with their friends.

Candidate-for-Postmaster Storey was busy as a chaperone. He had fixed several delegates with the papers necessary to get them into the convention, and with one of the staff of the Tribune he bought the railroad tickets for his political sheep. Forty tickets at \$1.75 each he gave out to the delegates, going among them with his handful of pasteboard strips with a laugh, a joke or a word of caution and advice. Mr. Storey is a lawyer. Did he not know that this act alone was a violation of the election laws of the State? Did he not know in spending the money furnished by Andrews to him and to Andrews by the Standard Oil Company, for the transportation of delegates, pledged by him to vote for Delamater, he was as guilty of bribery as though he had given each man a thousand dollar bill?

The train left Johnstown with the delegates on board at 10:13, and reached Ebensburg shortly after noon.

There were busy times in Ebensburg on that same morning. The same tactics which were used in filling southern districts, not represented, were used in the north. In one case a man who had gone to Ebensburg to attend to some business in connection with his store and who knew nothing about the convention was pressed into service as a delegate and given credentials made out in Ebensburg by the Andrews-Barker people. In this way there was a "full convention," there being 108 votes present out of a possible 118.

#### HOW DELAMATER WAS ENDORSED.

The convention was called to order in Armory Hall, across the street from the handsome building in which they try the criminals in Cambria county. The location did not deter the Andrews conspirators. They looked out of the windows and saw the figure of Justice on the dome of the Court House and promptly proceeded to carry out their nefarious and illegal bargain.

Chairman Barker, by virtue of his office, called the convention to order and briefly announced that two State delegates were to be elected.

F. W. Cox, of Johnstown, a clerk in the Cambria Iron Company, and Samuel D. Patterson, of Barr township, were appointed secretaries. The roll of the delegates was then called, and Irvin Rutledge, an alderman of Johnstown and confidential agent of Swank, promptly moved to make the temporary organization permanent.

This was agreed to, and by this means Florentine Barker presided over the convention.

This in itself was clearly illegal. Barker was not elected as a delegate to the convention, he was not substituted by any so-called delegate and had no shadow of right to be chairman of that convention or to take part in its deliberations after its permanent organization. His action was entirely in keeping with the whole performance.

Before anybody else had a chance to say anything, Thomas Davis (Jackson) sprang up, and with much flourish, he proceeded to read the following high-flown resolutions:

Resolved, That it is the sentiment of the Republicans of Cambria county that the western part of the State is entitled to the nominee for Governor; and further, that they favor the nomination of that able and brilliant statesman, Hon. George W. Delamater, of Crawford county, who is an able exponent of Republican principles and would make a safe and efficient Chief Executive.

Resolved, By the Republican party of Cambria county, in Convention assembled, that the delegates this day elected to the Republican State Convention be and are hereby instructed to support and use all honorable means to secure the nomination of Hon. George W. Delamater for Governor.

Resolved, That Geo. T. Swank and F. H. Barker be chosen delegates to represent Cambria county in the Republican State Convention.

There were protests at this, but the body of the delegates were not kickers.

Peter Campbell, postmaster of Carrolltown, moved to insert the name of Hastings for that of Delamater.

W. F. Cook, of Stonycreek township, one of the most prominent Republicans in the county, declared the Davis resolution was unfair, and that if men were fit to be delegates they were fit to go without instructions.

The Chair gave nobody a chance to talk, but rushed through a vote on Campbell's motion. It was passed by ninety-nine to five. The five were W. F. Cook and his colleague, W. D. Miller, A. H. Walters, of Johnstown, and Peter Campbell, the latter having two votes.

The Davis resolutions were then pushed through, there being nine-nine for Delamater, four votes for Hastings, one for

Montooth and several not voting.

#### A "FULL CONVENTION."

Swank's Tribune, in its editorial referred to, says: "At a very full convention of Republican delegates of Cambria county, held at Ebensburg, on Monday (108 out of a possible 118 being present) 99 voted in favor of Senator G. W. Delamater, of Meadville, Crawford county, for the Republican nomination for Governor this fall; four for Gen. D. H. Hastings, of Bellefonte, Centre county; one for Maj. E. A. Montooth, of Allegheny county, while six did not express their preference for any one of the six candidates in the field."

If this statement is true, where did Delamater's 99 votes come from? The Tribune figures, quoted above, show a total of 110. There were only 108 votes in the convention. Did Chairman Barker vote twice as well as to preside, or where do the two extra come from? This is just the kind of figuring Andrews' agents indulge in.

The convention was in session according to one delegate fifteen minutes, according to another delegate sixteen minutes.

After the adjournment the delegates were sent to the different hotels and their dinners were paid for by Barker et al.

When many of the delegates realized what had been done they began to protest. They declared they had been deceived. More than twenty of them said they had been told, that although Swank and Barker were Delamater men there would be no Delamater instructions. Several of these men said they would not take any Delamater money to pay for their dinners and paid for their own.

The statement of W. F. Cook, one of the most intelligent conservative Republican politicians in the county, is that if Davis had not had his resolutions written, and if Barker had not used gag law and rushed them through, there would at least have been no instructions. If the opposition to Delamater had had time to rally, there would have been a stiff vote against him even in this packed convention. Many delegates were discouraged by the smooth way Delamater votes were piled up and were stampeded to him.

In this "full convention" one example of the Andrews method is strikingly shown. In townships where it was neither convenient nor advisable to have two delegates, there was but a single representative in the convention and this man had, of course, two votes.

This occurred in twelve districts and the result was that almost one-quarter of the 104 votes cast in the convention were from twelve men and all but one of them voted for the Delamater set up.

This is not idle talk. The names and statements of many such delegates are in the possession of the writer, together with much sworn evidence, some of which will be published to-morrow.

P. L. W.

The Pittsburgh Chronicle Telegraph continues its exposure of how Cambria county was stolen for Delamater, as follows:

"No braver or truer words were ever uttered than those recently spoken by the Senator (Delamater) in Philadelphia, and if his advice is heeded, Pennsylvania will furnish a model for fair and honorable political methods that will be pointed to as the perfection of our Republican form of Government. The Senator's remedy is simple; he asks for a more general participation in political affairs on the part of the people and for a vigorous policy in guaranteeing fair and impartial elections. The ballot box is the ark of safety for the Republic; defile it and our system of government will crumble and fall."—[From Chairman Andrews' personal organ, the Meadville Tribune-Republican, March 20.]

The speech of a Paul! Let us see if it be not followed by the deeds of a Judas!

The general story of the manipulation of Cambria county by Chairman Andrews and his accomplices was told yesterday.

It was charged that there were no primaries in most of the districts, and that none of the delegates who endorsed Delamater were legally elected.

The story of the steal in detail, with all its shameful particulars, is given below.

The hands of Boss Andrews and Prince Delamater, the "Man of Victory," are to be seen all through the steal. They both had meetings and consultations with the men who did the work. Andrews planned it and paid for it in part early in January.

Candidate Delamater concluded the bargain and gave the final orders only two days before the primaries at the Blairsville conference.

#### THE DELEGATE FACTORY.

The Andrews emissaries in Cambria, through their mouthpiece, Swank's Tribune, in the editorial of January 29th, which has several times been referred to, declared:

"Elections were held in all the districts but five in the county, and they are districts in which there are few Republican voters; for instance in the two Cambrias, where there is not one Republican to thirty Democrats. Where these elections were not held, there were no voters in the convention, and where no elections were held it was the want of work alone on the part of the electors."

What a dreary and miserable lie!

When that paragraph was uttered it was known to the men who caused it to

be printed that not one legal election was held in the county.

Not a single vote was legally cast.

Not a solitary vote was taken in the manner prescribed by the Primary Election Act of 1881.

Even the call of Chairman Barker was not obeyed. It declared that the polls should be open from 3 to 7 o'clock and none of the pretended polls were opened before 5 o'clock.

In order to stop frauds, and just such wholesale steals as this one, the Legislature of Pennsylvania in 1881 passed this Act of Assembly:

#### AN ACT

To regulate the holding of and to prevent frauds in the primary election of the several political parties in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Section 1. Be it enacted, etc., That from and after the passage of this act it shall be lawful, and it is hereby made the duties of the judges, inspectors and clerks or other officers of the primary elections, meetings or caucuses, held for the purpose of nominating candidates for State, city and county offices within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, before entering upon the discharge of their duties, severally to take and subscribe to an oath or affirmation in the presence of each other, in form as follows, namely: "I ( ) do that I will as Judge, Inspector or Clerk (as the case may be), at the ensuing election, impartially and faithfully perform my duties in accordance with the laws and Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and in accordance with the rules and regulations adopted by the party of the county of \_\_\_\_\_, for the government of said primary elections, meetings or caucuses, to the best of my judgment and abilities;" the oath or affirmation shall be first administered to the Judge by one of the inspectors, then the Judge so qualified shall administer the oath or affirmation to the inspectors or clerks and may administer the oath to any elector offering to vote as to his qualifications to vote at said election.

Section 2. If any judge, inspector or clerk or other officer of a primary election as aforesaid, shall presume to act in such capacity before the taking and subscribing to the oath or affirmation required by this act, he shall on conviction be fined not exceeding \$500; and if any judge or inspector of a primary election as aforesaid shall knowingly reject the vote of any person entitled to vote under the rules of said party or shall knowingly receive the vote of any person not qualified as aforesaid, shall on conviction be fined not exceeding \$200; and if any judge, inspector, clerk or other officer of a primary election as aforesaid, shall be guilty of any willful fraud in the discharge of his duties by destroying or defacing ballots, adding ballots to the poll, other than those lawfully voted, by stuffing the ballot box, by false counting, by making false returns or by any act or thing whatsoever, the person so offending shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction shall be fined not exceeding \$500 or imprisoned not exceeding one year or both or either, at the discretion of the Court.

All acts or parts of acts of assembly inconsistent with this act are hereby repealed, except in counties or cities where special acts are in force for the same purpose.

Provided, That the provisions of this act shall entail no expense to the counties or cities.

Approved—The 29th day of June A. D. 1881.

HENRY M. HOTT.

#### THE SCHEME IN DETAIL.

In his address before the Pennsylvania Club, in speaking of the Republican voter and his faults, Mr. George W. Delamater uttered these words:

"Had he as a member of his party quietly and constantly done his individual duty, keeping abreast of the living questions of the hour, discussing them with his neighbors and friends, attending to primaries and conventions, making the impress of his thought and opinion thereon, he would have prevented the growth of the evil and would have avoided the labor and trouble incident to the cure, which is sometimes even worse than the disease itself."

This sounds well, but let us see how Mr. Delamater practices his doctrines and assists the "growth of evil" in the party ranks.

As the result of a careful investigation, extending for a period of two weeks in the several districts of Cambria county, the following information was obtained.

It has been summarized here to save space. It is supported in many particular cases by sworn testimony and in a general way by a number of affidavits.

#### STARTLING STORIES OF FRAUD.

W. G. Shop, of Conemaugh, tells a most interesting story. He says he was at work in Johnstown on Saturday, January 25th. He did not know anything about the primaries or the convention. Early Monday morning he was handed his credentials in Johnstown on the street by H. W. Storey. The same credentials entitled his father, Samuel S. Shop, to the position of delegate from Conemaugh township. He was surprised at first, because he knew there had been no primaries and no votes cast. His credentials were in handwriting not familiar to him, but he thinks it was Storey's. They were not signed by anybody, but the secretaries of the convention made no objection to them. He was also given a railroad ticket to Ebensburg and return by Storey. His vote was counted for Delamater, but he says he voted for Hastings. He declares the convention was illegal.

W. F. Cook, of Stonycreek township, gives a damning picture of the way the convention was worked. He says: "About three days before the primaries Henry D.

(Continued on eighth page.)