THE CREGAN INVESTIGATION

SOME STRONG EVIDENCE PRESENTED.

THE CAPTAIN NOT READY TO PROCEED AND THE CASE GOES OVER TILL TO-MORROW.

The committee appointed by Mr. Root, chairman of the Republican County Committee to investigate the charges of treachery made against Captain Michael Cregan and his lieutenants in the XVIth Assembly District on election day, in "working" the ballots of F. B. Spinola, the Democratic candidate for Congress, instead of those of Allen Thorndike Rice, held its first session last evening in the large meeting-room on the main floor of the Cooper Institute. The committee is composed of Theron G. Strong, Leonard Hazeltine, John D. Lawson, Solon B. Smith, and John E. Brodsky. All were present. Mr. Rice was represented by Assemblymn Robert Ray Hamilton, who conducted the prosecution. Captain Cregan had engaged as counsel William H. Townley, who was not able to be present. Several of the witnesses whom Mr. Hamilton will depend on to make out his case against Captain Cregan were on hand, including John H. W. Killeen, who has aided Mr. Hamilton materially in procuring damaging evidence against Captain Cregan. Mr. Cregan had with him over twenty of the twenty-eight captains of election districts in his Assembly district. Altogether there were about sixty persons in the room.

Chairman Strong read the resolution under which the committee was appointed, and asked if the interested persons were present.

Mr. Cregan—I am here ready to answer any charge made against me. Am I entitled to a copy of those resolutions?

Chairman Strong—You should have it. Have you not received a copy?

Mr. Cregan—I have not received a paper of any kind. I don't know with what I am charged.

Mr. Hamilton—I am the mover of the resolution and suppose I am to represent Mr. Rice. Am I expected to prove these three things? (1) Whether Mr. Rice was the regular Republican nominee? (2) Whether Mr. Rice was supported by Henry George and his followers? (3) Whether I am to furnish a list of the members of the Republican County Committee from the XVIth District, and prove that it is the correct list of the delegation from that district?

On the first point Mr. Cregan said that he was willing to concede that Mr. Rice was the regular Republican nominee. On the last point the committee ruled that there was no necessity for Mr. Hamilton to produce proof as the list of delegates to the Republican County Committee was a matter of record. On the second point Mr. Cregan was not willing to concede that Mr. Rice had received the full support of the followers of Henry George. On the contrary, he did not believe that this could be shown.

WHAT MR. HAMILTON EXPECTS TO PROVE.

Mr. Hamilton then gave an outline of the charges against Captain Cregan and his lieutenants. He said:

We shall prove that the Republican nominee for Congress in the XIth Congressional District was not supported loyally in the XVIth Assembly District; but that, on the contrary, with the knowledge and consent of Michael Cregan and other members of the County Committee, and the Republican representatives in the various election districts, ballots of Spinola, the Democratic nominee, were distributed by Republican booth-tenders.

1. We shall show that citizens who went to various election districts in the XVIth Assembly District were given by the persons in charge of the Republican boxes and ballots bunches of tickets containing the Democratic Congressional ballot; and that these were given out as sets of straight Republican tickets; and that this occurred in seventeen separate election districts.

2. In many instances we shall be able to give the name of the person from whom the ballots were obtained, with the original ballots—persons who will be recognized as having been for many years Republican workers in the XVIth Assembly District; and four of whom, viz: Mason in the 7th election district, Finnerty in the 9th, Kennedy in the 15th and Lush in the 20th are members of the Republican County Committee. Witnesses: James Speckman, as to the 7th; Louis Arnold and George C. Grooves, as to the 9th; Henry Watts, as to the 15th; Thomas Hastings, as to the 20th.

3. We shall also show that various Republican workers urged voters to vote for Spinola for Congress. One of those who did so was Edward E. Fisher, a well-known Republican worker in the district; also one Henkel. Witnesses—Wall, Diem.

4. We shall show that on election day Michael Cregan visited the several election districts in the XVIth Assembly District; and was presumably cognizant of the acting of the Republican workers. That he, Cregan, directed and requested several persons to work for Spinola. That on the night before election day he gave out the bags of ballots at Rose Hill Hall, and also gave out to some of his captains a number of Spinola ballots with directions to distribute and use them, and with the instruction: "Do what you can for Spinola." That when notified of the treachery to Rice, he, Cregan, refused to make any efforts or take any action to prevent it. Witnesses—Ferguson, Baumeister, Dikeman, Collins and Fleming.

5. We shall show that five of the persons in charge of election districts for the Republican party hold places under Democratic authority.

6. A table of the vote from official returns is submitted showing that in the XIth Assembly District Rice received 3,789 votes; Roosevelt and George together, 5,325 votes. That in the XVIth Assembly District Rice received 2,996 votes; Roosevelt and George together, 4,573 votes—a falling off in the Rice vote from the combined Republican and George votes for Mayor of over 34 per cent. That in the XVIIIth Assembly District Rice received 3,538 votes; Roosevelt and George together, 4,555 votes—a falling off in the Rice vote from the combined Roosevelt and George vote for Mayor of about 22 per cent. The XVIIth Assembly District, like the XVIth, runs from the river front west and contains a similar population. This table corroborates the other evidence.

7. We must admit that some of our witnesses signed affidavits stating, as we are informed, that the ballots they received on day they were employed by Captain Cregan to work the straight ticket and were given bags containing straight sets of Republican ballots. The form of these affidavits is such that they do not necessarily conflict with our witnesses' statements; but, nevertheless, we shall show that if they did they were not entitled to no weight, because they were not read over or explained to the illiterate, but were signed in a hurried and perfunctory manner, without any knowledge of their contents. Witnesses—Dikeman, Frank Hall.

8. We submit affidavits setting forth the above facts with more particularity as to person, time and place, and giving the residence of each witness. Also a list of such witnesses, and the name of the captain and district to whom they refer when it occurs in the affidavit. Also a list of captains of election districts with their occupations as far as they know them:

CREGAN'S CAPTAINS.—1, Tommy Byrnes; 3, Patrick Byrnes, (Democratic Assemblyman) Custom House Inspector; 4, John Gilligan; 5, William Haenchel; 6, Frederick Dikeman; 7, Hank alias John Mason (Democratic Assemblyman, in Weigher's Department; 8, George Smith; 9, Peter Finnerty, County Committee; 10, Mark Haley and Bill Cobb (Haley is a policeman); 11, Jimmy Byrnes; 12, Peter Shanley, County Committee; 13, Metcowan; 14, Siteman; 15, Robert Kennedy, County Committeeman; 16, Delehanty and Gallagher, Democratic Assemblymen, (Gallagher is keeper on the Island); 17, Joseph Cleary, wants a Democratic appointment; 18, James McGee; 19, Frank Hall; 20, Richard M. Lush, Democratic Assemblyman, Marshal in court; County Commissioner; 21, John R. Page, brother of messenger in Surrogate's Court; 22, Edward Fisher, ex-clerk of Cregan in court; 24, Mason, brother of Hank; 26, Edward Hatch, brother-in-law of Cregan, Appraiser's stores; 27, Alphonso Smith, used to be in Marshal's office; 28, Jim Little, Democratic Assemblyman, Custom House officer.

While Mr. Hamilton was presenting the indictment against Captain Cregan he mentioned the name of Lush, one of the district captains, as a man who had proved recreant to his trust. Richard Lush, the man referred to, rose at this point and said:

I demand to know who makes this charge.

Chairman Strong—Whom do you represent?

Mr. Lush—I am Mr. Lush, the man charged.

Mr. Hamilton—Thomas Hastings makes the affidavit against Mr. Lush.

When he had concluded the presentation of his case, Mr. Hamilton said:

Here are the original affidavits on which these charges are based. I ask that they be accepted as specifications of the charges made by me. I am now ready to proceed with the examination of witnesses.

MR. CREGAN NOT READY TO PROCEED.

Mr. Hamilton then handed to the committee the original affidavits.

Mr. Cregan—I am not ready to proceed. This is a very serious charge to make against a man of my standing and prominence in the Republican party. I have seen no charges against me, and have had no chance to consult with my counsel, William H. Townley.

Mr. Hamilton—I stated when the committee was first appointed that I would be prepared with affidavits to make my charges good. I can see no use in further delay. My witnesses are here ready to give their testimony.

Mr. Cregan—There is no court where a bill of particulars will be refused when demanded. I am only asking for a reasonable time to make ready my defence. I want to know what I have got to meet. I have got affidavits, but they are at my house.

Chairman Strong—The charges were made by Mr. Hamilton more than a month ago. You should be ready now to proceed.

Mr. Brodsky—Mr. Cregan should have an opportunity to become acquainted with the charges made against him.

The chairman (after consulting with his colleagues)—Well, we will adjourn to Wednesday evening at 7:45 p. m. You had better have your witnesses present and be prepared for a long session.

Mr. Hamilton—Why not go on now? My witnesses are here and it is a serious inconvenience for some of them to lose their time attending the sessions of the committee.

The chairman—The witnesses would have to come on Wednesday evening. The committee think it better for both sides to adjourn to Wednesday.

Mr. Cregan—That suits me. I will have my witnesses ready here to testify and be cross-examined. When can I get copies of the affidavits?

Mr. Hamilton—I will furnish you with them.

Mr. Cregan—I will give you a copy of mine by noon to-morrow. Can you give me a copy of yours to-morrow night?

Mr. Hamilton promised to do so and the committee then departed.

Captain Cregan was a good deal exercised when he learned that the affidavits furnished the committee by Mr. Hamilton had been given to the newspapers. He declared that this was unjust to him as it would prejudice the public against him. He said that he had with him affidavits of twenty-four of his district captains, although only a few minutes before he had assigned as one of the reasons for asking for an adjournment that his affidavits were at his hotel. A copy of the affidavits procured by Mr. Hamilton was loaned him. He declared that Frederick Dikeman and James J. McGee had each made an affidavit that he had worked the straight tickets which he had received from Captain Cregan. As proof of this he submitted the following affidavit, one of twenty-four, made by that number of captains of election districts on November 19:

James J. McKee, being duly sworn, deposes and says that he was in charge of the Eighteenth Election District of the XVIth Assembly District for the Republican party on November 2, 1886, and that he received from M. Cregan a bag of the straight Republican tickets, with special instructions not to trade off any of the Republican candidates, and the said order was fully complied with by me.

THE AFFIDAVITS AGAINST MR. CREGAN.

SPECIFIC CHARGES THAT SPINOLA TICKETS WERE GIVEN OUT BY REPUBLICANS.

The affidavits presented by Mr. Hamilton to the committee are emphatic and sweeping. All the important ones are given herewith, and also the substance of those which go over practically the same ground in various election districts.

ALL CREGAN CARED FOR.

STATE OF NEW-YORK, CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK, } ss.

George F. Dixon, being duly sworn, says: I have resided at No. 254 Avenue A, in the Fifth Election District of the XVIth Assembly District in said city for about seven years. On election day, held November 2, 1886 William Henkel, of No. 248 Avenue A, as Mr. Cregan's captain, had charge of the Republican box and ballots in said Fifth Election District. He has been captain of the Fifth Election District for several years; he is also a member of the Republican County Committee. I was engaged to work by said Henkel. Early on the morning of election day, held on November 2, 1886, when Henkel gave me instructions, he said to me: "All that Cregan cares about is Spinola and Murray, especially Spinola, that he (Cregan) wanted to see Spinola elected." He had a lot of Spinola tickets separate from the regular tickets, and gave me a bunch of them. About 8 a. m. he gave me a bunch containing about seventy-five loose Spinola tickets and about the same number of Murray's ballots, and also the same number of sets of straight Republican tickets. He told me to take the ballots of Rice, candidate for Congress, and the ballots of Frische, the candidate for Alderman, out of the regular sets and to substitute for them the ballots of "Spinola" and "Murray," the Democratic nominees. After arranging the tickets as directed by Henkel, at my house, I came down and met him; he was standing among a group of Democratic workers for Spinola. He took the ballots prepared by me and handed a set to each of these men and said to them: "Look for yourselves. If I am not doing the square thing." These tickets were run out all day. He gave some of these sets of tickets in which I had put "Spinola" and "Murray" ballots to a Mr. Conrad, another Republican worker under him.

GEORGE F. DIXON.

Sworn to before me this 7th day of December, 1886.

HENRY KNOPF,

Notary Public (91), City and County of New-York.

MR. CREGAN DIDN'T BELIEVE IT.

CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK—ss.

I, John Charles Fleming, of the city and county of New-York, journalist, being duly sworn, make oath and say: That on election day, the 2d of November, having heard that Captain Michael Cregan was selling out Mr. Rice in the XVIth Assembly District, I visited some of the polling places in the district, and amongst others precinct No. 14, where one Sheman was in charge of a box for the Republicans; that I asked Sheman for a Republican bunch, and that having received it, I found the name of Spinola instead of Rice for Congressman; that I hastened to the Ashland House, where I saw Mr. Cregan and represented the state of affairs to him, whereupon he said: "I don't believe a word of it; they all say that in the excitement of an election." That when I asked him to go to the polls and stop the treason going on, or see Mr. Rice himself, he refused point blank. That before this I also visited poll No. 7, in charge of Frank Mason, who I was told and believe is an intimate political friend or follower of Cregan, and upon remonstrating with him, he used words to the following effect: "Oh, you know—well this is a Democratic district, where Rice has no show. If I have given out Spinola tickets it is to elect Roosevelt, who has a show. If I get a man to vote Spinola and Roosevelt, I don't care about Rice. Besides, it's none of your—business."

JOHN C. FLEMING.

Sworn to before me at New-York this 17th day of November, A. D. 1886.

CHARLES B. J. SNYDER,

Notary Public (237), New-York County.

MR. CREGAN STOOD SIX FEET AWAY.

CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK—ss.

James E. Daley, being duly sworn, says: That he resides at No. 361 Third-ave. in the city of New-York; that he is a Republican and a voter; that on the 24 day of November, 1886, he applied to the party in charge of the box of the First Election District in the XVIth Assembly District, who was in charge of the Republican box and ballots in said district, for a set of Republican tickets, and received the ballots annexed hereto and marked with deponent's initials, among which was the ballot for Congress with the name of Francis B. Spinola thereon; and this deponent alleges upon information and belief that the persons in charge of the Republican box and ballots in said election district systematically and intentionally distributed the ballots of Francis B. Spinola in place of those of Allen T. Rice with intent to elect the said Spinola, the nominee of the Democratic party for Congress in that XIth Congressional District. Deponent further says that when he obtained tickets, as stated above, Michael Cregan, Republican leader of said XVIth Assembly District, stood within six feet of said box.

JAMES E. DALEY.

Sworn to before me this 9th day of November, 1886.

JOHN H. CAVANAGH,

Notary Public, New-York City and County.

OTHER MEN WHO GOT SPINOLA TICKETS.

William Patterson, of No. 269 Avenue C, deposed that "Tommie" Byrnes, Cregan's captain in the First Election District of the XVIth Assembly District, gave him a set of ballots at noon on election day containing a Spinola ticket.

Henry R. Watts, of No. 349 East Twentieth-st., in an affidavit says:

He applied to the parties in charge of the First, Third and Fourth Election Districts of the XVIth Assembly District who were in charge of the Republican boxes and ballots in said districts for sets of Republican tickets, and received ballots for Congress with the name of Francis B. Spinola thereon in place of the name of Allen T. Rice, the Republican nominee for that office.

Thomas Hastings, of No. 164 Park Row, swears that Patrick Burns, the captain of the Third Election District, gave him ballots containing Spinola's name instead of Rice's.

Henry Stevens, of No. 402 First-ave., makes a similar affidavit in regard to the Third Election District.

John Ferguson, of No. 257 Avenue C, in his affidavit says that about noon of election day he was at the polls in the Third Election District.

He saw Michael Cregan in said district; that soon after Cregan left the place, and deponent then went to the Republican box in said district and asked him for a set of Republican tickets, and said captain thereupon gave him the set of Republican ballots, except that upon the ballot for Congress was the name of Francis B. Spinola. Deponent verily believes that said Michael Cregan gave to the captain of said district Spinola tickets.

Edward J. Collins in an affidavit says:

That on the afternoon of November, the day of the election, I visited several of the polling places in the XVIth Assembly District, among others No. 7; that one Joan, alias "Hank," Mason was in control of the Republican box at that precinct as captain of the district under Cregan; that I asked him for three sets of Republican tickets, and that he gave me those which purported to be such, which, on opening, however, I found to contain the name of the Democratic candidate, Francis B. Spinola, for Congress, instead of Allen T. Rice. That on visiting the precinct again later on, and charging Mason with treachery, he admitted that he had sold out the Republican ticket for the benefit of Roosevelt; that, in company with Mr. Fleming, I went to the Ashland House, where we represented the state of affairs to Captain Michael Cregan, who said he did not believe it, and refused either to go and see Mr. Rice or to put a stop to the selling out of Mr. Rice; and further, that I know Mason to be an old political henchman of Captain Cregan and that he was captain of the Seventh District in his employ that day.

James Speekman, of No. 428 East Fifteenth-st., swears that he applied for tickets to John Mason, the captain of the seventh election district, who was in charge of the boxes, and received a set of tickets containing a Spinola ballot.

Louis Arnold, of No. 214 East Nineteenth-st., says that he received from the captain of the ninth election district, Peter Finnerty, a set of Republican tickets with the exception of Spinola for Rice. George C. Groves, of No. 207 East Thirty-third-st., makes a similar affidavit in regard to Finnerty and the ninth election district.

Henry R. Watts, of No. 349 East Twentieth-st., deposes that John Slymon, in charge of the thirteenth election district box, dealt out Spinola instead of Rice tickets. A similar affidavit is made by Thomas Hastings, of No. 164 Park Row.

Henry R. Watts, of No. 329 East Twentieth-st., swears that Robert Kennedy, the captain of the fifteenth election district, gave him a Spinola ballot among the set of Republican tickets he asked for.

John Proctor Clark, of No. 174 West Fifty-eighth-st., who has a law office at No. 71 Broadway, swears that he applied for tickets to the man in charge of the Republican booth in the fifteenth election district, and that he took the bunch of tickets handed to him and examined them.

He found that the Congressional ticket in said bunch bore the name of F. B. Spinola instead of Allen T. Rice; that deponent showed the said tickets to the booth-tender, and said to him, "How is this?" And that said booth-tender replied, "That's all right, doesn't that suit you?"

Mr. Clark adds that he at once reported the facts to Mr. Bellamy, of the Republican County Committee, at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

The affidavit of James E. Daley, of No. 361 Third-ave., says that he applied to the man in charge of the Republican box in the eighteenth election district and got a set of ballots in which the name of Spinola was substituted for that of Rice.

Thomas Hastings, of No. 164 Park Row, swears that in the Twentieth election district Richard M. Lush, the captain in charge, gave him a set of Republican tickets with the exception that Spinola's name was on the Congressional ballot. L. L. Davids, of No. 425 Second-ave., makes a similar affidavit in regard to the tickets dealt out from the Republican box at Twenty-fourth-st. and Third-ave.

SYSTEMATIC SUBSTITUTION OF SPINOLA.

Edward Wall, of No. 412 East Eighteenth-st., says:

That on the 2d day of November, 1886, he was requested by Edward E. Fisher, the captain of the Twenty-second election district in the XVIth Assembly District, who was in charge of the Republican box and ballots in that district, to give his personal friends who would ask him for ballots the ballot for Congress with the name of Francis B. Spinola thereon in the place of the one with the name of Allen T. Rice, the Republican nominee for that office; and this deponent alleges upon information and belief that said Fisher, who was in charge of the Republican box and ballots in said election district, systematically and intentionally distributed the ballots of Francis B. Spinola in place of those of Allen T. Rice with intent to elect said Spinola, the nominee of the Democratic party for Congress.

Thomas Hastings swears that Edward E. Fisher the captain of the Twenty-second election district, to whom he applied for a set of Republican tickets, gave him one containing a Spinola ballot for Congress.

Charles Baumeister, of No. 306 East Twenty-third-st., deposes:

My occupation is that of wholesale salesman. On election day I was a Republican poll clerk in the Twenty-third election district of the XVIth Assembly District, appointed upon the recommendation of Michael Cregan. When I proceeded to vote in the Twenty-second election district, where I reside, I was approached by Edward E. Fisher, secretary of the District Committee of the enrolled Republicans of the XVIth Assembly District, who was also captain of, and in charge of, the Republican box and ballots of said Twenty-second election district; he, Fisher, asked me to do him a favor by voting for Francis B. Spinola, the Democratic nominee for Congress, in preference to Allen T. Rice, the Republican nominee, in the XIth Congressional District. He stated that his reasons for wishing me to do so were that the Republicans had no chance of obtaining a majority in the next Congress; also that Spinola had told Cregan that unless Cregan supported him (Spinola) all Republican employes of the Custom House and post office in this district would lose their positions through Spinola's influence. I refused to comply with Fisher's request.

William Darling, of No. 209 East Twentieth-st., swears that he applied for Republican tickets at the box at Twenty-first-st. and Second-ave.; the set given to him contained a Spinola ballot. John Mebee, of No. 347 East Nineteenth-st. says that Mr. Heymon, in charge of the Twenty-third Election District, gave him a set of Republican tickets with the exception of the Congressional ballot, which contained Spinola's name. Thomas Hastings makes a similar affidavit in regard to W. C. Conners in charge of the Twenty-fifth Election District.

Henry R. Watts, of No. 349 East Twentieth-st., swears that Edward Hatch, in charge of the Republican box and ballots in the Twenty-sixth Election District, gave him a set of tickets among which was a Spinola ballot.

George M. Davenport, of No. 299 First-ave., swears that Alphonso Smith, in charge of the Republican tickets in the Twenty-seventh Election District, dealt out Spinola ballots.

"WE CAN'T GET ANYTHING FROM RICE."

STATE OF NEW-YORK, CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK, } ss.

On this 2d day of December, 1886, before me, a Commissioner of Deeds, within and for said city and county, personally came Frederick Dikeman, who, being by me duly sworn according to law, deposes and says:

I reside at No. 238 Avenue A, in the Sixth Election District of the XVIth Assembly District, in said city and county. My occupation is bookbinder, and I am employed by Liebenroth, Van Auw & Co., of No. 48 Franklin-st., in said city, blank book manufacturers, and have been employed there about seventeen years. On Sunday, October 31, 1886, I helped bunching Republican tickets for our district at Rose Hill Hall, Mr. Rice, candidate for Congress, called there during the day and Mr. Cregan took ballots out of one of the bags and showed Mr. Rice the tickets were being bunched properly. When leaving there I and others were told to call for our election tickets and money on the following (Monday) evening. On Monday evening (the evening before election day) I went to Rose Hill Hall. The captains of the different election districts were called one at a time into a room, the door of which was kept closed by Captain Edward E. Fisher, Cregan's secretary. When Fisher called out "Frederick Dikeman—Sixth District," I entered this room. It was very small and has shelves all around like in a hat-room of a ball-room. Mike Cregan and said Edward E. Fisher were the only persons present in the room besides myself. After Cregan talked to me for a while he said to me, "Can I trust you with a secret?" I answered "Yes, sir," not thinking for a moment what he meant. He then handed me a bunch of election tickets (about forty or fifty tickets) and told me they were "Spinola tickets," and remarked: "You know we can't get anything from Rice," and, "Rice can't be elected," and, "If we want anything we can get it from Spinola." He told me to get about ten Spinola votes. He also said he might be able to get me a place. I told him I didn't want any, that I had a good situation and was satisfied where I was. After I had the Spinola tickets, then Fisher handed me a bag containing the straight Republican tickets. Throughout our conversation he thought he had already given me $20, and said he would give me more money in the morning. Finally, when I started to leave, I said, "Then you will give me the $20 in the morning?" He then told me he had paid me the $20. I assured him he had not; and he afterward discovered that he had made a mistake; then he paid me $20, four 2½ dollar gold pieces and the rest in single bills. When I left him he said, "Do the best you can." When I reached home I took all the "Spinola" tickets and threw them into the stove and burned them. On election day I was out early, before the polls opened, with the bag of straight Republican tickets, as bunched at Rose Hill Hall, and worked them all day. I didn't give out any "Spinola" tickets. About 9 or 10 o'clock on election day, as near as I can remember, Cregan came along where I was and gave me papers as watcher, one for Roosevelt, the other for Goebel. Before this a gentleman came to me and said, "I understand you are running Spinola tickets out of your box." I replied, "No, sir, I am not, I haven't any and besides I wouldn't do anything like that." He said a party across the street told him I had. About this time either Mason or Tucker, I forget which one it was, from the Seventh Election District, supposing that I was giving out Spinola tickets, came across the avenue and told me to keep a look out for men that were going around.

When I saw Cregan after this I thought I would let him know about it and I told him that a gentleman had accused me of giving out Spinola tickets, and tried to describe the man, but he didn't seem to care or pay any attention, and said, "Oh, let him go to ——; that's one of these silk stocking fellows." I told all of what Cregan told me and what I have just stated substantially to Charles Weimar, a Republican inspector in my election district, and a friend of mine, early on election day. He, Weimar, said to me, "Don't you do anything of the kind." I also told John Worthan. I also voluntarily told all this to Henry Kropf when I met him the first time after that Monday evening on the 3d or 4th of November. I also told different friends of mine about it. On Monday evening, November 15, 1886, I met Mr. Robert Ray Hamilton and I told him all about it substantially as I have stated.

WHY HE SIGNED A PAPER FOR CREGAN.

On November 19 I received a printed notice for a meeting of the Cregan Committee to be held on November 19, at 8:30 p. m. On the bottom of the notice was written "Be sure and come." I went to this meeting. It was held in the front room of Rose Hill Hall. Before the meeting opened Cregan told me I was seen at a caucus at Killeen's real estate office in Third-ave. with Mr. Hamilton, and told me not to be so foolish as to sign any affidavits for them, but to stick to him (Cregan) and he would always be a friend of mine. At the meeting resolutions upon Mr. Arthur's death were offered, and before they were adopted Mr. Cregan spoke and alluded to the candidates for Assembly and Alderman, their going to Rice about their printing bills, and said that caucuses were held at Killeen's real estate office in Third-ave. Mr. Killeen answered Mr. Cregan.

After the adoption of these resolutions another set of resolutions were adopted for the appointment of a committee of three. Cregan then asked that all captains remain, and all who were not captains should leave the room. When all who were not captains had left and the door was closed, about twenty or twenty-five were in the room. Mr. Cregan spoke of the charge of selling out Rice, and that rumor of receiving a large sum of money from Spinola was schoolboy talk, and of candidates for Assembly and Alderman, and said they were schoolboys. He then called the districts one at a time. As each was called the captain from the district called would go to the table and sign a paper. After two or three were called and had signed in this way—some being absent—the Sixth Election District was called, and I went to the table where Fisher had a lot of papers. He took one out and hurriedly asked me to sign it, which I did. I did not read the paper—he did not tell what its contents were—it was not explained to me, and I don't know what the paper I signed contains to this day. After I had signed a man asked me to raise my right hand, and mumbled something I did not understand. He did not explain to me what the paper was. Cregan then left and went through with about fifteen men or more and then left. Joseph W. Cleary, one of the captains, I noticed, refused to sign.

I don't know what possessed me to sign, but I couldn't gather up courage to refuse to sign or to object. I did not know I understand that I was a witness to a solemn or binding statement made under oath—not expecting anything of the kind. And I had no one there whom I could consult in confidence; if I had understood the whole thing as fully as I do now I should not have signed any paper for Cregan. I make an affidavit to my order that I may be set right in the matter as I feel that Mr. Cregan has taken an undue advantage of me and coerced me into signing a paper I never would have signed in a different situation, and had I been properly advised of what I was doing, and had the paper been explained to me.

FREDERICK DIKEMAN.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2d day of December, 1886.

JOHN H. W. KILLEEN,

Commissioner of Deeds, City and County of New-York.

CREGAN WANTED TO SEE SPINOLA ELECTED.

CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK—ss.

James J. McKee, of said city, being duly sworn, deposes and says: That he resides at No. 324 East Twenty-fourth-st., in the XVIth Assembly District of said city. That he is an enrolled Republican, and on the 2d day of November last was the Republican captain of the eighteenth election district of said Assembly District; that on the evening of the 1st of November, at Rose Hill Hall, in said district, he received from Edward E. Fisher a bag of tickets, all of which contained, he believes, the regular Republican sets, but before leaving said Rose Hill Hall he was handed by Michael Cregan a bunch of Congressional tickets, all of which contained the name of Francis B. Spinola thereon, instead of Allen T. Rice; that said Cregan informed deponent that he was told to have nothing to do with deponent, but that he, Cregan, knew he could rely on him, and thereupon urged deponent to work the Spinola ticket for Congress on the said 2d of November; that in the forenoon of said 2d of November said Cregan met deponent in the said eighteenth election district and asked him "how things were going," after which he, said Cregan, said to deponent that "I want to see Spinola elected, no matter what comes or goes."

Deponent further says that on or about the 12th day of November he signed at said Rose Hill Hall a paper which he neither read nor had read to him, which paper he has since been informed was an affidavit.

JAMES J. McKEE.

Sworn to before me this 7th day of December, 1886.

JOHN H. CAVANAGH,

Notary Public, New-York City and County.

ROBERT RAY HAMILTON'S AFFIDAVIT.

CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW-YORK—ss.

Robert Ray Hamilton, being duly sworn, says: That at the November meeting of the County Committee, Joseph Cleary, of No. 324 East Twenty-fourth-st., requested to be introduced to me, and then voluntarily said that he had charge of an election district on election day for Captain Cregan in the XVIth Assembly District, and had some important information to give about the running Spinola from Republican boxes, but he would prefer to do it at some other time, when we could meet quietly and talk the matter over.

On the following Saturday I called upon Mr. Cleary at No. 324 East Twenty-fourth-st. and asked him to make the statement he referred to, but he said that Saturday was a busy day, and he would prefer to do so at some other time.

On Monday afternoon I saw him at the same place. He then said that after all he did not know much about the matter, but that on election day Captain Cregan came to his district and said: "How is Spinola running? Do what you can for him." He then said: "I do not want to make an affidavit. I am not sure those are the exact words he used. I would like to talk with the man in charge of the election in that district to be sure, and then I will make an affidavit; but that is substantially what Cregan said."

Cleary has never made any affidavit, but I understand has refused to sign the affidavit prepared on behalf of Captain Cregan for his captains to sign.

Deponent further says: That on the morning of election day I called at the Ashland House and Rose Hill Hall, and asked for Captain Cregan, but was told that I could not find him there, as he would be going about the district all day. I was also told by a number of persons at various polling-places that he had been there, and had gone to other places.

ROBERT RAY HAMILTON.

Sworn to before me this 8th day of December, 1886.

EDWARD R. VOLMER,

Notary Public Kings County; certificate filed in New-York County.

GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT INTERESTS COMBINING.

Up to within less than a year ago there was a positive conflict between the gas and electric light interests of this country. Gas stocks felt the shock of the newer light in its increasing strength and almost angrily resisted the growth of the brighter light and stronger illuminator. The enormous amount of money invested in gas plants all over the land naturally became very sensitive, and their antagonism to electric lights was from the first severe and powerful. The gas interests are taking steps to combine electric light with their present business. They can no longer fight it without disastrous results. Edwards H. Goff, of the American system, began four years ago, backed by a good system of his own, and caught the good will of the gas people. He is now reaping his reward. A close alliance with the gas companies for his system is a good business showing, but in addition to that he says the managers of all the New-England gas companies are combining to petition the Legislatures for authority to use electric lights with their gas plants. When he began there he sought a combination of interests with the gas people which after four years of contest is just coming to him. The movement is general.

NOT FAVORABLE TO KEMP.

The Kemp-Reves Case was again before Justice White at the Tombs Police Court yesterday. In a previous examination Kemp swore that when he was employed by William H. H. Roberts, of No. 10 Barclay-st., his employer had paid him by giving him three handsome thermometers. Mr. Roberts testified yesterday that these articles were stolen. Mrs. Lessieur stated that the young man and his wife boarded with her. She saw Mr. Reves at the house on three or four occasions. She stated that her husband had informed Reves that "Kemp was going to skip."

Daniel O'Connell, the assistant bookkeeper, stated that he had been in the employ of Mr. Reves for over six years. He testified:

After the arrest, and when Kemp was discharged, I said to him: "How did you get in this scrape?" He said: "I'm hard up and had to do something." I asked him: "What about the pay-roll last Saturday? You fixed that for $80." "I know I did. The detective and I got away with $40, and the rest I placed to the petty cash account." [He would not give the detective's name.]

"In relation to the Custom House matter," asked Lawyer Gallinger, "did you pay the duties on November 9 or did Kemp?"

"I did. The statement of Kemp is a cold-blooded lie. After the trial in the Tombs Kemp said to me: 'I want you to see Mr. Reves. I'll settle the matter for $1,000; if you can't get $1,000 take $750.'"

The case was adjourned till December 22.

SUIT AGAINST A BANKRUPT ESTATE.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 13 (*special*).—A suit involving $500,000 was brought up in the Common Pleas Court today. In 1884, H. P. Weddell, a banker, owner of the Weddell House, failed for $2,000,000. His sons, Lawrence and Frank, now sue their father and J. H. Webster, assignee of the bankrupt estate, for $233,750 each and ask to have that amount included in the liabilities of the estate. Their story briefly told is that in 1861 H. P. Weddell became financially involved and had certain pieces of real estate deeded to his two infant sons. Later on he pulled out of the difficulty and was again reckoned as a millionaire. When the boys became of age in 1881, their father persuaded them to deed the property back to him on the plea of making a more equal division, one part of the real estate having increased in value more than the other. He promised to turn over to each an amount equal to half the value of the whole property so transferred. Before Mr. Weddell fulfilled his promises disaster overtook him, and all his property went into the hands of an assignee; hence the two sons bring suit for $273,750 each, as representing the amount fraudulently obtained from them by their father. Assignee Webster says that if unmolested the estate will pay every creditor dollar for dollar, and leave $500,000 besides. He indignantly denounces this suit as a scheme on the part of the sons to rob their father in his old age. Weddell some time ago married a second time. This marriage being distasteful to his children caused a quarrel in the family.

SUIT ON AN INDIAN COMMISSIONER'S ACCOUNT.

BOSTON, Dec. 13.—The United States District Attorney has brought suit against L. Edwin Dudley, secretary of the Law and Order League, to recover $4,290, which is alleged to be due upon the settlement of his accounts with the Government as special Indian Commissioner. Dudley was appointed to superintend the conveyance of a tribe of Indians from California to New-Mexico, and his period of service covered less than a year.

SENATORS ON THE TARIFF.

MR. DAWES ATTACKS MANNING'S REPORT.

INCONSISTENCIES POINTED OUT—MR. M'PHERSON FAVORS FREE RAW MATERIALS.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 13.—The Senate to-day resumed consideration of Mr. Morrill's resolution declaring the promise of making a proper revision of the tariff at the present session obviously hopeless and impracticable; and Mr. Dawes proceeded to address the Senate on that subject.

Referring to the propositions to put lumber, wool and other articles on the free list, he said that until lately all those great industries, and the large body of men looking to them for their support, had been lulled into security by the belief that there were in the Democratic party dissentients enough to prevent the infliction of such an idea on the country. But the course of events had been tending more and more to displace that delusion. The Secretary of the Treasury had come into the field and taken his advanced position on the subject of the tariff, causing increased apprehension and alarm in all the great industries of the land. Sober conservative business men and thoughtful, anxious, but clear-headed dependents on those interests, were now seriously inquiring whether on the whole they might not be wrecked if the theories and doctrines announced in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury were to govern in the revision of the tariff. The Secretary of the Treasury threw overboard entirely (and in so many words) all idea of protection to American industry. Henceforth, according to the Secretary's theories and dogmas, there was to enter into the policy that is to control in the fashioning of the revenue laws of the future no idea of protection to American industry. The Secretary would not remove the duties on sugar because they amounted (he said) to only 90 cents per capita; but he would remove the duties on wool, although they only amounted to 8 cents per capita, and on ready made clothing, although they only amounted to 3 cents per capita. The proposition of removing the duty on raw materials did not even meet the approval of the manufacturers, for whose benefit it was suggested.

The speaker characterized the Secretary's views as wild and wanton; but they had, he said, awakened serious and well grounded apprehension throughout the country. It was the attempt of those who had the tariff to reform, who led to these serious apprehensions. Those industries turned to the Senate for the alternative. They looked to it for a method of bringing the receipts of the Government to the line of its expenditures without impairing the development or prosperity of those industries or diminishing the compensation of that labor. It was for that purpose that he had introduced his resolution instructing the committee on Finance to inquire and report what specific reductions can be made in customs duties and internal taxes that will reduce the receipts to the necessary and economical expenditure of the government, without impairing the prosperity and development of home industry or the compensation of home labor.

He should therefore, ask for the adoption of the resolution which he had offered.

Mr. McPherson said that there were but two methods of disposing of the surplus revenue. One was by extravagant appropriations and the other was by a reduction of taxation. For himself he was in favor of the second alternative. Mr. McPherson advocated the retention of the duties on sugar, but favored their removal on salt, iron ore, coal and the coarse qualities of wool. He would apply to every industry the same principle that had been applied to the silk manufacturing industry. There were about a hundred silk mills in the city of Paterson, N. J. Their raw material was admitted free of duty, and the consequence was that no more prosperous manufacture could be found anywhere. Paterson to-day was selling silk at Lyons, France, the heart of the silk manufacture of the world. Why was not the same principle applied to the hatters of New-York? If those 10,000 operatives had their raw material free they would flood the world with cheap hats. That was the Democratic policy, the American policy, the policy which he wanted to see engrafted in the next tariff bill. He was opposed to the starving of those 10,000 hat operatives at New-York in order to support fifty muskrat trappers on the shores of the Hackensack River.

Mr. Beck opposed reference to the Finance Committee, and suggested that Senators on both sides should urge on their friends in the House to pass some tariff measure, so as to bring the question before the Senate in some practical manner and thus open the doors fairly to debate. He was not wedded to any scheme. He wanted taxes reduced. He wanted a chance to argue the question and to show that protectionists were mercilessly robbing the laborers whom they were pretending to befriend.

No action was taken.

PROSP