THE STATE CANVASS.

Political Trickery and Wire-pulling Exposed.

HOW THE "BOOMS" ARE ORGANIZED.

Sharp Campaigning in Tioga and Other Republican Counties.

CANVASS OF THE RURAL DISTRICTS.

No Disaffection Among Republican Farmers.

PROSPECTS IN ONTARIO COUNTY.

OWEGO, N. Y., Oct. 14, 1879.

In my tour through Orange, Sullivan, Broome and Delaware counties I endeavored to find some scintillations of that wonderful uprising against Tilden and Robinson so noted in the Canal Ring districts of the State. Booms of that character are not at all apparent in the sections through which I have just travelled. Neither are they observable in Tioga county, from which my present correspondence is indited.

POLITICAL TRICKS.

To an impartial and painstaking observer of political events it is not a difficult task to get at the true inwardness of such "booms." If we are to take republican estimates and republican narratives as to the nature and extent of these displays the conclusion could only be reached that Alonzo B. Cornell must be elected by at least 50,000 majority, Mr. John Kelly drawing off over 150,000 votes from the regular democratic nominee. Such sentiments and reports are doubtless admirably worked up throughout the State. Republican leaders evidently spare neither expense nor labor in creating a good impression. Their local journals in all sections are busily engaged in this labor of love, while wirepullers behind the scenes leave no stone unturned in efforts to befog the public mind on many prominent issues. That the State contest will be a close one seems to my mind pretty clear. Of course the more vigorous "boost" the Kelly boom can receive in the State the better chance exists for republican success. Hence the anxiety of republicans to manipulate thunder and lightning for their Kelly side show, which is expected to so materially aid Mr. Cornell's canvass on the 4th of November next.

I will give an instance of this style of political wirepulling:—While in Binghamton I attended a Kelly ratification meeting at Tremain's Hall. A few minutes before the organization of the meeting a band assembled in front of the Exchange Hotel, kept by N. L. Osborn, a Kellyite and former canal contractor. The "Sweet By and By," the "Wearing of the Green," "Garryowen to Glory," a little sprinkling of "Pinafore" and other popular airs attracted a crowd of several hundred persons. Then the band headed for Tremain's Hall, followed by the curious crowd. The hall was speedily filled up. Major General F. B. Spinola, with a glistening, "brand new" shirt collar covering his ears, and Assemblyman Thomas F. Grady were the imported Tammany actors, brought to convert Broome county democrats from the error of their ways in support of Robinson. About seven hundred men occupied seats in the room. It was undoubtedly a large meeting. Spinola was greeted with whistles, cat calls and other interruptions. Grady scarcely fared better, although the gentleman's eloquent speech and happy delivery brought down the house several times. I watched the audience narrowly during the delivery of these speeches. I will venture to assert that there were not twelve Kelly votes in that room. The next morning, in looking over the reports of the "rally" in republican local papers, I was amazed at the headings and observations—"Immense Kelly meeting," "Robinson's doom," "One thousand votes for Kelly," &c. The true version of the gathering was fully given me afterward by a sensible countryman, who said:—"Why, the same crowd would go to a republican or a Robinson meeting. We haven't much to amuse us in the country, and these political sideshows are novel and entertaining. They suit us as well as a circus, but they have little or no effect on the voter."

Thus the "sentiment" is supposed to be worked up, while many innocent people are fooled into the idea that a certain "boom" is rolling throughout the length and breadth of the State with fearful velocity.

THAT DANGEROUS REPUBLICAN DISAFFECTION.

It is not an easy matter to get at the extent and variety of republican disaffection as affecting the vote of Mr. Cornell. That such disaffection exists, and that it will make itself felt on election day, is patent from the result of observations already made. It will doubtless come with the "silent," quiet political wave so dreaded by machine politicians. Whether it will be effective in disposing of Mr. Cornell is another question. Leading republican politicians and prominent business republicans with whom I conversed deny that this movement will amount to much. They concede, however, a few disaffected individuals here and there—that is all. But when I get down among the masses it is different. For instance, while sitting in a barber's chair in Binghamton I availed of the opportunity to "pump" the tonsorial artist on the political situation. He was a German, flippant and communicative.

"Do you shave many republicans," I asked.

"Vell, yes, a goot many."

"Any Robinson men among them?"

"You bets; I knows of severals mineself."

"You will vote for Kelly, I presume?"

The artistic razor trembled across my quivering throat. I turned uneasily in the chair and looked up at my Teutonic friend. He was livid with rage.

"What for you means?" he answered excitedly. "Does you take me for a snoozer. Votes mit Hans Kelly? Not mooch. I vould like to see dat feller once. Vat he looks like, hey?"

"Many Germans in Binghamton?" I next queried, hoping to appease the angry barber by varying interrogatories.

"Vell, there are seventy-five at least."

"All republicans?"

"Nearly alls."

"How many do you think of those seventy-five will vote for Robinson?"

"Sigsty, beyond doubts."

This discussion may give some idea of how the German vote of Broome county will be cast.

IN THE HEART OF REPUBLICANISM.

Tioga county may be safely classed for Cornell, unless an unforeseen and unprecedented earthquake should take place before election day. The vote of the last two elections for Governor in this county stood as follows:—

1874.		1876.	
Dix	3,502	Morgan	4,638
Tilden	3,237	Robinson	3,928
Majority for Dix	265	M'j'ty for Morgan	710

Owego is the county seat of Tioga. It is a pretty town, nestling cosily on the banks of the Susquehanna River. Last year the democrats scored a victory on their local ticket by a coalition with the greenbackers, but this year the latter elements has almost entirely disappeared from the surface of politics in this section, and the republicans will undoubtedly recover their usual sway.

A DEMOCRATIC CANDIDATE PROPHESIES.

Mr. D. D. T. Easton is an Owego lawyer and candidate for District Attorney. He is an enthusiast in the support of Governor Robinson, and thinks the democratic State ticket will be elected by a handsome majority.

"I have lived in New York for a number of years," said Mr. Easton, "and practised law in that city when Mr. Kelly was Sheriff. I know the gentleman. He is, I believe, honest, but knows nothing about State politics. I don't think he will get twenty-five votes in this county. I have not yet met a man who said that he would support him."

"There is no organization here in his interest?"

"None at all. I have heard of two gentlemen understood to favor him, Wheeler H. Bristol, formerly State Treasurer, and Abraham H. Miller."

"Have you heard any republicans say they would vote for Robinson?"

"I have; several."

"This is a republican town, is it not?"

"Yes, but we won last year on our combination."

DISAGREEING PARTNERS.

Mr. W. Watson is a son-in-law and law partner of Mr. Easton. He is a republican, and denied emphatically that there was any disaffection in his party that would affect the canvass to any appreciable extent.

A HOTEL KEEPER'S EXPERIENCE.

Seated comfortably in one of his capacious country easy chairs Mr. B. J. Davis, proprietor of the Ahwaga House, at Owego, delivered himself of some political lore on the present exciting canvass:—

"I tell you that Robinson will get a good many republican votes among the farmers of this county."

"Have you been brought much in contact with republican farmers of Tioga within the last week at your hotel?"

"Yes, and in discussing the situation found that many of them were in favor of Governor Robinson's re-election."

"Why?"

"Because they think he has made a good Governor, reduced taxation, which is the main thing with us here, and consequently they do not see the necessity for a change."

"Any Kelly men in this section?"

"Three, I think. That is about the total of the strength of the party in Owego."

THE BLOODY SHIRT—UNBROKEN REPUBLICAN RANKS.

I met three or four republicans here who considered it unadvisable to keep up the "bloody shirt" controversy. They thought the masses of the community were satiated with war issues and it would be much better to let them drop for topics more congenial with popular taste. Mr. Easton also told me that he had talked with several republicans who were of the same opinion. One remarked to him, "I am heartily sick of this continued attempt to keep up sectional issues. It only disturbs the country and keeps the thoughts of our people from more profitable speculations."

Mr. Stewart L. Woodford was here some few days ago and delivered a lengthy speech almost solely devoted to the consideration of national questions as affected by the late war. The speech was a good one, but some of the republicans described by Mr. Easton were not at all satisfied with it in consequence of its "bloody shirt" tone. The republican paper (Owego *Times*) compliments General Woodford handsomely upon his effort. Among other things it says:—"His several visits to the South since the war, during which he has made very frank, direct and noteworthy speeches at colleges, commencements and other public gatherings, and especially his recent attendance at the famous Chisolm murder trial in Mississippi, give peculiar meaning and weight to his thoughtful and earnest words in regard to the issues involved in what is known in national politics as the solid South."

A VETERAN REPUBLICAN EDITOR.

Mr. William Smyth, editor and proprietor of the Owego *Times*, occupied the position of Superintendent of Insurance before John F. Smyth took possession of this important office. He is an enthusiastic republican and an able editor. He denies most emphatically that a break can be found anywhere among the republicans of Tioga county. "I do not know of a single individual among our ranks that has declared his intention to vote for Robinson," he remarked.

"Democrats with whom I talked here express themselves differently. They say there are several."

"Did they mention names?"

"Three or four, but I cannot now recall them."

"If you give me the names I will be ready to answer for the position of these gentlemen, as I know them all pretty well. I have endeavored in my editorial capacity to lay before the people here the issues that came up in what was called the 'extra session of Congress.' I think we all understand the attempts then and previously made by Southern Representatives to accomplish by legislation what they failed to secure on the battle field. They ignominiously failed, and their conduct has only resulted in cementing more firmly the republicans of the country. They might have succeeded had they been patient."

"You think that the 'Southern brigadiers' showed their hands too soon?"

"That is it."

SENATOR WOODIN'S CANVASS.

Under the last apportionment this Senatorial district—the Twenty-sixth, composed of Tioga, Tompkins, Seneca and Cayuga counties—is hopelessly republican. The candidates now before the people of this district for their suffrages are William B. Woodin, of Auburn, not unknown to fame in the days of the "lamented" Tweed, and George W. Schuyler, present auditor of the Canal Department. The charges against Woodin are too recent to need repetition here. The main allegation was made by Tweed that he placed some $40,000 in the hands of an intermediary to be given to Woodin, so as to secure that gentleman's influence for the celebrated New York city charter of 1870. Tweed further narrated several interviews which he had with Woodin on this and kindred subjects. The developments came just before the election of 1877, when the Senator was then again up before the people for their suffrages. He solemnly denied the Tweed impeachment, but withdrew from the Senatorial canvass, Theodore M. Pomeroy being nominated in his place. It is, of course, understood in the district by democrats and republicans that these charges will be now again and again brought forward, but I have not yet met the first man who doubts the Senator's success. It is not for me to discuss the proposition as to the truth or falsity of these charges. It is probable that some spicy developments may be brought out in regard to them before the canvass is many days older which may not sound well in the ears of the party of "high moral ideas." If I am in the district by that time I may find it necessary to again allude to them. One fact is clear, the republican party has had no such talented representative in the State Senate since William B. Woodin retired from public service. It certainly would be a pity if visitors to the new Capitol at Albany did not have an opportunity to hear his masterly eloquence in legislative debate next winter.

The Convention which placed Mr. Woodin in nomination as a representative in the next Senate balloted eighty-six times before it could come to an agreement. Each county had a candidate of its own, and neither would give way. A similar deadlock resulted to that which took place in Senator Halbert's district. On the eighty-seventh ballot, however, this deadlock was broken, Mr. Woodin being nominated.

"Do you notice any particular impediments in the way of Senator Woodin's canvass?" I asked Mr. Smyth.

"None at all. I think he will carry every county except Tompkins. That, you know, is the home of his democratic opponent, Mr. Schuyler."

"The charges will have no effect?"

"There are two sides to that story. An effort was made by certain enemies of Mr. Woodin to break him down, and they entered into a conspiracy for that purpose. They failed, however. When I say that he may not carry Tompkins county I may be mistaken. That, too, you must recollect, is the home of Mr. Cornell. The enthusiasm for the head of the State ticket may also send Mr. Woodin along, so that he can here, too, secure a larger vote than Mr. Schuyler. His majorities in the other three counties are conceded. I know of several prominent democrats in Mr. Woodin's own county—Cayuga—who will vote for him."

"Charles N. Ross and other anti-Tilden democrats I presume you mean."

"Yes."

MORE GRIEVANCES.

Governor Robinson must expect to meet with the bitter animosity of Mr. Wheeler H. Bristol and his particular friends in this county for one particular reason, as explained to me here. Last winter the Board of Audit passed upon a claim of some $60,000 for breach of contract by the State on the Elmira Reformatory Building. Mr. Bristol was understood to be interested in this contract. The item was inserted in the Supply bill, and passed both branches of the Legislature. When the Supply bill came before the Governor he quietly drew his pen across this item and sent it back to the Assembly with a veto. In this action he was supported by an opinion delivered by Attorney General Schoonmaker. The republicans in the lower house fretted and fumed over the action of the Governor, Mr. George B. Sloan making a powerful speech in opposition to the conclusions reached in the veto. But notwithstanding their virtuous indignation the republican phalanx, with ninety-seven solid votes behind them, did not dare pass the Supply bill over the veto with this $60,000 item restored. The claim, be it just or false, it is said will again be brought up next winter, in order, as some republicans say in Owego, to give "Governer" Cornell a chance to examine into the matter.

A CANVASS OF THE RURAL DISTRICTS—THE CURRENT SETTING KELLY-WARD—NO DISAFFECTION AMONG THE REPUBLICAN FARMERS.

GENEVA, Oct. 11, 1879.

An impartial canvass of the rural districts of the State furnishes even more convincing evidence than is supplied by the rebellious cities of the utter demoralization of the democratic party and of the desperate condition of Governor Robinson's prospects. The only manner in which the large and admitted defection in the Robinson vote in New York, Brooklyn, Albany, Troy, Syracuse, Oswego, Rochester and Buffalo could be compensated for would be by a heavy transfer of republicans from Cornell to the democratic candidate in the country towns, smaller cities and villages of the State. The groundwork of the hopes of the Tilden-Robinson party has been an alleged popular enthusiasm in favor of Governor Robinson as an upright and economical executive, whose vetoes have touched the popular heart by reason of their blunt honesty, and we have been led to expect an uprising of the farming population in support of that candidate that would overcome all the efforts of his enemies to compass his defeat. But the fact is that so far from there being any evidence of such a movement in the rural districts, the dissatisfaction with the Syracuse nomination, the desire to overthrow Mr. Tilden now and forever, and the belief that the present trouble in the democratic party is due to his selfish intrigues, spread through all the towns in the State, and will make a steady drainage from the democratic strength in nearly every election district. Here and there a republican may be found who for some reason or another will cast a vote for Governor Robinson, but nowhere is there any indication of an important movement of republicans toward the Syracuse nominee. Some dissatisfied democrats in the country towns will remain away from the polls; others will vote for Cornell, others for Kelly and others again for Lewis if he should remain in the field. It is unquestionably true that there is very little enthusiasm for their own candidate among the republicans, and that considerable apathy has prevailed in many localities, both among the republican leaders and the republican masses. But they nevertheless appreciate the importance of carrying the State in view of next year's Presidential contest, and they will steadily vote their ticket on this account. It is impossible to discover any settled or far-reaching disaffection in the republican ranks, and certainly it could not be thoroughly concealed if it existed. The plain fact is that the republican indifference can be and is being overcome, while the democratic rebellion cannot be suppressed, and the steady drainage from Robinson in the rural districts in this part of the State, at least, seems even more threatening than the bold and open Kelly movements in the cities.

AN ISSUE AGAINST ROBINSON.

A singular element in the election develops itself in Ontario county and the other counties in the Twenty-eighth Senate district. Senator Hammond was elected to the State Senate in 1875 when Ontario was in the Twenty-sixth district. He introduced a bill which placed important safeguards about the management of life insurance companies and materially increased the responsibilities of trustees and managers. The bill was bitterly fought and was defeated after a hard battle. In 1877 Senator Hammond was a candidate for re-election, and it is alleged that certain life insurance companies in New York—prominently one in which Governor Robinson is announced as a manager—sent money to the district and defeated him. The people were very much incensed against the companies for this alleged corrupt interference with their Senatorial election. Mr. Purcell, in his paper, the Rochester *Union*, directly charged the offence on a New York life insurance company and offered to produce evidence to substantiate the charge. In his annual message to the Legislature Governor Robinson alluded to the subject of legislation concerning life insurance companies, and, it is alleged, glanced indirectly at Senator Hammond's bill in the following paragraph:—

"All experience has shown that every legitimate branch of business is most successfully conducted when left to the management of those who understand it, with their hands as free from and untrammelled by legislative interference as practicable. The assumption that intelligent business men do not know enough to manage their own affairs, and that the Legislature should undertake the task for them, is both erroneous and mischievous. Influenced by this idea the Legislature, twenty years ago, established the Insurance Department."

In taking this broad ground that corporations should be left entirely free from legislative interference Governor Robinson offended a great many persons in Senator Hammond's Senatorial district, which is now the Twenty-eighth, and includes Wayne, Ontario, Schuyler and Gates. The sentiment in these counties is strongly against the encroachments and abuses of corporations, and it is said that the incident connected with Senator Hammond's defeat, the association of Governor Robinson with life insurance companies, and above all, the bold stand he took in his message against interference with the acts of these and other corporations, will lose him many votes in the district without reference to the Kelly fight.

VOICES AT THE COUNTY FAIR.

A county fair is an excellent place for ascertaining the political sentiments that are uppermost in the county towns and among the farming population. This has been county fair week at Geneva, and a talk among the solid workers of the soil shows more reliably than the information furnished by political leaders how they stand affected toward the political parties and candidates. As a rule, the republican farmers expressed themselves as very well satisfied with the republican ticket.

"I never heard anything said against Mr. Cornell's integrity," said a well-to-do and intelligent farmer of the town of Phelps, "and I believe he will make quite as honest and careful a Governor as Governor Robinson. The latter has done very well, but he has shown bitter partisanship, and I think he has done wrong in claiming all the credit for reforms secured through the recent constitutional amendments. I prefer a republican government, and at this time, after the disturbing action of the democratic Congress, I think every republican is in duty bound to do all he can to preserve the nation from falling into the hands of the democracy, who will owe their victory, should they win one, to the solid South. I know of no republican farmer in my town who does not think as I do on these matters."

A democratic farmer from Manchester said:—"I shall vote for Lucius Robinson. I voted for him in 1876, and while I don't like the way they acted at Syracuse in forcing this trouble in the party, I don't suppose he was responsible for it. He has made a good Governor, so far as I know, and I shall support him. Some of my neighbors will vote against him, but I don't think they will all go for Mr. Kelly. A few of them will, but I guess some will vote for Cornell, because they understand that the railroad corporations, and especially the New York Central, are opposed to him. I don't know of any republicans in my town who will vote for Governor Robinson. A few talk about not voting at all, but I guess they'll go for their own candidate in the end."

"There is considerable of a Kelly feeling among us," said a resident of Canandaigua, "and I shouldn't wonder if he got a good many votes. The democrats are not satisfied, and some of them may stay at home. The republicans ain't doing much yet, and I don't think they care much about the election. But they generally turn out and vote, and I suppose they'll do so this year. I'm a democrat, but—well, friend, I'll tell you how I voted if you call on me after election."

REPUBLICANS AT GENEVA.

The republicans at Geneva are not as yet very active about the canvass; but Colonel Prince, one of the leading men among them, has only just got home, and, as he says, "there is plenty of time for work." Judge Mason believes that the full republican vote of the county will be out, and Mr. Hemiup, the postmaster, believes good work has already been done through the mails, although it does not appear on the surface. Mr. Z. T. Case was very much dissatisfied with the republican nominations, and at one time it was supposed that he might oppose and vote against Mr. Cornell. But he avows his determination to support his ticket, and declares that he never contemplated voting for Robinson. A well informed and active republican denied positively the existence of any anti-Cornell movement in the Senate district, which he says he has canvassed, and he predicts that Cornell's plurality over Robinson in Ontario county will equal the majority given to Judge Folger. This was 2,200. As Morgan's majority over Robinson in 1876 was only 678 this is probably an over-estimate. It may be safely calculated that Cornell's plurality in the county this year will be 1,500. The republican nominee for the Senate, Mr. Lord, the ex-Assemblyman of Yates county, will strengthen his party in the district.

THE KELLY MOVEMENT.

Although there has been, as yet, no attempt at organizing the Kelly movement in Geneva, it would be incorrect to say that no movement exists. A Kelly feeling shows itself, and if there should be no attempt to draw it out the result would be many democratic absentees from the polls and some democratic votes for Cornell. William W. Wright, the ex-Canal Commissioner; John H. Meahan, Superintendent of Streets; Daniel E. Moore, Canal Collector, and other equally strong and active democrats are openly for Mr. Kelly. The principal Robinson men are lukewarm, and there do not seem to be many really zealous supporters of the Governor in the place. Mr. Parker, editor of the *Gazette*, is doing all in his power for the party, but he has no backing to help him in the work. In fact, Governor Robinson's strength here, as in many other places, appears to be negative, while what Kelly strength there is, be it more or less, is always positive.

Mr. Kelly will have votes in Geneva, where W. W. Wright is influential; in Canandaigua, Phelps, East Bloomfield, Manchester, Farmington, Geneva, Gorham and Seneca, and he will probably, with organization, get 700 votes in the county.

Judge Oliver, the democratic nominee for the Senate, is a popular man, especially in Yates; but he takes no active part in the State canvass, although he, of course, supports Governor Robinson. He is a moderate, conservative man, but the district is too strongly republican to give him a chance of success. A fact that develops itself is that when a Robinson man is nominated in a county he ceases to hurt the Kelly movement in the fear that it may turn and hurt him.

The political centre of Wayne is Lyons; of Ontario, Geneva, and of Gates, Penn Yan. In all these places the strongest and most efficient working democrats declared for Kelly as soon as the Syracuse Convention was over, and while they have been quiet since there is no indication of a change in their sentiments.

In Penn Yan Oliver C. Knapp and Richard H. Mabar, both hotel keepers, and John Lewis, grain dealer, leading democrats, are outspoken Kelly men. All of them have a following in the county. In Lyons there is less of an Irish vote than in Penn Yan, but the Kelly feeling is even stronger. Mr. Knowles, a delegate to the State Convention; Van R. Richmond, ex-State Engineer, and William Ashley, a leading democrat, are Kelly men.

HOW A ROBINSON STATE COMMITTEEMAN WAS ELECTED.

Warden Moses, of the Auburn State Prison, is a member of the Robinson Democratic State Committee for the Twenty-sixth Congressional district, comprising the counties of Seneca, Wayne and Cayuga. These counties have among them five Assembly districts, and the representation in the State Convention being three from each Assembly district there were fifteen votes to elect the member of the State Committee. The delegates held no meeting, but a paper was handed round for them to sign and designate their choice. The candidates were Warden Moses, of Cayuga, and John F. Strain, of Wayne. The six votes from Wayne and one from Seneca were known to be in favor of Strain, and the six votes from Cayuga were favorable to Moses. The other two votes from Seneca were holding off, they having a favorite candidate for the nomination for State Treasurer in the person of Mr. Mercer, of Seneca. When the appointments of State committeemen were examined by the State Convention two papers were found for the Twenty-sixth Congressional district, one electing Mr. Moses by eight votes against seven for Mr. Strain, and the other electing Mr. Strain by nine votes against six for Warden Moses. Then came the explanation. The two Seneca delegates who wanted Mr. Mercer for State Treasurer made affidavit that David Robinson, the Governor's son, had pledged them the nomination of State Treasurer for Mr. Mercer if they would sign the paper voting for Warden Moses as member of the State Committee. They did so on this pledge. When the balloting for State Treasurer took place Mr. Mercer was not nominated. Thereupon, and before the returns had been opened by the State Convention, they withdrew their names from the paper on which they voted for Moses for the State Committee, and signed another paper voting for Mr. Strain and electing him by nine votes against six. To all this the two Seneca delegates made affidavit. But the papers were referred to the State Committee, and at its first meeting in New York it declared Warden Moses elected. This has not created a good feeling among the democrats of Seneca and Wayne.

KELLY'S PROGRESS.

His Speech Last Night to the Democrats of Onondaga.

TILDEN AND ROBINSON'S RECORD.

Arraigned by the Tammany Chieftain as Political Traitors and Tricksters.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Oct. 14, 1879.

We arrived here to-day a little after two o'clock in the afternoon and received a salute of twenty-one guns. A number of people met and greeted Mr. Kelly after he descended to the platform from the cars, and he proceeded straightway to the Vanderbilt House, being the object of popular observation on the way. The meeting of the previous night at Utica was a subject of considerable talk on account of Mayor Buckley presiding. The Mayor had been approached by the Robinson folks and requested to preside at their meeting; but he declined with considerable emphasis, and the owner of the Fayette Opera House, where the Kelly meeting was held, rejected, it is said, an offer of $500 rent from the Robinson people, the Kelly agent having already paid $100.

REPUBLICAN OPINION.

Talking to Governor Alvord ("Old Salt") about the prospects for Kelly, he said:—"I think Kelly is good for 1,500 votes in this county, and if the other towns in the State do as well for him in proportion he will lay out Robinson flat as a flounder."

"That's exactly what you people want, eh?"

"Exactly. We're laying back to see this Kilkenny catfight. It's very amusing."

This really appeared to be the sentiment of the republicans. I met here to-day Mr. Ellis H. Roberts, of Utica. He admits that the meeting of last evening was a great success, and, as he was an opponent of Senator Conkling and no particular friend of Mr. Kelly, his admission of the fact is worth noting.

GOVERNOR ROBINSON'S RECORD.

On the way from Utica Mr. Kelly showed your correspondent the following notes, that were put in his hands the previous evening as he was entering the opera house:—

MY DEAR MR. KELLY—Governor Robinson was a member of the Constitutional Commission appointed by Governor Hoffman, and which met in 1873. In that body he opposed the constitutional provision which prohibits the sale of the Erie and Champlain canals. He was the author of the provision which prohibits any expenditures on the canals in excess of the revenue of the previous year. In case of an extensive break, this will prevent the making of repairs. Governor Robinson was elected Comptroller in November, 1875, and took his seat in the Canal Board January 1, 1876. In the spring of that year he opposed the reduction of the tolls and voted against it. After his election as Governor he used all his influence to prevent the further reduction of tolls. All the measures to relieve the commerce of the canals from taxation which have been carried through during his administration have been opposed by him.

The other note read as follows:—

Political faith is dead in the political priesthood, and the democratic party in this State is asked by the late Syracuse Convention to bow down in a sacrilegious temple before a godless altar.

A CROWDED MEETING.

In the evening a crowded meeting was held at Shakespeare Hall, prominent among those on the stage being John B. Haskin, General Spinola, Wilber M. Brown, Charles Swan, Orlando B. Potter, Felix McCloskey, Maurice F. Holahan, Thomas R. Grady and a number of vice presidents of local reputation. Mr. Brown was made president of the meeting, and Mr. John B. Haskin was introduced as the first speaker. He kept the audience interested and in good humor during the course of his address, which was marked by lively sallies against the Robinson party.

MR. KELLY'S SPEECH.

Loud calls for Kelly caused the Chairman to introduce the Tammany chieftain ahead of his appointed time. After the applause had subsided Mr. Kelly addressed himself to a history of the political antecedents of Tilden and Robinson, and in order to be accurate and avoid misstatements, provided himself with written proofs in support of his assertions. Beginning with the Polk campaign he described Robinson as belonging to the *Evening Post* party, which, while pretending to support Polk, secretly opposed him. This opposition was exposed by the discovery of a secret circular addressed to the friends of Van Buren, and signed by John W. Edmonds, in whose office Tilden read law, advising against voting for any candidates on the Presidential or Congressional tickets who were not members of their own faction. These were the men who soon after obtained for Lucius Robinson the fat office of Master in Chancery. Mr. Kelly quoted from a speech of James T. Brady in 1873, denouncing the faction and the journals which supported it, and also from a letter of Horace Greeley, addressed to Tilden, accusing him of being a consenting party to the election frauds by which Hoffman was elected Governor. When the late fight took place in the Police Board of New York, where MacLean and Morrison sought to capture the democratic inspectors of election under the dictation of Tilden and Robinson, what object could they have had but the same one which Greeley charged Tilden with in 1868?

TILDEN'S PROFESSIONAL CAREER.

Mr. Kelly, quoting from Assembly documents, stated that Mr. Tilden received for January, 1869, $20,000 for services rendered to the Erie Railway, and that he afterward claimed he had received only $10,000. The speaker further referred to Mr. Tilden's condition as counsel for the implicated directors of the Crédit Mobilier, and quoted from the testimony of Oakes Ames, who, in answer to a question from Mr. Hoar, said that they were advised by Tilden, their counsel, that the issuing of stock as payment of the contract for building the road was in entire compliance with law. Reading from a letter addressed to the New York *Times*, Mr. Kelly drew attention to Mr. Tilden's connection with the St. Louis, Alton and Terre Haute Railroad, which paid Tilden $20,000 for his services. The stock and bond holders employed Mr. Whitney to assist them. After years of careful inquiry, which developed additional rascality in the construction of the Belleville branch of this same road, by which the company was defrauded of a considerable sum, Mr. Whitney made his report, and a committee was appointed to bring criminal or civil suits, or both. At this juncture Mr. Tilden came from Albany to New York and held a conference with Mayor Wickham, by which Mr. Whitney was appointed Corporation Counsel, after which he did not deem it advisable to prosecute against his new patrons.

POLITICAL REMINISCENCES.

He referred to the fact that Mr. Tilden was identified with the Albany regency, which ruled the State and appointed all the officers throughout the State with few exceptions for a quarter of a century. But he came too late to enjoy the sunshine of the Van Buren dynasty. Tilden and Robinson pretended to be anti-slavery men, and swore eternal fidelity to the free soil party. Tilden went to the Baltimore Convention, and here Robinson joined the enemies of the democracy. They now claim they did it on principle, and that the Shakespeare Hall Convention of 1879 was a bolt for revenge and not for principle. But Tilden is on record three times in self-contradiction on this subject of slavery. In 1848 he issued a manifesto proclaiming his faith in the imperishable principles of freedom against slavery. In one year he deserted the freesoilers, who denounced him as a double-dyed traitor.

AN ADVOCATE OF SLAVERY.

On October 26, 1860, in a letter to Judge William Kent, he denied that he ever held such principles as an article of his faith, and said his vote and Robinson's vote in 1848 had nothing to do with slavery, and was settled within a year. But during the war the author of the Kent letter, in which Mr. Tilden had directly advised the South to secede, boldly charged the responsibility of the war on the North, and in it he uttered a glowing eulogy on slavery, saying that it had given us Washington, Jefferson, Madison and Jackson, and was, therefore, good enough for him.

THE OTHER SIDE.

During the war this new convert to secession was back again where he was in 1848, and in favor of crushing the rebellion. He went to Washington and hobnobbed with Edwin M. Stanton in the interest of the medicine of the Tildens at New Lebanon, and loved Stanton so much that the burly old War Mividator took carloads of the Tilden medicine for the army, and fat contracts went hand in hand with newly discovered zeal for the safety of the Union, although on October 26, 1860, Tilden had deliberately advised the South to break.

ROBINSON THE FOE OF DEMOCRACY.

Robinson became an open republican in 1856, and a member of the Fremont and Dayton Convention of Syracuse July 24 of that year. The convention met and openly advocated the defeat of Buchanan in the city and State. The speaker then referred to the address of Charles O'Conor before the Historical Society May 8, 1877, declaring that the disgraceful struggle for the Presidential nomination by the petty wrens of faction is the greatest danger to our free institutions. From 1844 to 1856, when he became a republican and remained one till 1874, when he sold out to join his old friend in treason, Tilden, Robinson was a bitter enemy of the democratic party, except for three years, when he was supposed to be in sympathy with it, having been its nominee for Comptroller; so that, with that brief exception, he was a bitter enemy of the democratic party for thirty years.

THE CIPHER DESPATCHES.

Both majority and minority committees in the Congressional investigation of 1878 condemned the cipher despatches, which they traced to Tilden's own house, and denounced them as an infamous outrage, a blot on the American name. The minority committee go further and charge them on Tilden, and, quoting from the committee's language, "sustain the charge."

KELLY AND THE LABORERS' PAY.

After Mr. Kelly delivered what was considered an effective speech, and was listened to with marked attention, Mr. Grady was called for by the audience, and answered the circular which was sent broadcast through the meeting by Mr. William A. Beach, the Robinson representative in this city, charging Mr. Kelly with reducing the workingmen's pay. Mr. Grady read Mr. Wickham's letter exonerating Mr. Kelly from having anything to do with it, and the reading of this letter was received with applause. At the close of Mr. Grady's speech Mr. Holahan was called for by the audience, and delivered a speech which had a considerable effect upon the audience. At the close of the meeting Mr. Kelly was serenaded at the Vanderbilt House, and made a speech appropriate to the occasion.

HARD AT WORK.

THE STATE COMMITTEES ACTIVELY PUSHING THEIR OPERATIONS—NEW DEMOCRATIC HEADQUARTERS—COMMITTEES DELEGATED TO ORGANIZE THE ASSEMBLY DISTRICTS IN THE INTEREST OF GOVERNOR ROBINSON.

The Democratic State Committee's rooms in the St. James Hotel were a scene of activity all through the day and evening of yesterday. An immense amount of correspondence was attended to, and the officials had their hands more than full in receiving delegations who called to request the assignment of speakers to address mass meetings, or in relation to other matters connected with the canvass. Mr. Daniel S. Lamont, secretary of the Executive Committee, said that among the correspondence received was a letter from a trustworthy source which set forth that a column and a half report which had been printed in a New York journal of a pretended Kelly mass meeting which was said to have been held at Cortland on the 1st of October was a pure invention. No such meeting, according to the writer, who is a prominent citizen of Cortland, had been held. The State Committee, Mr. Lamont added, had made investigations and discovered a number of instances where similar misrepresentation as to Mr. Kelly's following had been indulged in. Among the visitors who dropped into the rooms last evening were Senator A. P. Jones, of Greene county; ex-Mayor Richard Vaux, of Philadelphia; Colonel Samuel W. Johnson, of Westchester county; E. W. Chamberlain, of Allegany county; M. M. Harris and John Byrne, of Warren county; ex-Senator Sutherland, Corporation Counsel Whitney, B. S. W. Clark, State Superintendent of Public Works; Richard O'Gorman and hundreds of local democratic politicians.

THE OTHER STATE COMMITTEES.

At the Kelly headquarters, at the St. Nicholas Hotel, the officials in charge were busily engaged during the day and evening in the transaction of routine business. New clubs are reported to have been formed at Stapleton, Staten Island, and Cooperstown. Both have large memberships. A large amount of documents are going out through the State from these headquarters. Among the visitors yesterday were Thomas C. Callicot, Lieutenant Governor Dorsheimer, David Dudley Field and Casper C. Childs, Jr.

The Republican State Committee rooms wore a busy look all through the day and evening. Huge piles of documents prepared for transmission by express occupied the floor of the outer room, and a number of attachés were engaged in labelling them for their respective destinations. Mr. A. B. Cornell, who was as busy as a bee with the details of his canvass, found time late in the day to confer with Postmaster James and General Arthur in regard to the preparations for the mass ratification meeting which is to be held at Cooper Institute to-night. "Zach" Chandler will be among the speakers who will address it. A large number of persons prominent in State and national politics visited the rooms during the evening.

PUSHING THE ROBINSON FIGHT.

The Committee of Two Hundred and Fifty, which is composed of citizens prominent in finance, trade and the professions, which was appointed at the Robinson meeting to assist in the canvass of the regular democratic State ticket, formally took possession of their new headquarters at No. 924 Broadway yesterday. The organization is to be known as the "Robinson Central Campaign Club of the City of New York." The entire building has been leased. On the second floor is the meeting room; over the platform is a large oil painting of Governor Robinson and above the latter is the motto, "The Standard Bearer of Democracy of the State of New York." On the two floors above are committee rooms. A large transparency covers the front of the building. The headquarters will be dedicated this evening by a ratification meeting.

The sub-committee of the Committee of Fifteen, composed of Charles E. Loew, James O'Brien, William H. Wickham, John Fox and Robert B. Nooney, met at the St. James Hotel at four o'clock in the afternoon to hear the reports of the committees appointed to select the names of ten persons in each Assembly district to form the organization throughout the country. The lists of names submitted were accepted with but slight amendment, and the persons selected were directed to perfect the work in hand as rapidly as possible. It is expected that the new organization will be in thorough working order before the close of the week.

ANTI-CORNELL REPUBLICANS.

The Executive Committee of the General Committee of the Independent Republican Association, met last evening at their headquarters, No. 8 Union square. Mr. R. R. Bowker presided and there was a fair attendance. A large transparency covered the front windows of the hall bearing the names of the candidates of the republican State ticket complete. The names of Alonzo B. Cornell and Howard Soule were made prominent by daubs of paint across them, in accordance with the feeling within the hall that they are undeserving of republican support. Mr. F. W. Whitridge, secretary of the committee, reported that 7,000 printed copies of the committee's address, besides other documents, had been mailed to different parts of the State. Letters approving their course in "scratching" the "head and tail" of the ticket had been received from thirty-three counties and reached over a thousand in number. An active organization of republicans who favored the defeat of Mr. Cornell existed in Buffalo, and their votes could be counted by hundreds. A complete organization in Brooklyn gave assurance of thousands of votes against him, and encouraging reports had been received from Rochester, Syracuse, Utica and many other places. Numbers expressed themselves unwilling to publicly declare their convictions, but gave good reason to believe in the existence of a large silent following whose voice would be heard only in the ballot box. Old stalwart republicans, venerable clergymen and men who hate the South and the democracy were among the sympathizers in the movement. "We must have a man at every polling place in this city on November 4 next," he said, "and to do that we need 700 volunteers. We cannot afford to pay them. The democrats would, no doubt, gladly furnish the means, but we cannot accept such aid, and must rely upon men willing to do the work on principle. With proper efforts we will poll at least five thousand votes, and, by arousing the latent disgust that exists for Mr. Cornell, may possibly secure his defeat."

Mr. Alfred Ely next addressed the meeting and said:—"It is a contest against the machine element and for the triumph of principles in politics. Senator Conkling has forgotten the aim of the party and his position in it. Money has come to us from good stalwart republicans to aid in the defeat of a man who is the choice only of a caucus packed and paid for. Our organization has grown so, however, that we need more means to keep pace with it, and, in plain words, you who favor it must put your hands in your pock