

ELKINS GETS A BOON.

The Probable Successor to Secretary Windom.

QUALIFIED IN EVERY WAY.

His Great Influence with the President—The Question is Would he Accept the Position—Other Strong Men Mentioned.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer. WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 3.—Out of the quiet talk which has been indulged in regarding the assignment of Hon. E. L. Elkins, of West Virginia, to the vacant Cabinet portfolio has grown a strong movement in his behalf. The more Elkins is discussed in this connection the more available does he appear. In the first place, what a distinctively western man and sympathy with western men and ideas, he would nevertheless be acceptable to his long and honorable connection with a New Yorker is bound to be bitterly opposed by the silver men and vice versa. Elkins is probably the one man of sufficient ability and prominence who could successfully fill the bill in this particular. Secretary Tracy will not be transgressing his duty if he looks for a man thought likely. Then again the late Secretary had no close business or political friend than Elkins, and the same is true of the President. Elkins would not doubt continue on the lines of the financial policy which Windom so successfully followed, and which was so acceptable to the Administration. The assurance that Elkins would not be an unwelcome addition to the cabinet is further strengthened by a recent article of the Secretary's, in which he has written an exposition of the new Secretary's policy. Business would not suffer in the least. In short, both for personal and public reasons the suggestion is one peculiarly acceptable to the President.

WILL HE ACCEPT?

There is, however, one decided element of uncertainty relative to such appointment, and that is Elkins's own attitude in the premises. The man who is Secretary of the Treasury has no time for anything else. Whatever else he has to do, he must do it. He is not likely to accept in any sense of the word. Can Elkins afford to give his whole time and attention to a government office? Will he do it? These are the questions that puzzle the friends of Elkins. In the meantime Mr. Elkins is taking no part, active or passive, in the situation. He came over from New York to attend to his private affairs, and has absolutely nothing to say.

NO TRANSFER.

There was sufficient interchange of opinion at the Cabinet meeting today to lead to the conclusion that there will be no change in its present organization—no transfer of a Cabinet office to fill the vacancy. Representative McHenry, of Ohio, has been mentioned as a possible successor to the Treasury Department. The question in the public mind is, will he accept? It is not likely that he will. Elkins is the man who will be asked to tender the portfolio, he will. The President would not hawk a Cabinet office on the political market or lead it to give individual capital. Some of the Cleveland colleagues in the House advise him not to accept, arguing that he would acknowledge by an acceptance that he did not believe he could carry this office. Elkins, however, is a man of high character and of a high interpretation of his action would cast a serious damper upon the Republican organization in the State.

MCKINLEY GUM.

Numerous offers were made today to ascertain McKinley's feeling on the question. He said to all inquiries, "It will be time enough to decline or accept when the offer is made." It is believed that the place does not go to McKinley or Elkins. It looks now as though ex-Governor Charles Foster, of Ohio, may get it. The mention of this man's name today is a very favorable omen. He is popular at the White House and he would make a clean, able and popular office man. Congressman Joseph Cannon, of Illinois, is considered by the House members of the House Committee on Appropriations, of which he is chairman. His qualifications for the position are high. He is a member of the Appropriations Committee. He has never occupied an executive office. Hon. John O. New and Hon. James N. Hutton, of Indiana, and Hon. Charles T. Smith, of Kentucky, are also mentioned as possible successors to the Secretary of the Treasury. The House members of the House Committee on Appropriations, of which he is chairman. His qualifications for the position are high. He is a member of the Appropriations Committee. He has never occupied an executive office. Hon. John O. New and Hon. James N. Hutton, of Indiana, and Hon. Charles T. Smith, of Kentucky, are also mentioned as possible successors to the Secretary of the Treasury.

LINCOLN'S CHANCES.

Hon. Robert T. Lincoln, of Illinois, at present Minister to England, is to-night mentioned as a probable successor to Secretary Windom. There are those who believe that a communication on the subject has been sent to Mr. Lincoln in London.

MR. ELKINS CLAIMS.

What a New York Correspondent Says in the Situation—A Strong Man. New York, Feb. 3.—The Evening Telegram's Washington special says: It seems here that Stephen B. Elkins, ex-Secretary, and the boom friend of James G. Blaine, will most likely succeed the late Mr. Windom as Secretary of the Treasury. Mr. Elkins is a member of close friends here who are working up a boom for him, but, of course, no claims of candidates for the position will be formally made before the President until tomorrow. From the fact that an effort has been made by some of Mr. Elkins' friends in his behalf, it is thought that he would be likely to get the place if he wanted it. It is generally conceded that Mr. Elkins has greater claims upon President Harrison than any other living man. It cannot be doubted that but for Mr. Elkins General Harrison would not today be occupying the White House. It is not likely that Mr. Elkins could have turned the Blaine forces over to Harrison at Chicago. Besides, it is known in inside political circles that Mr. Elkins, after a conference with Mr. Blaine's father-in-law, ex-Senator David Cleveland to do a favor for one of the Harrison household which draws the Elkins family to Washington, will firmly together by a cord far stronger than that of mere personal and political friendship.

IN ACCORD WITH THE ADMINISTRATION.

It is well known that it was entirely due to the influence of Mr. Elkins that Mr. Windom was given a place in Harrison's Cabinet. It is believed that although Mr. Elkins is interested in silver mining in the West, his views on the subject of finance are in accord with those of the Administration.

MORRIS-OGDIN CONTEST.

The Case Argued by Counsel for Both Contestants.

THE CASE PRECISELY LIKE

The gubernatorial contest—Weak Evidence for the Democratic Claimant—Mr. Sommerville Compelled to Admit It.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer. CHARLESTON, W. VA., Feb. 3.—The Ogdin-Morris contest case is growing quite interesting, owing to questions involved similar to those in the gubernatorial contest, and that Messrs. Price and Flournoy (Dem.), who were so prominent two years ago in behalf of Fleming, are now engaged in the interest of Senator Ogdin. The further the case progresses the more apparent it is that Morris bases his hopes on the flimsiest technicalities, and that the case is surprisingly weak in point of evidence. Mr. Sommerville seems to know little about it, admitting that the claims cannot be substantiated in regard to the number of contested votes, and seeming quite doubtful about those. When the committee met to-day a short executive session was held, at which Ogdin's motion for a peremptory challenge was refused. Mr. Watts withdrew the doors were opened. Gov. Watts moved to give Ogdin time to take depositions, but Chairman Rankin Wiley ruled it out of order, the time for taking depositions having expired. When the case was argued, Ogdin's counsel, after a short consultation, stated that they desired no delay. Mr. Sommerville was given an hour to open and half an hour to close the case.

THE SILVER POOL.

Owenby Still on the Stand—He is Willing to Give Names, but the Commission Objects.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 3.—James A. Owenby resumed his testimony before the Silver Pool Investigating Commission this morning. The testimony recurred to the conversation with Donald, the Hanover Bank cashier.

Donald, Owenby said, had told him that certain Senators and Representatives were interested in silver transactions. He offered to give the names, but the committee refused to accept his evidence. He insisted on what was said at these conversations being given with names omitted.

Mr. Oates thought that names should be given, and he could not properly give the conversation without names. About seven Congressmen he thought were mentioned. There was no one present at these conversations with Owenby, and the witness' recollection of names was bought at 97 and up to 104. At one time Donald spoke of a sale of silver, but did not state how much silver was sold, or for what purpose, or to whom.

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STRIKE INEVITABLE.

16,000 Coke Workers in the Connellsville Region.

TO QUIT WORK ON TUESDAY.

The Operators Decline to Grant the Advance Demanded—An Unsuccessful Conference—A Long Continued Strike Expected.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Feb. 3.—A strike of the 16,000 coke workers in the Connellsville region on next Tuesday seems inevitable. The conference of operators and workmen to-day was fruitless, and no arrangements were made for another meeting. Both sides are determined. The men insist on an advance of 12 1/2 per cent, and the operators demand a 10 per cent reduction with other restrictions in regard to loading cars. The men offered to work another month at present wages if the operators would arrange a satisfactory scale, but the proposition was rejected. They claim that the depressed condition of the coke and iron trades will justify the wages paid last year, and prior to close the works. The workers are preparing for a long strike. Couper went out to notify all the men in the region of the result of the conference and to order them to quit work on Tuesday, when the present scale expires.

By Mr. Stone, of Wood, House bill No. 213, providing for a renewal of the five-year contract for the school books named in the school law, is to be taken in the present contract price, or two years, if at 25 per cent discount; also proposing to substitute Barnes' instead of Holmes' copy to be used in the schools of the State.

By Mr. Johnston, of Monroe, proposing an amendment to the Code relating to offenses against public policy, preventing railroads from issuing passes to public officers or delegates to conventions.

By Mr. Miller, of Jackson, relative to taxation of costs for witnesses, providing for the same in the case of a clerk, under supervision of the judge, and transmitted to the Auditor. This bill is intended to prevent a recurrence of the case similar to the Clouston case in Wood county.

By Mr. Laird, of Wood, to amend the Act of '82, concerning dissolution of injunctions.

By Hon. Sampson, of Ohio, petitions from the Masons and Bricklayers Union, of Wheeling, praying the passage of the amendment to the mechanics lien law, so as to give protection to laborers.

By Mr. Kerwin, of Putnam, petition of J. A. Lutz and nineteen others, petition of Greenbrier county, asking the passage of House bill 41, amending the usury law; and House bill 153, amending the Sunday law.

House bill No. 81, allowing Shepherdstown to issue new bonds, was passed. Senate bill No. 48, for paving the streets of Huntington, was passed.

Senate bill No. 24, allowing the independent district of Ripley to borrow money, issue bonds and erect a school building, was passed.

House bill No. 30, Mr. Garden's road bill, on its second reading was tabled. House bill No. 31 was ordered to third reading. This bill was introduced by Mr. Simpson, of Ohio, and prevents corporations from obtaining franchises in the next thirty days.

House bill No. 29, the joint committee of the House and Senate has adopted a resolution refusing to recommend any appropriation for the Columbian Exposition, owing to the large debt of the State treasury.

Resolution of the Senate, relative to the removal of the National Academy of Music from New York to Washington, was passed.

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A GIANTIC SCHEME.

All the Coal Business of Chicago to be Handled by a Clearing House.

CHICAGO, Feb. 3.—The coal and railway men are discussing a plan to establish at some point near the city the largest coal yards in the world. The scheme is to purchase 300 acres of land near Chicago, build docks and coal warehouses, construct tracks for all the railroads entering Chicago, and to consolidate the present tracks and elevators into a syndicate to transact the coal trade for Chicago and the West. Several of the gentlemen in the enterprise are from Philadelphia. The projectors believe that the docks and warehouses are built the coal depot connected with all the railroads, every other coal depot in the city will remove to South Chicago. The project is to build a clearing house where each dealer's receipts and shipments are properly entered. The promoters say they will put up such a system of docks, chutes, elevators and tracks as will enable them to load coal on loaded and unloaded at a minimum cost, thus forcing dealers to concentrate there. The capacity of the warehouse will be sufficient to handle a million bushels of coal. No more empty cars will be hauled westward. When a train load of live stock or grain comes into Chicago the plan is to load it on the cars and ship it to the representatives of the Philadelphia end of the syndicate arrived in this city yesterday.

ROBBERY THREE EMPLOYERS.

Three Brothers Systematically Rob Two Wholesale Jewelers.

CHICAGO, Feb. 3.—Three brothers named Engmark, the oldest not yet twenty-three years, have been arrested for systematically robbing two wholesale jewelers. Their plan was very simple. The younger brothers, E. J. and E. C. Engmark, were employed in a diamond store. While E. J. was engaged in his work, E. C. would enter the store and steal goods. The goods were then taken to the market price. The proprietors of the jewelry houses had noticed the disappearance of goods, but were unable to trace them. Suspicion was directed toward the Engmark boys, who were asked the time by his employer, drew from his pocket a new watch. The gentleman noticed a detective who watched the brothers and arrested George as he was leaving the house yesterday to dispose of the accumulations of stolen goods. The other boys were soon in the station. The aggregate of their stealing is thought to be at least \$10,000.

Not an Account of the "Force" Bill. LITTLE ROCK, Ark., Feb. 3.—The joint committee of the House and Senate has adopted a resolution refusing to recommend any appropriation for the Columbian Exposition, owing to the large debt of the State treasury.

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THE CANADA TREATY.

Probably that it will soon be Ratified. The Feeling in Canada.

TORONTO, Ont., Feb. 3.—The Empire, the chief organ of the Dominion Government, announces this morning that the Government is in favor of the ratification of the proposed trade treaty with the United States. The Empire gives the following: "It is understood that the Dominion Government has through Her Majesty's Government, proposed to the United States Government for negotiations looking to the extension of our commerce with that country. These proposals have been presented to the President by his confidential advisers, and the Government is of the opinion that the negotiations are to result in a treaty which will be ratified by Parliament, it is evident that the Government should be able to deal with a Parliament fresh from the people, rather than with a moribund House of Commons and issue writs for a new Parliament."

The nominations will take place on Thursday, February 26, and the polling on Thursday, March 6. As the reasons for the Government's attitude appear to be the country at this time the Empire gives the following: "It is understood that the Dominion Government has through Her Majesty's Government, proposed to the United States Government for negotiations looking to the extension of our commerce with that country. These proposals have been presented to the President by his confidential advisers, and the Government is of the opinion that the negotiations are to result in a treaty which will be ratified by Parliament, it is evident that the Government should be able to deal with a Parliament fresh from the people, rather than with a moribund House of Commons and issue writs for a new Parliament."

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