

IT WAS FARCIICAL.

Investigation of the Legislative Sub-Committee at Grafton

IN BROHARD-DENT CONTEST.

Democratic Members Steal a March on the Republican

BY GETTING IN A DAY'S WORK

Before his Arrival and that of Brohard's Counsel--The Villainy of the Changed Ballots Made Plain--The Measures and the Marking in of Dent's Name Made with an Indelible Pencil When all the Election Booths Were Supplied with pen and Ink--The Predetermined Character of the Inquiry--A Monstrous Fraud Apparent.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer. GRAFTON, Jan. 22--Again the ballots of Taylor county cast at the recent election have been flirited with by Democratic canvassers in order to seat a Democrat in the legislature and secure a Democrat for United States senator, and the second proceeding was as farcical as the first.

H. F. Brohard, Republican, was unseated in the house of delegates by a Democratic majority because his certificate of election was signed by only one member of the county board of canvassers and with all their boldness and unblushing effrontery the Democrats, without some pretext, could hardly seat Dent, his opponent, upon a certificate of the same sort, which was the only kind he had. So to seemingly justify that which they had already predetermined to do, a sub-committee of two Democrats and one Republican was selected from the legislative committee on privileges and elections and sent here to make a pretended investigation as to who was elected, and go back and report in favor of Dent.

In pursuance of this purpose the two Democratic members of the sub-committee, after arranging with the Republican member to leave Charleston Friday morning, hurriedly departed themselves for this place on Thursday, arriving here in company with Messrs. Brannon and Post, counsel for Dent, that night, and by the time the Republican member of the committee, and Mr. McClintock, of Charleston, counsel for Brohard, got here on Friday evening the Democratic members of the committee had completed one day's work and had taken most of the testimony in the absence not only of Brohard and his counsel, but actually in the absence of the only Republican member of the committee.

The Changed Ballots.

About 10 o'clock Friday night the committee began an inspection and recount of the ballots in the precincts where the returns were so startlingly and ridiculously changed by the former recount, and whatever the committee may report to the legislature or that body may do as to seating either Dent or Brohard, one thing is forever and unerringly established by this inspection and that is that the ballots in those precincts were feloniously changed in favor of Dent after they were returned by the election officers. The handwriting in which these fraudulent changes were made is so easily detected in all the five precincts that a novice in penmanship can tell which of the ballots were scratched by the voters and which have been fraudulently changed. So facile was the effort of ability to disguise the handwriting that six men of prominence here, standing by at the time, upon being separately asked by the prosecuting attorney to identify the penmanship and name the perpetrators, all unhesitatingly named the same persons. These ballots will be photographed and a vigorous prosecution of the suspected parties will be begun at the next term of the circuit court, and to that end arrangements have been made to bring an expert here from New York in the next few days to compare specimens of the handwriting of the suspected persons, which are in the possession of the prosecuting attorney, with the handwriting on the fraudulent ballots, and then detail the result of his investigations to the grand jury.

The Accusing Pencil Marks.

The election officers of Knottsville precinct No. 2, commonly called Rosler school house, testified that there were no indelible pencils at their voting place, but that on the contrary the booths were furnished with pen and ink only, that every ballot cast there was marked with ink, and that there was positively not the mark of an indelible pencil upon any ballot counted at their election night. They testified further that there was not a Republican ticket passed through their hands that night that had the name of Brohard scratched off, and no other name written in its place; and, moreover, that Brohard was positively not scratched more than once or twice, if at all, at their precinct. And in corroboration of their testimony the ballots themselves show in every instance that the two tickets not voted each by one voter were marked off by the voter with ink, and all names scratched off on the tickets voted were scratched off with ink, and all names substituted thereon by the voter were written in ink. And yet on these same tickets the name of Brohard appears written upon the Republican ticket over the name of Brohard, erased, both erasures and interlineations being made with an indelible pencil whose bright purple lines stand out like the mark of Cain, in sharp contrast to the Egyptian darkness of the ink which marks the rest of the ticket. And the same hand that wrote the name of Dent upon the Republican tickets over that of Brohard with an indelible pencil at Rosler's wrote it in also at the other four precincts. This is plainly discernible.

A Dead Give Away.

One ballot in particular was shown an election commissioner on the witness stand. It had the Democratic and Prohibition tickets well marked off with the blackest of ink, and on the Republican ticket in the place of the regular Republican candidate for school commissioner the voter had written in with ink the name of J. W. Cowherd. The commissioner testified that he distinctly remembered that ballot because Mr. Cowherd was not a candidate and was not voted for by any other voter, and for that reason that ticket was impressed upon his mind, and the witness was positive beyond all doubt that the substitution of Cowherd's name for school commissioner

and the marking off of the Democratic and Prohibition tickets, all done in black ink, were the only marks that were upon that ticket when the election commissioners counted it, and yet that ticket now has the name of Brohard erased and that of Dent written over it in purple with an indelible pencil, and in handwriting wholly different from that which marked the name of Cowherd upon the same ticket in ink, and the election officers swore that the name of Dent and the erasure of Brohard's name in indelible pencil was not upon that ticket when they inspected it upon the night of the election. The commissioners of election at Grafton precinct No. 1 testified also to the absence of indelible pencils, and the presence of pen and ink only, in the booths at their voting place, and also to the fact that none of the ballots was marked with indelible pencil when they counted them, and to the further fact that Brohard was scratched but little at that precinct.

Near the Crisis.

Many Speculations as to Outcome of the Situation

IN REGARD TO SENATORSHIP.

Interest will be Increased To-day by the Arrival in Charleston of Senator Elkins and Congressmen Dovenor and Dayton--Democrats Have not Ceased to Hope. Although they Concede the Republicans one Majority on Joint Ballot--Democratic Misrepresentation of Hon. N. B. Scott Continues--Sick Members of Legislature Recovering--Result of Sub-Committee's Trip to Grafton in Brohard-Dent Contest.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., Jan. 22--Sunday has been very quiet on the surface, the members of the legislature, as a rule, putting in the time enjoying the remarkably pleasant weather, attending church, etc. The conferences and caucuses of yesterday and last night and to-day preliminary to the contest of the coming week, which is to determine the control of the legislature, and who shall be Senator Faulkner's successor, have been subjects of many speculations, though few of the speculators, if any, knew enough to agree among themselves as to just what was going on. Developments only will tell, and fairy tales that may be sent out to-night are entitled to small credence. What is to occur within a day or two will bring the crisis of events. The investigations pending in connection with the contest for seats and the future action of the two houses thereon will be chief matters of interest aside from the regular work of the legislature. To-morrow will witness the return of the absentees and leaders who are temporarily out of town, and the forces will be lined up for the work of the week which involves grave questions and important results.

Justice Refused.

As a sample of their conduct, counsel for Brohard insisted upon the right to place the ballots that were claimed to have been fraudulently changed into the hands of the election commissioners on the witness stand and let them say whether the ballots had undergone any change since they were counted by them on the night of the election. This was bitterly resisted by counsel for Dent and the objection time and again sustained by the Democratic majority of the committee, until at last an unguarded moment and under strong pressure and heated comment of counsel for Brohard, the committee weakened and permitted it to be done. But no sooner had the committee heard these election officers testify that these changes from Brohard to Dent made with indelible pencil on the Republican tickets had been placed there by some body since they first counted them, and no sooner did they hear these witnesses detail the characteristics of the several tickets that impressed upon their mind and corroborated their statements than the Democratic contingent on the committee sprang to their feet and reversed their ruling and refused to permit any more ballots to be seen by the witnesses, and this excited reversal came when only the fourth ballot had been handed to the witness. Evidently the witnesses evinced entirely too much familiarity with the tickets, and too good a recollection of the amount of scratching done at their respective precincts to suit the purposes of the committee, and hence they throttled all further investigation at that point and hastily adjourned sine die without permitting the introduction of any more evidence. They literally ran away for they suddenly adjourned without notice, at the most interesting stage of the investigation and hurriedly fled from the scene, of their mock indignation the first train, which left within an hour after adjournment.

Important Legislation.

Aside from the party differences and the delicate situation referred to there is a great deal of important matter before the legislature. The number of bills calling for action is so far very large, and now that the committees have been named the work of disposing of them is likely to keep the members very busy, from now on. Few of the measures are of a partisan character, and those that are for the real good of the state are apt to provoke little opposition. Some of the most important recommendations of the governor have received favorable comment. Unless the strained situation should result in an embarrassment which would serve as an obstruction to legislation, a condition which, it is hoped, may not arise, there is ample time for some needed legislation which is embodied in measures already introduced.

Libeling Mr. Scott.

There is some indignation expressed here over the stories that have been published here concerning Mr. Scott's departure after his nomination. A dispatch from here to the state Democratic organ, reflects upon him in a way that was entirely unjustified. It may interest our Wheeling friends to know that the organ's continual harping about a certain petition signed by several hundred workmen testifying to the future senator being a ruthless laborer, never saw daylight here. The parties alleged to having signed the petition in charge duly advised, but they showed it to anybody nobody has any knowledge of the fact. Delegate Connelly put in the best part of three days trying to find it, but it did not turn up. The gentlemen who had it remained two or three days and departed for home.

Sick Legislators.

There are two sick members of the legislature, Delegate Harrison, (Dem.) who had a surgical operation performed upon him a couple of days since, at the hospital here, and Delegate Ansbury, (Rep.) who has been down with the grip. There was some anxiety on both sides as to whether one or both of them would be able to appear when the election for senator is due. If one, which one would it be--the Republican or the Democrat--was the important question. It meant a good deal. To-day, however, it meant a good deal was relieved. The Democrat expects to be able to be to do to-morrow, or next day. The Republican will not fail to be here to-morrow.

What was Expected.

The sub-committee from the house committee on privileges and election returned to Charleston to-night from Grafton, having completed taking evidence in the Brohard-Dent case. They brought with them all the testimony they took in the short time they were there, and the result of their count of the ballots in which Dent's majority was decreased from 57 to 24. The mission was purely formal, and it is not surprising that no Democrat will be sent to Congress on the question of pension, as well on other issues, is likely to secure a large attendance. The local board of this city and the Cincinnati Commercial Club have adopted resolutions in favor of expansion, and it is expected that the course of the National Association of Manufacturers. The opening session will be held on Tuesday morning.

Strike of Dock Laborers.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Jan. 22--The strike of dock laborers is rapidly assuming a serious aspect. A batch of thirty-six Panama dockmen arrived last night, and stones and revolvers were fired at the train as it neared the city. A hundred or more are expected in the course of the next twelve hours, and ship owners are anxiously awaiting their arrival, as business is seriously delayed. Soldiers are guarding the warehouses where the dockmen now on hand are at work, and are preventing communication with the outside.

Wood county in the Kidd-Morris contest will probably report at to-morrow's session and the case will come up for discussion.

A PLEA FOR QUAY

By Governor Stone, who is Confident of his Election in due Time--Anti-Quayites are Just as Sanguine the Other way.

HARRISBURG, Pa., Jan. 22--Governor Stone gave the following signed statement this evening on the senatorial situation: "My opinion has not changed since I expressed the belief, after the action of the caucus making Colonel Quay the nominee of the Republican party for United States senator, that he would be re-elected. His supporters have not had a break in their lines since that time and they have made gains. Pennsylvania is a Republican state, and unless there are some serious reasons why a regularly nominated candidate of the Republican party in the state should not be elected it is usually safe to predict that he will win. More than two-thirds of the Republican members of the general assembly are already publicly committed to him. No one can honestly or fairly question the regularity of the nomination of Senator Quay. The caucus was regularly called and properly conducted. Stalwart Republicans generally throughout the commonwealth have accepted him as the candidate of their party and want to see him elected. The conspiracy case brought against him in the heat of the campaign has been fully ventilated and the political character of the proceedings is thoroughly understood by the people. The argument of Attorney Watson before the supreme court clearly demonstrated that there was nothing in the bills or indictment against Senator Quay or in the testimony showing him to have violated any law. This has been made plain to all, as has the fact that this prosecution was inspired and instituted for the purpose of influencing votes against Senator Quay in his senatorial contest. It is not my purpose or intention to quarrel with any one who is opposed to Senator Quay. That is his right and privilege. But I do say that I believe that way down in the hearts of nearly one-half of a million Republicans of Pennsylvania who voted for me for governor at the last election there exists a feeling of sympathy for Senator Quay in the present contest. He has been a brave soldier in the hour of his country's trials, he has been a gallant and victorious field marshal of the Republican party, not only in local and state campaigns, but in one of the greatest and most bitterly fought national contests ever waged in American politics. To him more than to any one else in the present contest, the Republican national committee did owe the election of General Benjamin Harrison to the presidency. As a member of the United States senate he has watchfully and zealously guarded the great industrial, manufacturing and commercial interests of our commonwealth. His industry was untiring, not only in matters pertaining to the national government, but in the management of his own affairs. He has been a man of high character, and those that are for the real good of the state are apt to provoke little opposition. Some of the most important recommendations of the governor have received favorable comment. Unless the strained situation should result in an embarrassment which would serve as an obstruction to legislation, a condition which, it is hoped, may not arise, there is ample time for some needed legislation which is embodied in measures already introduced.

Deaths at Steubenville.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer. STEUBENVILLE, Ohio, Jan. 22--Sample Jackson was struck by a Pan-Handle train, south of this city, at an early hour this morning, and received injuries from which he died to-day.

Manufacturers Association.

CINCINNATI, Ohio, Jan. 22--The correspondence of Secretary E. P. Wilson of the National Association of Manufacturers, indicates that most of the 1,200 members will be in attendance here this week at their annual convention. The fact that a memorial will be sent to Congress on the question of pension, as well on other issues, is likely to secure a large attendance. The local board of this city and the Cincinnati Commercial Club have adopted resolutions in favor of expansion, and it is expected that the course of the National Association of Manufacturers. The opening session will be held on Tuesday morning.

Forecast of the Week's Work in the Senate and House--Speculation as to Action on the Peace Treaty.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 22--The fact that the anti-scalping bill was made the unfinished business of the senate by the Saturday's vote does not necessarily insure immediate consideration. The general understanding is that this bill will wait upon the peace treaty and the appropriation bill and that the Indian appropriation bill will be the first measure to receive the attention of the senate during the week. The diplomatic and pension appropriation bills also may be considered during the week.

Treaty Talk.

How much time will be given to the treaty in executive session will depend upon whether the committee on foreign relations considers it in the interest of the treaty to press consideration. There is an effort to arrange a compromise which would permit speedy action upon the treaty, but if this is not successful the indications are for considerable delay. Two compromises are suggested. One of these is for a modification of the treaty of the adoption of a resolution declaratory against the permanent holding of the Philippine archipelago, and the other is for a modification of the army reorganization bill on lines decided by the treaty opponents. It is not yet possible to state whether either course will be pursued.

House Forecast.

The time of the house this week, excepting to-morrow, which has been set aside for the consideration of District of Columbia business, will be devoted to the army reorganization bill. The consideration of this bill, which is regarded as pre-eminently the most important general measure, will be completed on Tuesday. The general debate, not including three night sessions, is to continue fifteen hours. This is as far as the agreement goes. It includes no provisions for a final vote. The debate promises to be both interesting and important, as it will raise all the questions involved in increasing our standing army to 100,000 men, as proposed by the bill, together with our

whole future policy relative to the territory acquired in the recent war with Spain.

Trouble Ahead

In Santiago District Over the Government's Orders

ABOUT CUSTOMS RECEIPTS.

An Ugly Feeling Prevailing--Cuban Newspapers Abusing Governor General Brooke--They Intimate that the Only Course Left to the Cubans now is to Retire to the Mountains. Many Murders and Depredations in the Interior--Cubans Refuse to Work for Rations--Their Offensive Attitude.

SANTIAGO DE CUBA, Jan. 22--The order from the United States military authorities in Havana, directing the authorities of the Santiago military department not to expend a cent of the customs receipts without the permission of the governor general, and the order directing that hereafter the bulk of the sanitary work shall be done without money pay, and for rations merely, were given to the local press for publication yesterday, though received here last Thursday.

El Cubano, in commenting upon the instructions of the governor general, says: "The feeling is prevalent that the only course now left open is to retire to the mountains."

ANTI-IMPERIALISTS

Hold a Meeting in New York--Cleveland and Bryan Sent Letters of Sympathy--The Resolutions Passed.

NEW YORK, Jan. 22--A mass meeting of citizens was held in the Academy of Music to-night under the auspices of the Continental League for the purpose of protesting against the policy of "imperialism and entangling alliances with European powers."

The meeting was attended by a great crowd. Long before the doors were opened, three thousand people were clamoring for admission and in a short while the police ordered the doors unlocked because of the crush.

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Furnace Explosions.

LEBANON, Pa., Jan. 22--Three heavy explosions occurred at short intervals at the Bird Coleman furnace plant, at Cornwall, five miles from here, last night. The twin furnaces were much damaged, and the loss was heavy. Of the many hundreds of workmen, none was seriously hurt, although a number suffered slight injuries.

Glassblowers Strike.

MILVILLE, N. J., Jan. 22--An official of the Green Glass Blowers' Association stated to-day that 3,000 non-union South Jersey blowers would strike this week if the firms refused to pay the union wages. Meetings were held in the different towns to-day, and the workers have decided to join the union.

Weather Forecast for To-day.

For West Virginia, Western Pennsylvania and Ohio, threatening weather, with rain on the lakes; brisk southeasterly winds.

Local Temperature.

The temperature Saturday as observed by C. Schumaker at the corner Market and Fourteenth streets, was as follows: 7 a. m. 35; 8 a. m. 35; 9 a. m. 35; 10 a. m. 35; 11 a. m. 35; 12 m. 35; 1 p. m. 35; 2 p. m. 35; 3 p. m. 35; 4 p. m. 35; 5 p. m. 35; 6 p. m. 35; 7 p. m. 35; 8 p. m. 35; 9 p. m. 35; 10 p. m. 35; 11 p. m. 35; 12 m. 35.

DIED.

JOHNSTON--On Monday, January 23, 1899, at 2:30 a. m., MARY EDLETT, wife of W. J. Johnston. Funeral notice hereafter.