

BEECHER VS. BLAINE.

A Caustic Letter from Henry Ward Beecher to Candidate Alger, of Michigan.

James F. Joy's Opinion in 1877 of the Plumed Pirate of the Kennebec.

A Partially Obliterated Tattoo Renewed with Artistic Skill and Vigor.

New York telegram.]

On Sept. 27 the New York *Herald*, in its correspondence from Detroit, attributed to Henry Ward Beecher, referred to the effect that James F. Joy, who placed Mr. Blaine in nomination in 1876, had said to Mr. Beecher that Mr. Blaine, while Speaker of the House of Representatives, had offered to appoint House Railroad Committee which should comprise certain members such as Mr. Joy, and that as he stood in no position or dictate providing for Mr. Joy should take off Mr. Blaine's hands \$25,000 worth of Little Rock Railroad bonds. This story remained uncontested until Sept. 30, when Mr. A. A. Allen of Detroit, cabled to Mr. Joy, London, the following communication: Mr. Beecher, with the request to answer whether or not it was true. To this Mr. Joy replied, on the same date, as follows: "Blaine never made any offer to appoint a committee to suit me, nor did he ever offer or ask for consideration of any kind whatever." Mr. Beecher will have the Associated Press to-morrow a letter which in very plain terms will contradict Mr. Joy's denial of the story of Mr. Blaine's corrupt offer. The letter will contain specific and detail facts. The recent report of Mr. Joy did not mention Mr. Blaine's proposal to him, the same confirming the corrupt animus of the proposal and this Mr. Beecher will deny Mr. Joy or any one else to contradict. Mr. Beecher's letter will give full proof. In his well set in so many words that he had knowledge of the namelessness of Mr. Blaine to occupy a high position of trust is not of recent date, but that he has known it for more than two years. The appearance of the letter is awaited with the greatest interest in the city of Boston and throughout its existence. The following is the text of the statement by Mr. Beecher as given by the *Herald's* Detroit correspondent. It was, he said, while he was a guest in Mr. Joy's house here that he heard of the offer of the committee. There were several gentlemen present. Mr. Joy then said that he knew Mr. Blaine to be a corrupt man, and went on to give his reasons. As well as Mr. Beecher remembered them, they were as follows: "He, Mr. Joy, was in Washington at the time of the Little Rock Railroad bill, and was largely interested in it, and was threatened with hostile legislation by Congress. Mr. Blaine being Speaker of the House. A committee was to be appointed having special reference to this road. Mr. Joy appointed Blaine, in the judgment of the committee, to a certain member. Mr. Blaine gave no answer at the time, but the next day an intimate associate of the Speaker came to Mr. Joy and said that Mr. Blaine had \$25,000 in rail-road bonds given him by Mr. Gould, for which, on what road, and said that if Mr. Joy would take them off his hands he would make up the committee as Mr. Joy wished it made up, at least to the extent of not arousing too direct suspicion. Mr. Joy said he desired the road. The was the Beecher's confirmation of Mr. Joy's statement. It will be observed that in its general details it is practically the statement made in the *Detroit News*. Mr. Beecher added that he used the facts in a public address, and two days after he received a message from Mr. Blaine, asking him to return him (Mr. Blaine) at the Fifth Avenue Hotel. He did so, and Mr. Blaine asked him his authority for the statement. He gave the details of his talk with Mr. Joy, and Mr. Blaine said: "Mr. Joy however told me 'Chicago'." Mr. Beecher then said to him: "What is Chicago?" Why, Mr. Joy however told me 'Chicago'." Mr. Beecher replied with some heat, asking Mr. Blaine if he meant to intimate that he (Beecher) uttered a falsehood in quoting Mr. Joy's statement. "Oh, no," said Mr. Beecher. "Mr. Joy must have been mistaken." Mr. Blaine did not make any further effort to deny the general statement, and Mr. Beecher said to your correspondent that the reply forcibly reminded him of Mr. Blaine's similar testimony in regard to Mulligan.

WHAT BLAINE FAILED TO EXPLAIN.

Mr. Blaine has thus far omitted in his various explanations to give a clear idea as to the meaning of a portion of his letters and memoranda received from Mulligan's custody.

It is shown that for the trouble and skill exercised in negotiating the sale to him of Maine constituents of \$100,000 nominal value of bonds for \$55,000, Mr. Blaine received bonds of no nominal value of \$100,000, worth \$55,000 in cash at that time. According to the agreement this large donation by Mr. Blaine was partly in the nature of a commission on the sale, and "for other valuable considerations."

Mr. Blaine has not been compelled to explain what these other valuable considerations were. They must have been very valuable to have swelled the aggregate compensation to \$55,000, or about 45 per cent, upon a sale which amount, as far as ascertained, was \$14,836, of which George Blase received \$57,732.

A review of Merrick's testimony in explanation of the failure of the Government to secure conviction in two star-route trials is given, but the report of the committee had not time to detail the investigation with reference to the attempt to bribe jurors.

In reference to contractors not indicted the report says: "From a tabular statement from the office of the Second Assistant Postmaster General it appears that the amount paid could be recovered from Salvatore P. Parker, estimated at \$564,403. While the record of evidence in the Postoffice Department at the beginning of the investigation by the department was that of the Northern Pacific and the other, yet evidence subsequently produced through special agents sent out for the purpose showed that the operations of these parties as contractors were glaringly fraudulent, and that they should have been indicted and convicted, and prosecuted as such." It is shown that the amount of large sums illegally obtained from the Government Some mysterious and powerful influence must have operated to secure their immunity.

The next subject considered is relative to the failure to indict ex-Gov. Kellogg, and the report says: "Gen. Blase, in opposition to the following special indictment, and upon this point continues as follows: "There is a wide variety between Bliss and members of the Grand Jury as to the efforts made by Bliss to secure an indictment against Kellogg. The grand jury of the Grand Jury, Mr. J. M. Messers, Willard, Edmonson, Stewart and Truesdell appeared before the committee and each corroborating the other, stated substantially that Bliss, after the evidence of Walsh had come before the Grand Jury, stated that James B. Price was examined in the city in the following day and would appear before the jury as a witness for the Government in that case, and secure an adjournment of one day on that account. This is the reason that Gen. Blase, on Saturday morning, Price would appear as a witness, in maturing that Price's testimony was necessary to make out the Government's case. On Saturday, when the jury met, Bliss announced the failure of Price to appear, and was compelled to submit his evidence to the jury, and the jury, after it had voted not to present the indictment, Bliss stated that he did not promise Price's attendance, but might have said to the jury that the case would be stronger when tried before a petit jury, for then he would be compelled to swear that he was under an obligation to present his evidence, and that he would be compelled to close up the transaction without the use of his name, except to Mr. Caldwell, with whom he appears to have had confidential arrangements. It is useless to conceal the fact that the documents which he produced in this case, not a few, deny that the same were to receive this lot of stock in consideration for the aid he had rendered the Northern Pacific Company in securing additional legislation, and that he did not dare to take or hold in his hands any stock or property, as he had received the ownership of the stock, and (6) that he was anxious to make the sale, since he pressed the transaction in advance of the public service, the special advantages of the transaction—getting nearly \$500,000 of stock and 275,000 acres of land for \$25,000—and spoke of this as being much more than he deserved. 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