

BITTER FIGHT IN BALTIMORE.

Republicans Likely to Gain Control of the City Because of Democratic Dissension.

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BALTIMORE, Feb. 21.—Republicans are likely to regain control of Baltimore in the coming city election, as a result of the bitter fight between the Democratic City Hall machine, of which Mayor Hayes is the boss, and the State and city regular Democratic machines, headed by Senator Gorman and "Free" Rasin. It involves the expenditure for sewers and others works of the \$9,000,000 received by the city from the Goulds for the Western Maryland Railroad

Mayor Hayes's speech in New York Friday night at the Maryland Society's banquet has widened the breach. The organization leaders and workers are much incensed over his declaration that the Democratic bosses must take him or nobody, and that he will be the next Mayor of Baltimore.

Every day the Hayes machine is becoming bolder. "He may force his nomination," said a leading Democratic manager to-day. "but if he does a Republican will be the next Mayor of Baltimore." The regular machine managers have so far been unable to find a candidate for the Mayoralty nomination who will oppose the Hayes machine excepting Gen. Ferdinand C. Latrobe, the seven-term Democratic Mayor. The Gorman managers do not believe that Gen. Latrobe would make a strong enough candidate.

Mayor Hayes's body of office holders and followers has been aiding him to build up a machine the strength of which now surprises the regular party leaders. Mayor Hayes is also indorsed by certain owners of real estate who want taxes kept down at the expense of public improvements.

Many business men of both parties, however, condemn the Hayes administration. To make a record for economy, they say the Mayor has kept down taxes, but the city has stood still for four years so far as improvements are concerned. The schools are overcrowded, new buildings are absolutely necessary, and the streets need paving. The Mayor has opposed all such improvements, his hobby being a gigantic sewerage scheme.

The so-called independents or anti-Gorman element are helping Mr. Hayes, but in reality are in sympathy with the Republicans. Unless the regular Democratic organization solidly supports Mr. Hayes his defeat seems inevitable. The Republicans are delighted over the situation, although they are also having a fight in their own ranks for the Mayoralty nomination. Congressman Wachter is a candidate opposed to the organization.