

Reported it without amendment;

The bill was then read the second time and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Mr. Mackall, from the Select Committee submitted the following report :

The Select Committee, to which was referred the investigation of certain charges against Lieutenant Governor Cox, to wit: 1st. That he had entered into a corrupt arrangement with certain parties, in the event of his accession to the Gubernatorial office, to hand the affairs of the State over to the direction and control of the Radical party, (so called.) And 2d. That he had also corruptly bargained, in the event of his becoming Governor, to substitute Mr. Creswell, now of the United States Senate, in the place of Mr. Swann, should he (Mr. Swann) be rejected by that body, beg leave to report that they have investigated this subject as fully as the circumstances by which they are surrounded would permit, and have failed to elicit any tittle of evidence to sustain such a charge. In an interview which your committee held with the chief Executive officer of the State, that officer distinctly disclaimed having based his recent action upon any supposed credibility of these injurious charges, but asserted on the contrary that his course had been dictated by high motives of State policy. Your committee have endeavored in vain to find any one who would venture to assume the responsibility of any of the slanderous insinuations above referred to. The origin of these slanders may possibly find their solution in this way: The unexpected declination by Gov. Swann of a high and coveted honor, to which his friends had considered him entitled, and for which they had contended with energy and determination, occasioned a bewildering surprise throughout the State; conjecture was rife, a thousand reasons were assigned, and many who did not, and could not possibly know anything whatever about the matter, spoke as knowingly as if they were the chosen confidants of His Excellency.

Newspaper correspondents eagerly gathered up these unfounded rumors and gave them publicity, and thus a gentleman, whose high character and integrity had never before been assailed, was arraigned at the bar of public opinion upon charges of the gravest character.

The only person whose testimony is of any value, exonerates Lieut. Gov. Cox, and declares his disbelief in these injurious rumors; and that his course in declining the United States Senatorship was decided by considerations wholly unconnected with the Lieutenant Governor. Your committee, therefore, beg to be discharged from the further consideration of the subject.

R. MACKALL,
Chairman Committee.

Which was read and unanimously adopted.