THE AMERICAN IRON AND STEEL ASSOCIATION,

NO. 261 SOUTH FOURTH STREET,

JOSEPH WHARTON, PRESIDENT.
WILLIAM METCALF, VICE PRESIDENT.
JAMES M. SWANK, GENERAL MANAGER.
ANDREW WHEELER, JR., TREASURER.
DAVID REEVES, AUDITOR.

Philadelphia, April 8, 1908.

Miss Ida M. Tarbell,

C/o The American Magazine, 341 Fifth Ave., New York.

Dear Miss Tarbell:

I have your letter of April 7. I can not give you any information about the contributions of iron and steel manufacturers to the Republican National Committee in any year. Like other manufacturers they have generally been liberal contributors to campaign funds in Presidential years, but their contributions never went through this office. I know it to be a fact, however, that Mr. Jones was sadly handicapped in 1884 by the want of funds, when Blaine was defeated, and I also know it to be a fact that in 1888 contributions were much more liberal than they had been in 1884. Mr. Jones and another member of his committee were compelled to draw largely upon their own bank accounts at the close of 1884 to make up a deficit, but the exact amount contributed by each I do not know.

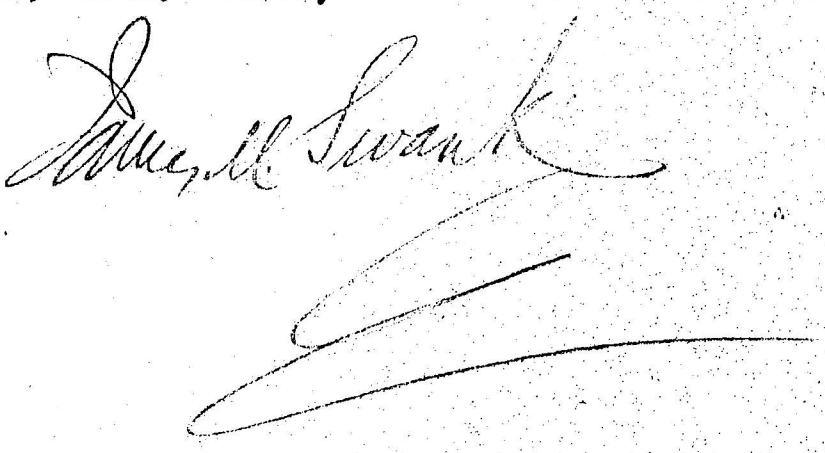
When Harrison was nominated in 1888 there was a general demand from leading Republicans that a practical politician who was also gifted with executive ability should take charge of the campaign and I may also add that many manufacturers joined in the demand because of Cleveland's tariff record. Quay was a member of the National Committee for Pennsylvania. In a long communication to President Harrison I told him that Quay was the proper man to take charge of the campaign and I assured him that if selected he would have the

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confidence of our iron and steel manufacturers. Quay was selected and elected Harrison after a hard fight. Only Quay could have won that battle. Inclosed I send you my tribute to Quay's work in behalf of Protection, written after his death. I know nothing about Mr. Wanamaker's contribution in 1888. He was active in the collection of funds in many States in the campaign of 1888. I can say, however, with much positiveness that a far larger sum was collected in 1896 to elect McKinley than was collected in 1888 to elect Harrison. Not only were manufacturers called upon in 1896 for large contributions, but the financial institutions of the country were also liberal contributors.

Would you like to print a list of contributions by New York importers, amounting to a very large sum in the aggregate, to carry the Congressional campaign for the Democrats in 1870? I could send you a list of the contributors. General Schenck, the Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, and other leading Protectionist members of the House were defeated in that year by the liberal use of money. With best wishes,

Very Truly Yours,



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