

his matchless organization of power at Washington.

Aldrich and Hale are gone, Gallinger is sick and powerless, several republican representatives are unhorsed, and democrats with free trade proclivities are in their seats. The New England influence, the especial guardianship of New England's industries, is in danger. Massachusetts fears to wreck it altogether by turning Henry Cabot Lodge out of the senate.

Strong personal opponents of Lodge in the legislature will vote for him for senator for this reason.

And now let me bring into view the most powerful of all the influences that are working for Lodge, and against Foss, in this fight. It is the influence of Winthrop Murray Crane, junior senator from Massachusetts.

Crane is a business man who has proved himself to be one of the best politicians in the country. He is keen, clever, watchful, far-seeing, cool, personally likeable, sagacious and a wonderful manipulator of legislative bodies. Men, from the White House down to the ward caucus, listen to what he says to them, and invariably reach the conclusion that his information is accurate and his advice good.

His power is recognized wherever he has appeared. The moment he came to the Hotel Touraine, where Senator Lodge has his headquarters in a couple of plain bedrooms, and entered into close and friendly conference with Lodge, the latter's campaign instantly took on a new look.

Winthrop Murray Crane will be the most powerful republican senator as soon as Nelson W. Aldrich steps out. He is the legitimate successor of that brainy statesman. Unless the insurgent senators are able to take over the republican organization, Crane will hold the reins of the party's influence in his grasp.

It would be as useless to deny his paramount influence in the republican party in this state as it would be to deny the force of gravitation.

Why does Senator Crane come to the active support of Senator Lodge? For excellent reasons. There is a legitimate and natural partnership between the two men. They fit into each other. Crane is not an orator. Lodge is. He is not a scholar. Lodge is. Nor an aristocrat. Lodge is. He has a persuasive, ingratiating manner with people. Lodge has not. Each man needs the other. They will work together.

But by reason of his dependence on Crane in this crisis of his, Senator Lodge has today seen the supreme power in the state pass from his hands into those of Senator Crane.

Crane is the master in Massachusetts today and henceforth. He will save Lodge, and by that token Lodge will pass under his shadow.

For it does not look to me today as if anybody could beat Lodge. Every formidable republican has been eliminated by Senator Crane's influence. Bates and Guild have stepped aside. Congressman Samuel W. McCall, whose lightning rod was up in secret, and whose cue was to lie still until there had been a failure to elect Lodge, and then come in as the savior of the situation, has had an unwelcome dose of publicity and probably will be persuaded out of the race.

Butler Ames, the ineffective, rather ridiculous grandson of General Benjamin F. Butler, has just two firm supporters in the legislature from his own city of Lowell. All that he could hope to do is to get a small vote, yet large enough to defeat Lodge's prompt election. Nobody really wants him for senator. His negative influence will probably be overcome.

As for the democrats, they are

not agreed, and they have no strong man. Their best man is Gaston, but the influence of Mayor Fitzgerald of Boston is against him. The candidates of the Irish-American democrats—O'Connell, Lomasney and Vahey—are not personally strong, and are too numerous.

And there are Lodge democrats. Some of them are bold enough to say that they will openly vote for Lodge the moment they see his election in danger.

Taking one fact with another, it looks as if Senator Lodge would pull through all right, and as if the partnership of Lodge and Crane, reorganized as Crane and Lodge, would continue to do business successfully at the old stand in Washington.

NO RISK

"Susannah," asked the preacher, when it came her turn to answer the usual question in such cases, "do you take this man to be your wedded husband, for better or for worse?"

"Jes' as he is, pahson," she interrupted, "jes' as he is. Ef he gits any bettah Ah'll know de good Lawd's gwine to take 'im; an' ef he gets any wusser, w'y, A'll tend to 'im myself."—Youth's Companion.

THE SAFEST ANSWER

A mother of four daughters, one of whom had recently married, cornered an eligible young man in the drawing room. "And which of my girls do you most admire, might I ask?" "The married one," was the prompt reply.—London Daily News.

A GOURD MUSEUM

Crawfordsville, Ind., has a distinction in the form of a gourd museum. —Commodore Alf Lookabill of that city, has been gathering gourds for some years and he has a collection of nearly fifteen thousand samples, of every kind and from everywhere. One variety is used for a sugar bowl, another is shaped like a violin, and many suggest the figures of birds. Mr. Lookabill has carried out the suggestion in many cases and used the gourds to fashion birds, animals and other things. No description can do full justice to Mr. Lookabill's unique exhibit, but the following from the Crawfordsville Journal will give some idea of it:

"In the history of the city of Crawfordsville many things have combined to spread its name to the four corners of the world, such as the work of our college, our schools, our statesmen and our authors. Recently there has been established in our midst an institution so distinct and unique that it necessarily will prove a recognized factor in adding to the fame of Crawfordsville. We refer to the gourd museum of Commodore Alf. Lookabill on the west side.

"During the past week a representative of the Journal enjoyed the pleasure of a visit to this museum. It is not a collection, but a production, the result of the patient work of one man covering a period of nearly ten years. Mr. Lookabill has more than ten thousand gourds, every one of which he raised himself. He has gathered seeds from nearly every country in the world. These gourds are displayed not only in their countless natural forms, but from gourds Mr. Lookabill has constructed life size human beings, animals, birds, clocks, musical instruments and numerous other novelties. Any attempt to describe the contents of the museum would do it injustice. Its merit and interest can not be adequately set forth in words. In description the most natural thing is to resort to comparison, but here we have the work of a man

who has combined art and nature to produce something for which there exists no standard by which to make comparison, for naturalists who claim to be historians and travelers who have visited the world's greatest museums admit that no such display of gourds exists elsewhere in the whole world.

"Curio seekers from some of the

large cities have sought to purchase Mr. Lookabill's museum, but so far he has resisted their tempting offers. The removal of this museum from our city would be a loss of something which ultimately will make a recognized contribution to the fame of the city, and if such a thing should occur anyone who has failed to see it would be a loser."



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Dr. I. K. Funk, of Funk & Wagnalls Company, publishers of the Literary Digest says: "Charming, 'helpful,' 'exceedingly suggestive,' are some of the adjectives which I have jotted down on the margin of 'Bishop Sunbeams,' while reading it. The whole is a dynamo of sunshine and love. Sunshine, good nature and love have wonderful power. The world is raised on the wings of hope and love—but is seldom driven upwards. The whole book is an inspiration of loving service. It is a contribution which I am sure the world will not let die."

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