



JOURNAL'S VIGILANCE COMMITTEE WARNS THE RAMAPO RING IN A MIGHTY PROTEST!

- 1. The Journal's Vigilance Committee Will at Its Own Expense Employ Counsel to Aid the Mazet Committee in Probing the Ramapo Steal.
2. The Journal's Counsel, Headed by David B. Hill, Presents an Array of Irrefutable Proof Against the Ramapo Charter at Albany.

- 3. A Great Mass Meeting, Called by the Journal Vigilance Committee, Declares Against the Ramapo \$200,000,000 Grab.
4. The Board of Public Improvements Declare Absolutely for Municipal Ownership and Against the Ramapo Steal.



MR. COLER SAYS NEW YORK HAS MONEY ENOUGH FOR WATER AND FOR RAPID TRANSIT, TOO.

Tremendous Outpouring of Indignant Citizens at the Cooper Union Meeting.

By Langdon Smith.

AT Cooper Union last night ten thousand citizens assembled in mass meeting at the Journal's call to protest against the Ramapo Water Company, which is attempting by means of a paper corporation to loot the city treasury.

The meeting was a grand and fitting climax to a day big with fate for the ring, which looks upon the city as the buccaners of old looked upon a galleon.

It was a demonstration that showed how really and profoundly the people have been stirred. It was an exhibition of resolute fire-eyed defiance on the part of honesty against corruption.

Outside the building an hour before the time named for the meeting bombs were roaring a protest, red fire was glaring angrily and the tread of the oncoming crowd sounded like the tramp of a commune.

It was not a crowd drawn by idle curiosity. On every hand, as the people swarmed and poured under the cryptic pillars, the talk was of the gigantic attempt at theft—a theft sufficient to buy Wall Street from Trinity Church to the river.

There was no division of principles or beliefs. The vast sea of faces expressed but one thing—a resolution to fight the Ramapo robbers to the death.

Not once did politics lift its head. The meeting represented no party, but that of the people, no creed save that of honesty. There were Republicans and Democrats, Tammany men and Plattites, all united in a common cause. They looked upon it as a last resource this side of the ballot box.

The police had their hands full. They stormed and fumed and tried to be good natured under difficulties. Women stood in the aisles. Men crushed together like prawns in a trawl stood in a black border

WHEREAS, the city of New York is threatened by a conspiracy to take from the public treasury \$200,000,000 in annual instalments of \$5,000,000 for forty years; and

WHEREAS, the attempt of the Ramapo Water Company, by the aid of politicians of both parties, to induce the city of New York to make an improvident contract, paying to it this vast sum, is a grave public menace that calls for instant and emphatic public action; and

WHEREAS, the principle of the municipal ownership of water plants is the only one that should be recognized by an enlightened people,

RESOLVED, that this mass meeting, called by the Vigilance Committee, condemns the attempt of the Ramapo Water Company to foist its services on the city of New York.

RESOLVED, that this meeting calls upon the Mayor of New York, the Board of Public Improvements and all other city authorities to do their duty and repudiate and defeat the Ramapo Company in its attempt to obtain possession of the city water supply.

RESOLVED, that this meeting heartily approves of the public-spirited stand taken by Comptroller Coler, Commissioner John L. Shea, H. S. Kearney, Francis M. Gibson, Frederick Bowie and George Cromwell to guard the city against the Ramapo raid; and,

RESOLVED, that the Vigilance Committee which called this meeting be continued and requested, in co-operation with its counsel, David B. Hill, to secure the annulment of the charter of the Ramapo Company and take every legal step possible to protect the interests of the city of New York in the matter of the proposed Ramapo water contracts.

RESOLVED, that the energetic and patriotic position taken by the newspapers of New York meets with our hearty approval.

—Resolutions adopted at the Cooper Union Mass Meeting last night.

Steps Taken to Kill One Steal and to Make Others of Its Kind an Impossibility.

around the great amphitheatre, every seat of which had an occupant. At 8 o'clock the police checked the crowd and began to turn them back. The result was an overflow meeting on the outside.

Pretty soon both meetings were in full blast. Both outside and within the applause came in quick, sharp bursts. There arose strange cries and indignant exclamations. A sort of madness fell upon the thousands and the speakers were constantly interrupted.

"Why does the Ramapo Company want to do this thing?" asked Simon Sterne. "Why do they expect \$200,000,000 for nothing?"

"Because they need the money," came in a clarion voice from the heart of the crowd.

"They want to buy fast horses!" yelled somebody else.

"This is a vulgar mob," sneered a white-faced man near the door. "There have never been good times since laboring men began to speculate upon their condition and to interfere in matters which do not concern them."

"You come outside, and I'll speculate my fist on the end of your nose!" exclaimed a hard-fisted man standing near.

One by one the speakers wielded their sledge hammers of rhetoric and of argument against the ring of water thieves. Thus in the presence of a great gathering of the people they had outraged they were ridden by ridicule, moderated by nose rings, halters, foot shackles and all the modifications of legal rope calculated to balk them.

On the platform Lawyer Moss, of the Mazet committee, listened and smiled and dreamed strange dreams of what was going to happen when these men should be examined.

Simon Sterne, who acted as chairman of the meeting, made a strong and forcible argument against the attempted raid of the Ramapo Company. He was frequently interrupted with cheers and hand-clapping. The fact that the applause was sometimes in the wrong place