



ABRAM COLE,  
Supervisor for Westfield.

ABRAM COLE comes of a long line of Staten Island ancestors, his great-great-grandfather, Isaac Cole, having been one of the early settlers on the Island and the owner of a large tract of land at Prince's Bay. Mr. Cole was born in 1856 and is the fourth generation of his family bearing the name of Abram, and is the manager of the large lumber and coal business, established by his father in 1857, near Tottenville, at what is known as Weir's Mills.

At the death of Mr. Cole's father which occurred in September 1876, the business descended to his sons and is now carried on under the firm name of Cole Bros., the members of which, beside Mr. Cole, are his brothers, Jacob W. and James T.

Mr. Cole was educated in the public school of Tottenville, after which he took a course of study at the Polytechnic Institute in Brooklyn. He has always been an active Republican, and, although never courting office, has been, by the urgency of his party, kept almost continuously in office for the past nine years, having been three times elected to the office of town clerk and for six successive years elected to the office of supervisor, which office he still holds, of a town almost uniformly polling a Democratic vote at state elections.

When Mr. Cole began his first term as supervisor he was the youngest supervisor who ever represented his town, and he has held the office for more consecutive years than any other man during the present generation. He is now, next to Supervisor Marsh, the senior member of the board, in length of service. From the fact that ever since Mr. Cole has been in the board of supervisors he has been the only Republican in the board he has acquired the title of the "lone star."

Mr. Cole's strength lies not so much in his politics as in the fact that he always brings to bear on questions of public policy the same sound principles that he applies to his own business.

Mr. Cole has often been earnestly urged by his party to accept the nomination for the more important county offices and for member of assembly, believing that his popularity and well-known ability and integrity would enable the party to overcome the large Democratic majority, but he has uniformly refused the most tempting offers.

Mr. Cole was married in 1880 to Blanche, only daughter of Capt. Abel Martin, of Tottenville, by whom he has two sons, Ralph M., aged 10 years, and Chester A., aged 12 years.