crowd at the corner. The colored crowd stood their ground and threw back a good deal of the pile of bricks previously referred to; about ten or fifteen minutes; during this time I saw several negroes with pistols firing in the direction of Canal street. About this time I saw two negroes fall on the opposite banquette, apparently shot. The colored crowd gave way and retreated towards the Institute building. The crowd from Canal street then entered Dryades street and advanced towards the Institute, and came up in front of the Institute. The colored crowd by this time had disappeared from the street immediately in front of my office. On the crowd from Canal street coming up in front of the Institute, I noticed a large body of policemen in advance, accompanied by a large body of persons dressed in citizens clothes. I heard shots as from within the building (though I did not see any person fire them,) and saw the policemen firing up towards the openings in the front of the building, from whence, apparently, the shots came. I also heard shots coming as from within the building on the side nearest to Canal street; shortly afterwards the front fence of the vacant lot towards Canal street from the building was broken down and the police entered; the firing, apparently between the crowd inside and the police and crowd outside continued. I should think, as much as a half hour. About this time, considering my position as unsafe one, from the enfilading fire of both sides, I concluded the best course to be to make my escape from the building, which I did by jumping out of the window and was not molested. I made my exit from the street by the way of Common street, and saw nothing more of the riot of material consequence. Mr. Shaw, a member of the convention, also came into my office during the morning. I made about the same results I did to Judge Howell, deprecating the assembling of the negroes. He did not seem to take it as seriously as Judge Howell did. I asked him if he knew what was to be done. He said he expected that the members meeting in convention would be arrested, probably the day after their meeting; would go to jail and be discharged in three hours on habeas corpus, thus getting the benefit of the President's dispatch that the military should not obstruct but sustain the courts. My attention was called by Mr. Oscar Pontcelin, a clerk in the office, who was standing at the slat door entering into the vestibule of the hall, looking through the slats. On coming up to see what he wanted, he asked me if I knew the name of the white man standing in the vestibule and speaking to some six or eight negroes, standing around about him. The person he pointed out to me, I recognized as Oscar Pernet, a member of the convention, who appeared to be greatly excited, but speaking in French, I could not understand what he said. It was translated by Mr. Pontcellin, who said it was a shame for a man to use such language. He translated him to be saying; "Don't you strike until they commence it, but then kill every damned rascal or scoundrel," or words to that effect, "that you see with a rebel face." The persons in the office during the affray were Judge Howell, Shaw, Pierre Sauvé, T. M. Wells, and Noble, (reporter,) Pontcellin, Jules Lefilane, (St. Tammany,) Trinchard, R. R. Dauney, as far as I remember.

R. F. Dauney returned to my office on Wednesday, and, looking round about the office, he pulled out a large pistol from under an armoir, saying it was his pistol, and that he had hid it there during the riot on Monday. He also looked about for a sword, for which he did not find, saying he had left it there; also; it belonged to some other person. At first, the officer in command would not let him take the pistol; he, however, afterwards obtained an order for it, and took it. When I came out, the police in front of the building seemed orderly, and I saw nothing indicative of any high degree of excitement among them. There was still some firing going on from the windows on the side of the building, and the police on that side.

(Signed) N. C. SNETHEN.

CHARLES H. NOBLE SWORN.

Resides in New Orleans, No. 6 Old Magazine street—merchant. On the 30th of July, 1866, I went into the hall of the House of Representatives, in Mechanics' Institute, about 12:30 p. m. I left there about the time the band of music with a colored procession, arrived. While in the hall, I heard a shot in the direction of Canal street. After I came out, I went to a coffeehouse, corner of Canal and Burgundy streets, and there I heard a shot and saw the smoke over on Dryades street. At the time I saw men throwing bricks towards the police, and from up Dryades street. Firing soon became general from both sides—that is, from the negroes in the direction of the hall, and from the police and some white citizens co-operating with them. I saw a white flag hung out of the window of the Institute; the police then entered the building. I heard heavy firing in the building immediately afterwards, and the police came rushing out with several of their number wounded. The firing was then continued from the building and from the streets. I noticed, co-operating with the police very actively, a United States officer. When I was in the hall, I noticed a large number of colored men—some two or three hundred in the hall—most of whom had large sticks and canes in their hands.

I remained in the neighborhood until everything was quiet—which was some time before the arrival of the military.

I saw the police commit no excess; noticed them protecting their prisoners from excited persons; away from the immediate scene of the riot, I saw no attacks made by the white citizens or police on colored persons, although I saw large numbers of them (colored people) walking through the streets.

(Signed) C. H. NOBLE.

JOHN G. SHIRLEY SWORN.

Resides in New Orleans, corner of Elysian Fields and Girod streets. I am engaged now in the grocery business. I was in the United States army for three years and a-half; was mustered out last January. On Monday, the 30th of July, 1866, I passed the Mechanics' Institute about 12; a little before there was a large crowd of negroes in front of the hall in the street and on the sidewalk. Some gentleman (white man) was addressing the negroes, and from what I could understand he was advising them to go home, that all would be quiet. Came on down towards Canal street; crossed Canal and stood on the corner of Burgundy; there was a crowd of white men on the two corners of Burgundy; they were quiet and peaceable. In a few minutes a procession of negroes, with music and a flag, came up Burgundy; about two-thirds of them carried canes, or heavy walking-sticks or clubs. When the head of the procession came up the men standing in the street stepped back on the sidewalk on either side and allowed them to pass; as the latter end of the procession passed, a negro in — either pushed against a young man, or trod on his toe; the young man was standing very near the curb-stone of the sidewalk; the young man approached towards the negro as if he was going to kick him, making a motion with his foot; I cannot say whether the young man struck the negro or not; I do not think he did. The crowd immediately around the young man and on the outside of the procession formed in a pleasant laugh at this incident; no more grew out of the circumstance; that I saw. Immediately afterwards, and near the middle of Canal street, I observed one of the negroes in the procession and a white man engaged in a sort of fight; I saw the negro attempt to strike the white man; which struck first I cannot say. At the appearance of this fight the crowd gathered towards the scene of it, and a large number of negroes came down Canal street and the procession returned to the middle of Canal street. There then seemed to be a general disturbance in the middle of Canal street; I could not, from where I was, see very well what was going on; I heard a pistol shot, and immediately afterwards saw a policeman and some citizens taking off a negro whom I recognized as one I had seen in the procession; I saw several negroes run out of the procession as if to rescue this prisoner; another shot was then came up; he had a revolver in his hands; they left with the prisoner. The procession went up towards the Mechanics' Institute; about the time of the difficulty just mentioned, the drums beat something like the "long roll." After this things seemed to be quiet, and I left. There was no disposition evinced on the part of the crowd at the corner of Burgundy to interfere with the procession; no insulting remark made by them, and they stepped aside, allowing the procession as much space as necessary for them to pass by.

(Signed) JOHN G. SHIRLEY.

HENRY FLORANCE SWORN.

Resides in New Orleans, corner of Gravier and St. Charles; has resided in New Orleans since 1834. On the 30th July, 1866, about 12½ o'clock, I went to the engineer's office, at Mechanics' Institute; after I had been there a short time I heard the discharge of pistols; I started towards the front door of the Institute; I with the passage way jammed with persons, white and black; pistols were being fired in the building; I returned to the engineer's office, and said it was dangerous to go out, and he concluded to barricade the doors and stay inside. St. was were flying through the room; through the windows, on each side of the building. Two negroes so jumped into the room through the windows. Then two negroes were afterwards arrested by the police. I remained in the room two hours, until the police got possession. When I left, everything was quiet; when I left there was no military at the buildings.

(Signed) HENRY FLORANCE.

F. W. TILTON SWORN.

Resides in this city, corner of Canal and Dryades streets, as merchant. On the 30th of July, 1866, about 3½ o'clock, a crowd of negroes commenced gathering, and continued to increase in number until about 4 o'clock, when the street about the Institute was pretty well filled with them. Many had gone inside of the building; nearly all of them were armed with sticks and clubs. About 4 o'clock a gentleman came out from the building, and standing near one of the columns, addressed the crowd. I was unable to hear what he said. Fifty or sixty left, going, some towards Canal street and some towards Common street. There was a good deal of cheering when the above address was delivered. In about a half or three quarters of an hour the crowd that had left returned largely reinforced. Just after the above address, an old negro and a mulatto man addressed the crowd; I could not hear what they said.

When the crowd returned, many of them went into the building; a large crowd remained out in front. At this time there were white persons in front of the building of the Institute. There were a few near the corner of Canal. There was considerable cheering in and about the Institute at the time this crowd returned to the Institute. About 12 o'clock I heard music coming up Burgundy street, and a good deal of hallooing and cheering. A procession of negroes, with a band of music and a flag, the negroes armed with clubs, came up Burgundy street. As this procession emerged from Burgundy street into Canal, there was a white man knocked over into the street by some one in the procession; almost immediately a pistol was fired from the procession. At this moment, a policeman, assisted by a white person in citizen's clothes, rushed towards the procession and seized a large black man, and dragged him out, and then persons from the procession commenced fighting with clubs and pistols, and attempting to rescue the man who had been arrested. I heard cries of "Kill them! kill them!" "Damn them, kill them!" coming from the procession. At this point the procession was considerably scattered, the band and flag ran to the corner towards the Institute, and commenced rolling the drum, when the procession formed and marched to the Institute, the band playing until the procession, or many of the persons in it, went into the Institute building. This procession was composed almost entirely of rough, badly dressed negroes. A few minutes after this, a crowd of citizens and a small force of police gathered on Dryades street. I saw a shot come there fired from the crowd of negroes in front of the Institute; then several shots were fired from the same direction. Some twelve or fifteen negroes advanced down Dryades street to a brick pile and commenced throwing bricks into the crowd towards Canal street. At this time there was a considerable accession to the police force, who were deployed across Dryades street. The order was given to clear the street, and they advanced toward the Institute. The first fire from the police appeared to have no effect on the crowd of negroes. The second fire upon them, at about from six brick pile back towards the Institute. I noticed one negro who continued throwing bricks and calling on the crowd of negroes to come forward. At this time many of the police were engaged in trying to keep the crowd of white citizens back out of Dryades street. I noticed a policeman in United States officer's uniform co-operating with the police. As the police advanced nearer the Institute, there was firing from the windows of the Institute, as well as from negroes in the street. There was also firing and bricks thrown from a vacant lot adjoining the Institute.

This firing continued for some time, when some one from the building on the side towards Canal street, held out a stick with a white handkerchief attached to it. I heard a cry of "surrender," whether from the building or the street I do not know, followed by cheers from the street. Immediately after, a party of three or twenty policemen, followed by citizens, moved up to the building and entered. Immediately on their entering firing commenced in the building. I saw shots fired in the Hall of Representatives. The police immediately rushed out. I saw one of their number fallen and wounded. The firing then became general, both from the street and building. A rush was made from the building by a crowd of negroes numbering from forty to sixty, striking right and left with their clubs. Many of these were killed and wounded. Whenever any one, white or black, gave themselves up, they were arrested and protected by the police. Among those I saw protected by the police were Judge Howell, of the convention, and Mr. Fish. Many others I saw so protected I did not know. I saw a good many negroes on Canal street, between Dryades and Rampart streets, about the time of the occurrences above related, before and afterwards, and saw none away from the immediate scene of the riot molested, either by the police or white citizens. Quiet was entirely restored before the arrival of the military.

On Friday night, the 27th of July, 1866, there was a very large crowd at the Mechanics' Institute, both in the hall and in the street in front of the building. They were most of them negroes. I could hear the speeches in front of the building, but not perfectly. I recognized among the speakers John Henderson and A. P. Dostie. Their language was inflammatory and highly incendiary. I could only catch detached sentences of what they said. I heard from Dostie such remarks as these: "If you want to vote, you have to fight for it. We fought for your freedom; you must fight if you want to vote. Come armed, come prepared," etc.

(Signed) F. W. TILTON.

PIERRE SAUVE SWORN.

Resides in New Orleans, 145 Esplanade street, I am recorder of conveyances in this city. On the 30th of July, 1866, about 12½ I went to the Institute; went into private secretary's office. I had been there but a few minutes when the fight began right under the window. I was looking out of the window; I saw a little white boy trying to escape from the negroes; he sheltered himself behind a pile of bricks and picked up two bricks and faced the crowd of negroes that was chasing him; they made a rush at him; he threw his two bricks and started to run. At that time a policeman ordered the white boy by the arm and waved his hand towards the pursuing negroes, telling them "keep off, he is arrested." The policeman at this time was moving very fast from the crowd of negroes, when he was fired at by some one of the negro crowd; two shots were fired at him; he returned the fire over his shoulder. At this moment the firing became general on both sides, almost simultaneously. The negroes were driven off by the police, some going off and others taking refuge in the building. I remained in the room about an hour with the reporter of the "Times" and several other persons. I passed out by the front door of the building. I noticed about twenty negroes in the vestibule, some five or six of whom had revolvers in their hands. I asked them what they were doing there; they said they were sent there to guard the convention; two of them were wounded; firing was going on at the time; I passed out without molestation. I heard a man (white man) in the vestibule, his name I think is ——, at one time a harbor master here, say to the negroes, damn you, shoot them. When I got out I left and saw nothing more of consequence. During the time I was in the secretary's office, Mr. R. F. Dauney and Judge Howell came into the office. Both of them were much alarmed at the progress of the riot outside. R. F. Dauney was armed while in the secretary's office.

(Signed) P. SAUVE.

CHARLES RAMEL, LIEUTENANT OF THE FIRST DISTRICT POLICE.

On the 30th of July, 1866, about 12½ or 1 o'clock, I received orders to bring the police under my charge to the corner of Canal and Dryades. I came down with them to the corner of Common and Baronne, where I found a crowd of negroes armed with sticks, and some with pistols. Things was going on in every direction. I made several arrests, and succeeded in dispersing and arresting this crowd. The police used no more force than was necessary to perform their duty. They protected from excited persons all the prisoners they arrested.

(Signed) CHAS. RAMEL,
Lieutenant First District.

ADAM GIPPEN SWORN.

I have resided in the State since 1828, and in New Orleans since 1844. I am the State treasurer of the State of Louisiana. On the 30th of July, 1866, about 1 o'clock, I went down Common street and went into office of the water works, on Dryades street, nearly opposite the Mechanics' Institute. At this time there was a crowd on corner of Common and Dryades; also a crowd on the corner of Canal and Dryades. Almost immediately, upon my getting into the office, firing commenced in the vicinity of the hall towards Canal street. The excitement soon became so intense that I heard the crowd so dense that I remained in the office.

I distinctly saw Mr. Michael Hahn come out of the building; the crowd rushed towards him; there were cries, "Where is Hahn," "Shoot him!" Hahn fell. The police immediately rushed in, picked him up and protected him from the crowd, taking him off. I saw him in front of where Governor Wells, Convention, and R. F. Dauney, came out of the building. They were taken by the police and protected by them. The police, generally, were active in protecting from the crowd such persons as came out of the building, constantly restraining the crowd from acts of violence. I did not recognize any one in the crowd making these attacks. A great many of them appeared to be boys and men in their shirt sleeves. I recognized none of them. At the time spoken of, firing was going on both inside of the building and on the building from the street. I saw a gentleman, I was told to be Mr. Horton, a minister, come out of the building; he was attacked and struck down and beaten by some of the crowd; I recognized none of those who attacked him. I also saw another white man, unknown to me, struck and beaten; did not recognize who struck him; this man was taken out of the hospital by an Irishman genteelly dressed. I saw some negroes shot and beaten to death as they came out of the building or vicinity. Many lives were saved by the interference of the police. I saw, during the day, numbers of negroes going through the streets as usual; in no instance did I see any of them, away from the immediate vicinity of the riot, interfered with or attacked by the police or citizens. As far as I heard an expression of opinion, it was one of sympathy for the negroes, and no hostility whatever was evinced towards them as a class. I remember of those in the office, with me at the time of the riot, Mr. Felix Labatut, president of water works, S. E. Percey, secretary, Mr. McCollough, superintendent, Mr. T. Durell; there were also others. (Signed) ADAM GIPPEN.

A. J. CHALAMON SWORN.

Resides in New Orleans, 136 Rampart street. On the 30th of July, 1866, about 12½ o'clock, I was at the corner of Dauphine and Canal street, when I heard a drum beating. I reached the corner of Burgundy and Canal streets just as a procession of a hundred or a hundred and fifty negroes, with drums and fife and flag, reached the same point, coming up Burgundy street. The first disturbance I saw was a negro stepping out of the procession and striking a white man. The procession was in the middle of the street. The white man struck was on the sidewalk. I heard no remark made. After that, another white man collared a negro belonging to the procession and struck him (the negro) in the face. Immediately after, a pistol was fired from the procession of negroes, and the white men on the banquette immediately scattered, when I saw a police officer, whom I afterwards learned to be Lieut. E. Crevon, advance and rush into the procession and arrest the negro. This accomplished, the police officer blew his whistle, and some four or five other police officers appeared, and the negroes scattered to the neutral ground or center of Canal street, where the long-roll was beat, and cries of "Rally around the flag," were uttered, and they (the negroes) reformed their procession and marched towards the Mechanics' Institute on Dryades street without molestation. I crossed Canal street to the corner of Dryades street, and was standing there in a crowd principally of white persons. A crowd of negroes came from the direction of the hall, and without provocation fired upon the crowd in which I was, some seven or eight shots. Thereupon our crowd scattered, and I went into Dr. Deux's house for protection. At the time of the above mentioned attack, I saw no police officers about. When I returned to the corner of Dryades street, I saw two or three citizens firing in the direction of the negro crowd, and there were several police officers and an U. S. officer present who were firing. During the time I was in the office, and while the disturbance was going on, Messrs. Snethen, Jules Le Blanc, P. Sauvé, Judge Howell, Dauney, Trinchard, Welsh, Alfred Shaw, Hire, T. M. Wells and others, were in the office; also Mr. Noble, reporter of the Times.

The governor, J. M. Wells, left the building about a half hour before the first firing took place.

(Signed) O. POINCELIN.

DR. A. J. SEMMES SWORN.

Resides in New Orleans. I am a physician. On the 30th of July, 1866, about 12 or 1 o'clock, passing towards the Medical College, along Dryades street, I passed through a not very large crowd of white persons near the corner of Canal and Dryades streets. I came to a very large crowd of negroes, obstructing nearly the entire street, in front of the Mechanics' Institute, most of them armed with bludgeons or large sticks. I noticed others wearing belts around their waists, buckled in front, resembling pistol belts. In attempting to pass through this crowd, and finding it very dense on the side opposite to the Institute, I crossed over to the side of the street on which the Institute stands. At the moment I crossed everything was perfectly quiet, when, suddenly, I heard a shot and a volley of brick-bats or stones. Whence the shot or volley of stones, I do not know. I then took refuge in the Mechanics' Institute building. I went up stairs, entered the convention hall, where I remained a very few minutes. The lobby outside of the railing was filled with negroes and a few white persons. There were a good many white persons on the inside of the railing. I noticed evidences of many persons inside, and outside of the railing being armed. The convention had taken a recess, as I was informed. I went to a window, and looking out I saw at least a half a dozen negroes advancing towards Canal street and firing revolvers rapidly in that direction. Up to this time I had not seen a single policeman. Immediately after the above firing I saw one policeman come from the direction of Canal street, and go up to a group of negroes diagonally opposite the Institute, and make an arrest of a negro without firing or using any violence. As he took off the prisoner, I saw one or two negroes advance and fire on him, with what effect I could not ascertain; the firing then became apparently general on both sides. I left the convention hall; while doing so I met a large crowd of armed negroes coming up the steps. I succeeded in getting on the floor above the convention, where everything was quiet.

I believe I left the convention hall, several white persons, standing near me, and observing the negroes firing on the policemen and those assisting the police, made several remarks indicative of their joy at seeing the negroes getting an apparent advantage over the few policemen and persons assisting them—such as, "Well, I'd like you see that?" "See how they run them?" "Does he not stand his ground?" etc.

From the third story I witnessed fighting in the streets between the blacks and policemen and others assisting them, some stray shots striking the windows. I concluded to go out on the roof, which I did. While I was passing through the loft, I came across a large gentleman with a silver-headed cane; he gave me his name as King Cutler; he lay down in a dark corner of the loft, where I left him, when I went out on the roof. While on the roof, I heard firing apparently from the windows of the second story. A short time afterwards I heard the police arresting Cutler, which they did without attempting to do him any injury. For a few minutes after, the police took charge of me, they apparently took me for a member of the convention; they made no attempt to disturb me, simply arresting me without any violence whatever; and after being recognized, I was immediately released. While coming down from the building, and while in the street afterwards, I saw the police making arrests, and in no instance saw them use any unnecessary violence in making their arrests.

(Signed) A. J. SEMMES, M. D.

A. TURNBULL SWORN.

Resides in New Orleans, at 174 Camp street. I am employed by the State engineer. On the 30th of July, 1866, I was in the Mechanics' Institute building, in the engineer's office, on the third floor, about half-past 8 o'clock A. M., until about 3 o'clock P. M. About half-past 10 o'clock A. M., I went down to the lower floor. I noticed at that time in the hall of the convention, and the vestibule below, a good many colored persons, among them some women. The first thing that attracted my attention was hearing a band of music, and looking out of the end window in the third story, I saw a procession of colored persons coming up Burgundy street, drums and fife, and a flag in it. The procession seemed to me to number about fifty; the band had crossed Canal street and was entering Dryades street; when the procession was at this point, a white boy came to make some remark to some person in the procession, whereupon he was attacked by several persons in the procession, and struck with sticks; there was a melee then, and the boy appeared to be rescued by white persons. A few minutes after this the band assembled at the crossing of Dryades and Canal streets, and beat the roll, upon which the procession formed and marched up in front of the Mechanics' Institute, as I understood to prevent for a quarter of an hour, or twenty minutes. My attention was again attracted by a negro making a speech on the banquette in front of the Institute. All that I heard distinctly was his telling them to go home. Some of the negroes then fell back into the shade on the opposite side of the street. Almost immediately after this, a white boy appeared near the crowd of negroes, (he looked to me like the same boy who had been struck on Canal street,) and said something which I did not hear, upon which he was attacked by the negroes with clubs and sticks. The police then, in the direction of Canal street, and, taking the white boy by the collar, were leading him off, and had crossed the alley running from Dryades to Baronne, parallel with Canal street, going towards Canal street, when they were fired upon by several negroes having bright, silver-mounted revolvers, negroes throwing bricks at them. There was a pile of bricks near the hall. The police continued to fall back with the crowd in the direction of Canal street. I then witnessed the police form a line across Dryades, and advance towards the negroes, returning their fire. There was, at this time, co-operating with the police, a gentleman dressed in United States uniform. There was then heavy firing on both sides. The police drove the negroes back to the front of the hall. I heard firing in the direction of Common street. About this time the main body of the negroes engaged in the fight rushed into the building of the Institute. I saw little or no firing from the building, and I heard volleys fired from the street and from the building. Several gentlemen came up into the office. I sheltered all that came up, and stood at the office door until the police came and arrested all that were in the room, myself among the number. They took no notice of me; on the contrary, they protected myself and others while we were under arrest. I was taken to the lock-up, where I remained two hours, when I was released. Among those in the office with me was a Mr. Beauregard and the reporter of the Picayune. On Wednesday last I was informed by one of the aids to the chief of police that I was wanted as a witness before the military commission, and then in session. I went to Gen. Baird's headquarters, where I was told the commission was in session. I sent my name in by a colored orderly at the door—"A. Turnbull, witness." I waited some time, when a gentleman came out of the room, beckoning to him the negro; I, a U. S. brigadier general, who asked me many questions as to what I witnessed of the riot. In answer to him, I gave about the statement I have made here—I mean to say so far as his questions elicited it. I gave exactly the statement I have given here, answering all his questions truthfully, the whole amounting to pretty much the whole statement I have made here. He then turned to a gentleman standing by me; asked him his name; he said it was Mollère. He then asked him if he witnessed anything in connection with the riot. The answer was, "I witnessed the murderous assault from behind on the unarmed men." Where upon this gentleman was taken into the room. A short time afterwards a same gentleman in general's uniform came out and told me that if I was needed as a witness I would be sent for the next day. I have not yet been sent for. On my way to the lock up, I noticed a good many negroes on the streets, standing about with the crowd I passed. I saw none of them molested. I saw negroes standing in the doorways of the houses in the immediate vicinity of the riot, apparently taking no part in the riot. They were not molested.

(Signed) A. TURNBULL.

E. A. FELLOWES SWORN.

Resides in New Orleans, corner of Delord and Tivoli Circle. Clerk by occupation. On the 30th of July, 1866, a little after 12 o'clock, I was standing on the corner of Canal and Burgundy streets, when a procession of negroes, with a fife and drum and a flag, came up Burgundy street, armed with pistols, knives, slungshots and large sticks, hallooing and shouting at white persons standing quietly on the sidewalk. The persons standing about left the street free for them to pass. The first disturbance I noticed was a boy twelve or thirteen years old strike a negro in the rear of the procession with his foot; the negro struck ran on, another negro struck the little boy with a stick. The negro struck by the little white boy was about fifteen years of age. There was then a general melée, in which I saw young Mr. Kelly Walton, who was standing quietly by, struck with a stick. I ran up and with Mr. Crévon arrested the negro with great trouble, other persons interfering to prevent his arrest. There was a pistol fired by a white man; the negroes then fell back and allowed the arrest. Drums beat and the negroes shouted. I was not harmed at this time. Crévon told the negroes he was a policeman, the negroes said he had done nothing to be arrested. This negro was taken off by the police. The procession then moved on to Mechanics' Institute. A short time after this I was standing near the corner of Dryades and Canal streets, when I noticed a shower of missiles, bricks, etc., coming from the direction of the Institute, and immediately several pistols shot from the same direction. The crowd of white persons fell back to Canal street, the negroes pursuing as far as Canal street. The policemen and other citizens then commenced firing from the corner at the negroes, who then fell back and commenced disappearing from the street; some negroes were killed by the firing. Some few minutes after this a small crowd advanced, headed by a United States officer and a policeman, to the Mechanics' Institute, and commenced making arrests. One of the first men was W. R. Fish, who was taken charge of by officer Boullosa, protected from the crowd and taken off. The crowd went up stairs and found the doors of the hall in which the convention sat, closed; when I got in there was no firing going on; there had been some before. I came out and went to the chief of police, who was standing in front. The United States officer came to the chief of police and introduced me as "have been subpœnaed, which I was ordered by the chief. I then went off to have my pistol, which I had purchased in the meanwhile, loaded, and came back, and saw them bringing dead negroes out of the building; then left and went to my office. In making arrests, the police generally used no more violence than was necessary, there were few exceptions to this, principally among persons in citizen's clothes. I did not recognize any of the citizens, or any of the police who formed these exceptions. Previous to the disturbance on Canal street, I went to the Institute on business with the librarian, Mr. Dupre; there I met Rev. Mr. Adams, a minister, Mr. Boyd, too I believe it was; advising the negroes who had assembled there to go home; some of them seemed disposed to take his advice, others did not appear to heed it.

(Signed) EDGAR A. FELLOWES.

GEORGE CLARK SWORN.

I reside in the city of New Orleans. I am an adjuster of averages. I am fifty years of age; was born in New Orleans, and have resided never ever since. On the 30th of July, 1866, about 12½ o'clock A. M., I went to the front of the Institute on Dryades street; I found a commotion, and some firing going on; there was a crowd on Canal street; there were some policemen and a few citizens in front of the Institute, and in the lots around it. I saw some shots fired from the building, and shots fired in return at the building. Some negroes were occasionally jumping out of the windows of the building, attempting to escape; they were generally fired on by citizens, or struck with clubs, bricks and stones. I endeavored to protect the negroes from these assaults as much as I could, and succeeded in saving some of them. The policemen were also arresting white and black, as they came out of the building, and were protecting them from the assaults of the crowd. I did not witness an instance of the police using any unnecessary violence. I did not recognize any of the crowd of men and boys who were making these assaults. I saw Mr. Shaw, a member of the convention, when he came out of the building; he was arrested and protected by the police. Mr. R. F. Dauney came to the window and claimed my protection; I called the police, who took him off and protected him from the crowd. I saw a number of other white persons taken out of the building by the police and protected and taken off by them. I left before the riot was quite over. I saw, after I left, on Common street, near Carondelet, Michael Hahn in charge of the police—among them the chief of police; a large crowd were around him, and the police had great difficulty to protect him from them; in protecting him they had to knock down two or three persons. I did not recognize these persons; some in the crowd I knew by sight, but not personally. I was at the Institute, and at the speech of Dr. Dostie, at the City Hall. No disturbance of consequence occurred at the meeting. From the exceedingly exciting and inflammatory appeals made to the negroes by the speakers at this meeting—Dostie, Henderson and Judd—and from the remarks freely made by the colored audience, I was thoroughly convinced that they intended or expected trouble at the meeting of the convention. Previous to this mass meeting, in consultation with Mayor Monroe, he had instructed me in no way to interfere with the convention as a body, or with any individual member thereof, but to endeavor to preserve peace and good order within the city. That in any process of court issued which had been foreshadowed in Judge Abell's charge to the grand jury, it would be the duty of the sheriff to execute it and not mine. On Saturday evening there was a conference called at the mayor's office consisting of the mayor, lieutenant governor, attorney general, several aldermen, myself and a number of our oldest and most reliable citizens. At this meeting it was resolved and advised that there should be no attempted interference with the convention further than to advise, make up a case to present to the President for his decision—to request him to carry out the arrangement made with General Baird by which the writ of arrest was first to be presented to him by the sheriff and his refusal to allow it be executed to be indorsed and the President to be dispatched for instructions. Under these circumstances I did not expect anticipate any particular trouble on Monday—knowing full well that the convention party would in the event of any contest arising—endeavor to fix the guilt of commencing it upon others than themselves. I determined that it should not be said that the police had any agency in originating any disorder, nor by their presence even give cause for any excitement among the negroes or members of the convention. At the same time I deemed it my duty to make all necessary arrangements to preserve the peace or suppress any riotous conduct should it occur. I therefore ordered all detachments to keep all the uniformed men closely at their station houses; to put supernumerary officers on such beats as absolutely required protection, but to put no officers at all near the Mechanics' Institute. The men were in no case to leave their houses unless in an emergency, and then only when ordered by me. During the morning of Monday I received information that there were a large number of negroes collecting at the Institute. I walked around in person and alone, and found quite a number there, but they were quiet. I suppose this was between 9 and 10 o'clock. I made one or two more visits during the day, and at 4 o'clock I found the crowd increasing, but little excitement. Soon after 11, I walked there again; on turning into Philippa (or Dryades) street from Common, I met Governor Wells leaving the Mechanics' Institute. About this time a procession headed by a band of music came down Dryades street, and entered the Institute. While this procession was passing the corner of Canal and Dryades streets a shot was fired from the procession into the crowd upon the sidewalk; no one was harmed, and the man who fired was arrested by Lieut. Crevon, one of my aids. At this time, while I was passing the Institute, a negro upon the steps of the building announced to the crowd that all the white men upon the streets were damned rebels, and should be "cleaned out." No particular attention was paid to this remark; and seeing no indications of immediate trouble, I returned to my office. At this time there was but one policeman present, and he a supernumerary, for only a budget of all other police officers were still kept in the station houses. Some twenty minutes after my return, word was brought me by a young man, a clerk in the neighborhood, that the trouble had commenced, and that the negroes were shooting at people in the street. I immediately started for the police of the First District main station, under Lieut. Ramel, to the scene of the riot, and ordered the force of the other districts to be brought up. As soon as the force under Ramel came near the scene they were fired upon, and they fired in return. When I arrived the fight was general, and was joined by several citizens, who were neither asked nor wanted to engage in the matter. My orders had been in no way to interfere with the convention; nor would it have been done, if the police had not been fired at from the building and hall of the convention. After the police had been fired into, when responding to the appearance of a white flag they became excited, and I saw individual instances of useless violence, which I repressed as soon as I could, even to using violence upon the offenders.

Some riotous men and boys committed unnecessary and uncalled for acts of brutality, and in every instance where I could, I caused their arrest and imprisonment. I had sent in as many as ten or twelve in all, but in the confusion did not ascertain their names, intending to attend to that when quiet was restored. After martial law was proclaimed by Gen. Baird, and while I was absent from my office, an order was sent from him to release all persons that were locked up.

Mr. Baird, my chief aid, now one of the charges I intended to make against these persons, turned them loose with the balance, and I had no means of identifying them after words and have them rearrested. Their brutality placed them beyond common mercy, and I intended to have them punished. Up to the time that the riot recommenced my police force was not upon the ground, and I had intentionally kept them away that it might not be said that they were thereon a menace to the convention; or by their presence, words, or acts, do aught to commence or provoke any disturbance whatever. There was not a policeman that I am aware of, having on the uniform, near the Mechanics' Institute, or near the corner of Canal and Dryades streets, until the riot had commenced and they were ordered by me to leave their stations. I saw only one supernumerary there when I left not included in my orders. The orders that I received and the orders that I gave were imperative, that the convention was not to be interfered with; and not a member would have been injured if firing had not commenced from their hall, and was continued until the last from their windows. During the entire contest, so far as I was able to see, my police force, with the few exceptions already mentioned, exerted themselves to their utmost to protect the lives of members of the convention, and others who were not actively engaged in the riot, and to my certain knowledge many went to them begging their protection and received it at their lives were saved—some without the smallest injury—and now some of these very men are the loudest and bitterest in their denunciation of the police.

In a riotous conflict, such as that of the 30th July, where nearly three hundred were killed and wounded in about one hour and a half, in almost a hand to hand conflict, it does not appear it is not singular that a few men should, for a time, forget their duty and commit, in their excitement, some unwarrantable acts.

These exceptions, so far as my knowledge extends, were confined to about ten or a dozen men, and then only for the short time. My force received no orders to arm themselves; no arms were given them by my authority. Such as owned them, I presume, carried them. Upon my arrival near the Institute, I found a number of policemen hesitating about going forward; giving as a reason that they were being fired upon in every direction, and they had not weapons to defend themselves with. I ordered them into the riot to take their chances and make such arrests as they could.

In conclusion, I can only say orders were given not in any way to interfere with the convention. The police were not near the Institute until the riot commenced. They were not massed at any place, but were kept at their several station houses until I ordered them up, when I myself started for the scene. They did, in my opinion, do all in their power to save all those who were not identifiably engaged against them in rioting and endeavoring to kill or injure the police, in the riot and afterwards I saw negroes in the streets standing about, and in no instance saw any, except those engaged immediately in the riot, molested. The universal expression of opinion among citizens in the community is one of sympathy for the negroes. There is no feeling of hostility against them as a class.

I saw R. F. Dauney while he was in custody; he asked me to release him, saying he would give me a great deal of valuable information concerning the riot.

(Signed) THOMAS E. ADAMS.

AZEL BAUMERS BACON, BEING DULY SWORN, TESTIFIES AS FOLLOWS:

Witness resides in Algiers, and is associate editor of the Picayune newspaper. Witness visited the Mechanics' Institute on Monday, 30th July, 1866, thrice, the first time at about 10 A. M. Went into the governor's office. While there, the governor came in, and went, after a few moments conversation with his secretary, into the rear room, calling the latter after him. Witness then went up stairs to the Representation Hall, where he found three or four persons only present. Then left for Camp street. Very few persons were in front of or around the hall, only a knot of two of negroes. Returned to the Institute hall about 12½ o'clock. Found large bodies of negroes stretching along the entire banquettes between Common and Gravier streets, on all sides of the Explanation class and generally with stout cudgels in their hands. There were very few white persons there. Along Common street there were some white people who seemed to stop a moment or two to look, and then pass on. Took particular observation of this as I went along. Noticed, too, that at Canal street the white people had stopped a moment to look at the crowd of negroes, and then passed on. When I got to the Institute I went immediately up to the Representation Hall. The passage way was crowded with negroes, so was the vestibule above. Inside the Representative chamber and lobby I saw a few white men with them. They had cudgels and canes like those outside. The body inside was not in session. I saw no negroes inside the bar; but I had not much time to notice such things, as I was looking around for some one to tell me what had been done or was to be done, when a shot was fired about some little distance off. I paid little attention to it. In a few minutes later there were a number fired near the building. I then went to the Canal street side, when looking over the shoulders of others I saw a fight going on below. I turned then to go out. As I passed Dr. Dostie, who was standing by with some others, he straightened himself up and said, quite exultingly, I thought, "The fun has begun." I went by him and out into the vestibule. The negroes were pouring down stairs. Concluding that it would be better for me to remain there before going out or trusting myself in that confusion, I took the stairs leading to the third story and went into the room occupied by the State engineer. I found there his deputy, Mr. Turnbull, and a number of other gentlemen. I went to the window. There was much commotion below; brick-bats were flying at policemen and shots interchanged between them and persons in front of the building. There were also a few white men with the police. The number of the people constantly increased at that point. A number of persons, white and black, took refuge in the recessed portals of the dwellings opposite. Some of the white, without distinction of color, made their escape afterwards by the side of the police. In a little while the combatants separated; the police pushing back the whites with them to Canal street. While doing so they were fired on repeatedly and turned to fire back; but still continued to push back the citizens. The latter at first had to arrange, but presently some rallied and fired back. At this time a person in the undress uniform of the United States army came up in the crowd and assisted the police in working back the citizens towards Canal street. He was cheered by the latter, who manifested their satisfaction at his presence by patting him on the back. The police thus kept back the crowd, who kept facing in number for some time. It appeared to me they were awaiting the arrival of some one or many. They kept the area clear. Once or twice policemen ran the gauntlet past the front of the building on the other side from which they were fired at. All at once there was a cessation of firing from the building, front and side, on the police and citizens in my sight, near the corner, and this was returned. The gentlemen belonging to the office, thinking they might be supposed to be of the assailants in the building, requested me to go back to the front of the windows, I did so, and for the interval of time thence until I went out, saw little. After some time there was commotion and some fighting below, and then quiet. We heard steps outside of and opened the door, when a person announced the police to be in possession of the passage ways, and I went out. As I passed down I found the executive chamber door was closed. There was a rush towards it, as our footsteps were heard, but it was not opened. When I went below, I found a few policemen near the door; the others were still engaged keeping the crowd away at Common as well as at Canal street. I went up to Common street. There did not seem to be much excitement there as on Canal street; but there were a great many all along the street looking on. I saw negroes, men and women, walking along Common street; no one molested them. The negroes of the class that were in front along Dryades street had disappeared. I then went down to take a round by way of the Charity Hospital, thence to Canal street, then to St. Charles, and thence back by Common street to the hall. Found the negroes much excited by the tales they heard of the fighting going on, standing at