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THE SENATE COMMITTEE.

Fourth Day.

The committee met at about half-past ten o'clock yesterday, and first considered Senator McDonald's motion relative to obtaining more data from the Returning Board, but concluded to postpone it to a future day.

A discussion on the manner of taking Eliza Pinkston's testimony followed.

The chairman asked whether either side expected to add to or detract from that already given.

Mr. White could not answer, Mr. McGloin being absent.

The matter then went over till to-day.

The chairman then asked how many witnesses would be offered on the Ouachita matter.

Mr. Gorham said about forty or fifty witnesses. About twelve or fifteen were here.

Mr. White stated that it required thirty-six hours to communicate with his, but would furnish a list to be summoned by telegraph during the day. They would not likely be present till Tuesday.

Mr. Gorham also stated to Senator McDonald that he had a complete list, which included about 500 witnesses.

Senator Saulsbury suggested that the inquiry should be limited.

Senator McDonald was satisfied that some equitable rule would have to be adopted. As one parish had been commenced it might be better to conclude it, and then a rule could be adopted.

The chairman stated it was the desire of the committee to reach the truth in regard to the condition of certain places. If one parish was dug over to establish whether or not there was a certain state existing, and the conclusion was that it did or did not, then that would be a pretty good rule to decide whether the same did or did not exist in half a dozen others.

Senator Oglesby was disposed to limit the matter. There was no use of 100 witnesses when twenty-five would prove the same thing. He thought thirty witnesses a side from Ouachita would prove as much as 300. He was in favor of going on with it.

Senator McDonald was in favor of going on, but had not faith in the result being an average. He noticed that there were twenty-two parishes where votes were thrown out. He thought at the end of this parish the committee would have to be divided.

Senator McMillan was in favor of going on with the witnesses present, and it was so determined.

David Gallager, to Senator McMillan—Was born in Ireland; resided in Wisconsin first; three years in Ouachita; lived on Mr. Whited's plantation; was there during last summer and fall; states the first disturbance occurred July 4, 1876, at the Methodist Church, where there was a children's picnic, about ten miles from Monroe: up to evening all was quiet and peaceable; then a dispatch came from the Island that there was an anticipated uprising of the colored people; the bearers came there to notify the rifle companies to go there that night, as a fight was expected on the fifth; knew afterward there were three rifle companies organized—Captains McCloud, Buffington and Theobalds; never saw them en masse, but frequently riding in squads day and night visiting the different plantations; three gentlemen waited on Mr. Whited and Mr. Hall to enroll them as members of clubs; only heard a small portion of the conversation; they went into dinner; Lieutenant Ball left a pistol on the gallery; both McEnerys were with him; they said nothing to me; thought I was a Democrat because I was Irish; heard Mr. Whited ask by what authority they had come; said, "We are the authority; we intend to win the election at all hazards." The week after, Mr. and Mrs. Whited were at Gordon's station; there were nine of the bulldozers at the depot, and many other men; they asked several who Mr. Whited was, and alarmed both of them very much; afterward, they rode to Mr. Bowman's, one mile from Whited's, called for water, used it, threw the bucket in the road, and presented a revolver at the head of Mrs. Bowman, an old lady; they asked where Whited lived; on these things the family expected trouble; about dark a portion of Captain McCloud's company came to the quarters; one of the hands came running across the field, crying that they were killing Uncle Ben. This so alarmed Mr. and Mrs. Whited and me that we left the house for the cotton field; it also so terrified the hands that they ran through the fields to the house; began to be afraid they would clean out the house; all left the house and went back into the cotton field; remained there all night; two or three bulldozers assured Mr. Hall that there was no danger to Mr. Whited or family; came back Sunday morning; about two weeks previous to the election went to a Democratic barbecue; after the speaking they commenced organizing a colored club; told me they got sixty-two to join; saw the way they got some; those who were reluctant they dragged out to it; the next thing was the election; went to the polls at twelve and remained two hours; all peaceable there, no disturbance; for a very good reason—there was no one to make it; it was all one sided; there were no Republican tickets; they hunted the man who tried to distribute them; carried one in his pocket; the colored people had to have their tickets examined; the Republican was blue, the Democratic buff and white; there were thirty-one Republicans voted; only twenty-eight were counted; only three white Republicans voted—Mr. Hall, Judge Baker and myself; they thought I voted the wrong ticket as a Democrat; knew of the clubs riding the country, in squads, every night, armed with guns; the effect on the colored people was to terrorize them; they all fled from their homes that night and hid.

To Senator Oglesby—There was no uprising of the colored people on the fifth or any other day; there were no colored clubs armed; they were scared to death; it was Thad. Meyers who tried to distribute tickets and was told to leave by the Democrats; he left and went home.

To Senator McDonald—Witness gave the residences of those named; the "colony" is the fourth ward; came to Louisiana three years ago last October; went to Mr. Whited in November; did not remain with him constantly; worked in Monroe a part of the time; have no personal knowledge of what was told Mr. Whited.

James R. Hall—Lived in Louisiana in civil capacity ten years; was in United States army before; came to Ouachita February 15, 1867, and have been there ever since. Previous to July 4, 1876, everything was peaceful; that day there was a picnic at the Masonic schoolhouse; during the day quite a number of men assembled to detach a portion to go on the island, where a colored rising was expected; they held a caucus under the trees; on July 15 I was waited on by a committee of three, claiming authority from the Democratic parish committee to call on all to request them to help form rifle clubs; they presented a paper, saying if I didn't read it they would read it for me; asked them to step in and have something; they refused; went for some water for them while they waited outside; came back and read the paper; one clause said that those who did not join the rifle clubs would not have the benefit of their protection, but must protect themselves as best they could; asked what that meant; was told, come to the school house and you'll find out; Mr. Whited came then and read the paper; said he didn't care about joining such things, and invited them to dinner; Ball left a pistol on the gallery which laid there while at dinner; told them I didn't know whether I would go or not; two gentlemen, Bowman and Gordon, did not approve of this system, but wanted me to go and see if we couldn't devise some other means; went on Saturday; almost all white people were there; very few colored people; there was a constitution and by-laws; Mr. Johns stated all could join by signing, and if not desired they needn't; almost all joined; a committee was appointed to secure arms—Henry McEnery and Mr. Effery; Mr. Theobalds spoke to Mr. Ball and told them it ought not to be voluntary; that it "should be made so G— d— hot for them that they will feel safer in our company than out of it;" from that time they were riding the country; very seldom in daylight, except when they were calling the people together; their proceedings were principally at night; they visited negro quarters at all hours of the night; all on Whited's plantation were Republicans; the riders would frequently fire right through the quarters; one day when Mr. Whited and his wife were at the depot they saw some strange armed men, whose actions frightened them; that evening a colored man employed there came running through the fields crying: "They have come; they are coming; they are killing Uncle Ben;" Mr. Whited asked him what was the matter, and he said the same; the family became much alarmed and left the house; I remained in it; after about two hours three gentlemen, and Mr. Bowman, came and said they didn't intend to hurt us, but were after another man, Jesse Briggs; after awhile Mr. and Mrs. Whited came back to the house; then went round and tried to gather the colored people; found them secreted all around; they were as scared as children, but at last some went back; at the first alarm all had abandoned their quarters; went to find Uncle Ben; met the bulldozers; said good evening; Mr. Potter said: "You appear to have been frightened;" yes they had; well Mr. Bowman and others came down to reassure them; they remained till 11 P. M.; after that a courier came, Willie Taylor, with an order to me to report to Captain McCloud with a horse and gun; he said there was a negro rising, but also that he had been riding around for three weeks and had seen no disturbance; refused to go; was appointed supervisor by M. J. Grady; before the meeting Mr. Bowman came to me and said that he had been told that "Captain Hall has sent his negroes into town to call on the United States soldiers to break up the meeting;" that if the report got to Captain Theobalds I knew what he would do; saw men riding that night, and was alarmed; Mr. Bowman told me not to stay in the house that night; at the barbecue saw men who were Republicans forced between two men up to join the club; that means was used to make the colored people join; many of them did join; afterward many said they had to join, but wouldn't vote the Democratic ticket; told them they had done wrong; that the rein would be continually tightened; they thought matters might be different on the day of election; was commissioner of election; Captain McCloud asked how near they could bring arms; was told within half a mile; two citizens established a little table in the schoolhouse which was the polling place, with tally sheets; whenever a colored man would come up to vote they would look over him and see what ticket he voted; if Republican, then they would make a ceremony of marking his name; the manner of this made it intimidation; the colored men thought they were "spotted;" Sims, a colored constable, a Republican, did not dare to vote; said they had him "spotted;" during the voting McCloud called me out and wanted to know if there were United States soldiers in the bushes; told him I didn't know; said I must know; that a perfect gentleman, Mr. Parker, had told him they were there; asked Mr. Parker how they were dressed; he described them, but said he had not seen them; a colored woman told him they were there; said I didn't believe it; he said if you know anything I want you to tell me;" told him I knew nothing; he said he would send and find out; one said, "Let me go; I am prepared now to fight the United States troops as well as any time;" the woman was wife of Hardiman, who had been run off; three went and reported nothing there; after the polls were closed a number of armed men, white Democrats, members of the rifle clubs, appeared in the poll room and waited to have the vote counted; it was not counted till most of them got tired and left; after they were counted Captain McCloud asked if I wanted a guard; told him no; apprehended no danger; had no objections; his company was drawn up in order in front of the schoolhouse; they accompanied the box, but few got there because the hack made ten miles in forty-five or fifty minutes; know of rifle companies organized by Theobalds and Buffington; know of one party being killed by them though was not present; Henry Pinkston, his child, Primus Johnson, B. H. Dinkgrave and others were killed or were murdered; Ben James and Eaton Lockwood and others were wounded: all were Republicans. Dr. Dinkgrave was white and a very active Republican; the rest were black; James Jackson was killed; all were of good character, not quarrelsome; never heard of any white Democrat being killed; don't know of the committees procuring arms; the clubs were armed; was waited on after election to appear at the schoolhouse to take affidavits; there were quite a number of colored people; they all signed an affidavit, the purport of which was that they had voted the Democratic ticket freely, without intimidation or fear, and knew of no one who had so attempted to induce them to do it; many did not want to sign it; one in particular said he didn't want to sign; asked him what he did it for; was told that was not a part of my business: one that signed told me afterward that he had voted the Republican ticket; that he had to sign to protect his life and family; afterward was sent for to attend two meetings that did not come off; they wished to have affidavits taken around on the plantations; declined on the score of business; was sent for one night, and went in a buggy; the driver, a colored man, would not converse till assured I was still a Republican; then said there were no meetings of colored men to make affidavits because the bulldozers could not get them together; that they did not want to make them but were forced to; said he should do it; could not avoid it; have got to take the affidavit; can't leave; have no money; must take it to live; left Ouachita about the nineteenth or twentieth; think I shan't go back; I wish to live as long as I can; I could not live if I did go; have letters in my pocket warning me; I do not dare to go back; the letters state no Republican could testify as I have done and live there; I own a plantation there, about 154 acres; was waited on by James Logan, Henry McEnery and Dr. Young; never saw the latter before; they came about 10 or 11 A. M.; said they had a paper for me to sign; as they came in Mr. Steve Crason and Mr. Gordon came in; read the paper that the colored people had made the affidavits voluntarily and that I myself knew of no intimidation; McEnery and Logan asked if I would sign it; declined; Dr. Young said, "Why, what the hell's the matter with you? Scratch out what you don't want to sign;" told them I couldn't sign any of it; Logan put it in his pocket; said you had better sign it; refused to do it; as they left their actions alarmed me, and their manner in front was such; Mr. Gordon told me I ought to have signed it: told him I couldn't sign it; was advised to leave; went immediately to Monroe and then to New Orleans; as a justice, women have come to me asking if something could not be done to protect them in their cabins; the conduct of these bulldozers in these cabins was loathsome; visited the cabins when they were there; said they were looking for a nigger; that these quarters were a Radical hole.

To Senator Oglesby—Was justice of the peace of the fourth ward; there are about fifty Democrats in the ward; the justice office is at my house according to law; did not think it legal to take affidavits in other places, but had to under the circumstances; feared injury to person and property on refusal.

To Senator McMillan—There was a meeting before the picnic; that was of a Methodist Sabbath School; it was a meeting of the president and teachers to devise a programme; was secretary and treasurer; F. E. Bowman was president, Mr. Whited vice president, Mr. J. Bowman librarian; was appointed with Mr. Whited on the committee; arranged the programme to open with singing and prayer; then as it was fourth of July it was suggested the declaration of independence ought to be read as it would be read all over the country; this was objected to; they "had had enough of that; don't want no declaration of independence; it was a dry old thing, anyhow;" am not a member of the church; Mr. Whited is.

To Senator McDonald—Was member of police jury two years; appointed by Warmoth; was elected justice of the peace; when they said they were after Jesse Briggs was told they intended to handle him rough; that they would court martial him; that they wanted to fix up the trouble he had; he belonged in Ouachita; knew him several years.

To Senator Saulsbury—Only one man came armed to the polls while the voting was going on, and he was told to go away; did not see him again: the men who brought their guns into the poll room after the polls were closed pushed aside the barrier we had made of benches and stacked their guns in corners; they did not assault any body; did not offer to use their guns; were peaceable, that is, there was no turbulence.

George B. Hamlet—Resides in Ouachita; native of Ohio; sheriff of Ouachita two years; previous to the municipal election in May, 1875, all had been peaceable elections; then there were delegations in force from the country wards: twelve to twenty-five each; Gundy said in a speech that "when the bullet entered the flesh would quiver, and where the knife was thrust the blood would flow;" a resolution was introduced that unless the colored people voted the Democratic ticket they should not be employed; had a consultation with Dr. Dinkgrave after the Republican State convention, and agreed to go to Ouachita and organize the Republican party, with Dr. Dinkgrave; it was made the most complete in the State; both were warned not to enter the campaign; know of the organization of rifle clubs, and that they were armed; it looked suspicious; asked about them; thought it was a strange way to commence a campaign; the answer was they were to keep the peace; that Republicans should have protection as well as Democrats; they told the colored people the same; in the Island they told them they had the means to carry the election and would use them; told them that was only a bluff; at a Republican barbecue they came in force to St. James Church, broke and cut down the rope and refused to go away; knives and pistols were drawn; that was the first they attended which they broke up; they came after; when Mr. Patton's order was issued they came to every meeting and interfered; their numbers increased, but none were broken up till the meeting at St. James Church; when some white people moved to Monroe the people became excited; talked of sending the rifle companies to the Island to see who had fired into houses; knew it would do no good; offered if they would give me two men to go and quiet everything, and if any colored men had fired into houses, would bring their names; the clubs refused; didn't want my protection; were not Republicans, nor constables, but members of the rifle club, and would obey no writ; went ahead of them; met some colored men who said there were white men around with guns; said no, but some were coming, and advised them to go home and put out their lights; met many others, who were well informed of the approach of men from Monroe—who had been run from home; Mr. Garrett told me there had been a meeting of the neighbors and a consultation with the colored people; he did not believe any colored man had fired into the house; went to Mr. Falk's house, another that was fired into; found the quarters all empty; the colored people had fled at the news received; told all I met that they should not be alarmed; that they should remain in their houses; should not gather together; then, having done all possible, turned back; met about seventy-five armed white men; knew them; told them that it was all quiet, so quiet that not even a bird was singing; went to town and they went on; in about three hours after they reached town, having found everything as I told them; met Dr. Dinkgrave next day; he said guns had been sent to Dr. Abbey, who was the commander of the rifle clubs; that we had better stop making speeches; that Logan had told him if he didn't stop making Republican speeches he would be hurt; in three days he was killed; was in office when was told; found him dying; asked Dr. Abbey for a posse; he gave an order; after three hours got one; rode fifty yards ahead to where Dinkgrave was killed; met a young lady who warned me to go no further; received more warnings; rode to the bayou; found no tracks; thought it was not safe to go over into the woods; was told it caught outside of town would be served as Dinkgrave; after I returned became demoralized; Dinkgrave was dead and there was no one to stand up to me; next the whites came to town and stacked their arms at the graveyard where Dinkgrave was buried; went to Mayor Endom and asked if nothing could be done; was told by him and others to keep quiet and nobody would be hurt; the colored people came from all parts for advice; told them to go home and be quiet; that it was not likely any others than Brewster and myself would be killed; that their only protection was their innocence; that they were not able to do any fighting; they went home; soon afterwards heard they had gathered on the island; about a hundred white men went there, fired into the houses, etc; the colored people wanted to come out and fight; were tired of being abused; advised them to go home; the day of the Nicholls and Wiltz meeting a prominent Democrat, a friend, told me if I remained I would be shot on sight; that there was a rumor that I had ordered the colored people out; that he know the report was not true; that the best element was not in control but that another that would kill anybody was in control; left for New Orleans; from that time there were no more meetings; the colored people were so frightened that they would not hold a consultation; knew if I went back and only attended to official duties I would not be harmed; went back, though warned not to; found house and property destroyed; open threats of shooting on sight were made; resolved, with Brewster and Gorham, to make a parish ticket and a canvass; was continually warned that all would be assassinated if we did; got troops from Captain Hale and held meetings; many colored people sent word their hearts were with us but they did not dare to attend the meetings; on the Island Captain Theobald's company joined our procession; hooted at us; drew revolvers at the meetings; called the speakers damned liars; all portions of the parish had rifle companies; one or two in each ward. Witness gave a list of the clubs and commanders, and of the colored people killed, shot and whipped. Two were hanged, 150 or 200 were driven from their homes; had seventy-five or eighty to feed; many had to leave the State; many reports of shooting into colored people's houses were made; there should have been a Republican majority of 1200; it was the best organized parish in the State; there was no complaint against any parish officers; only against a few ward officers; the Democratic bar praised all parish officers; they were satisfied with them, but wanted a change; that's what they said; heard Dr. Abbey making remarks at a meeting; he asked the colored people to join them; told them that the planter, the farmer and the laborer should be one; some one in the crowd asked if they would quit bulldozing; he answered that they were not responsible for that; it was done by irresponsible parties not under their control; he was asked how they could control them if they were elected.

To Senator Oglesby—Met one of the owners of the houses that were fired into; Mr. Garrett, a Democrat; he said none of the boys of the neighborhood had done it; they had had a meeting, and if left alone they could quiet matters.

To Senator McMillan—Identified the confidential circular; the Republican clubs were not armed; there was no concealment.

To Senator Saulsbury—There was more than ordinary conduct at that election to induce colored voters to vote the Democratic ticket; they surrounded them; told them they must do it; was my duty to command the peace; it would not be of much use for a Republican officer to do that in a parish like that; the Republicans organized first; Democrats formed clubs afterwards; it is not the custom in Ouachita for both parties to join in a barbecue; colored people were always kept away; Captain Theobalds and three men drove the colored people three miles from one of their own barbecues; it was reported that Mr. Falk had fired into his own house; don't think there was any rifle club parading on the road when Dinkgrave was shot; got track of the man, once, at Pargoud's lane; know nothing of the shooting nor its cause; the man was white; told the colored people it was best for them not to fight; the proportion is about three colored to one white; all the officers were Republicans; almost all State officers are Republicans.

Senator Saulsbury—Then, if one party holds all the offices and power and the other party holds none, which party is to be considered responsible for the condition of disorder?

Sheriff Hamlet—This Republican government can not be held responsible, for it can not enforce the law. Where there is a white minority opposed to this government, with better arms and organization than the majority, as well prepared for a conflict as they were in 1860, they won't submit to a Republican officer, pay respect to a writ from a Republican court, or do anything required by law when it comes from Republican sources.

To Senator Saulsbury—Know of their refusing writs; refused to obey the writ of posse comitatus that I had the right to issue; had a warrant of arrest on which to issue it; it was against all parties who had been engaged in the shooting at houses that had been complained of; it contained no names; was left without any names at the request of Mr. Bundy, a Democratic attorney, so that I could arrest any one who was guilty of firing on the houses; have no personal knowledge of the persons who shot or beat or outraged the colored people, but know the crimes were committed because I have seen the wounds and the bodies.

To Senator McDonald—Have lived in Ouachita parish since 1873; was not a member of the school board; lived in Tensas before three years; before that in New Orleans; both are in the same district, though not adjoining.

To Senator McMillan—Officers have been compelled to leave Ouachita; Hardy, district attorney pro tem., Hall, justice of the peace of the fourth ward, and myself are examples; it was solely on account of political opinion; can not go back at present and live; left on the eleventh of November, under a guard of United States soldiers; there was no other way; have kept away ever since; there were about thirty white Republicans in the parish; Dr. Dinkgrave was tax collector; his character was good; he was regarded by the colored people as their leader; he was born in Ouachita; the effect of his assassination was the utter demoralization of the colored people; they had no one to look to; never heard of any Democrat being injured for his political opinion.

To Senator McDonald—Don't know when Hardy left; made report to the Governor; believe it was at his request that I got a guard to get away with; have deputies in Ouachita; one Republican and three Democrats; the Republican stays there; he is afraid to come away though he has been summoned to testify; he has a wife and family.

The committee then adjourned to ten o'clock this morning.

THE HOUSE CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

Ninth Day's Proceedings.

Inquiry was made if the Returning Board had furnished any documents, to which Mr. Phelps replied that he regularly, three times each day, made a formal demand, but had secured none.

Ex-Governor Wells recalled—To Mr. Morrison—I have already testified that we had held a consultation concerning filling the vacancy on the board; we made comparisons of the tally sheets and the consolidated returns; there was no increase in the vote of Concordia parish; when we got the box we discovered that the names of some electors had been voted for, but that they had not been counted on the returns; the names omitted were Republican electors; the proceeding was in the presence of witnesses; our final decisions were rendered in secret sessions; I have not estimated the number of votes thrown out; can furnish that information as soon as I refresh my memory by looking at the documents; can not now say how the votes thrown out affected the result; do not remember that the aggregate would amount to 13,000 votes; have not brought the original papers as demanded by the committee; I have no control over the original documents—they are the property of the State; a portion of the documents are in the Auditor's vault and a portion in the Returning Board's rooms; we may have received some returns through private hands; we counted them; the Grant parish returns were sent by private hands, but were not sent by the authorized person; believe the law says the returns shall be sent by mail; all returns must come direct from the supervisors; the sending for the box of Concordia parish was incidental, and we did not get it through the hands of the supervisors; we had nothing to do with a supervisor who was dishonest; we do not compile from the commissioner's returns; do not know that the law demands that course; it is not my construction of the law; you shall have the truth from me; the supervisor of East Baton Rouge told me that he had thrown out certain polls; we did not send for the Baton Rouge boxes; we paid no attention to the polls thrown out, as to whether they were Democratic or Republican; some polls where Republicans had a majority were thrown out; think the request of Mr. Harris to send for the Concordia boxes was made in open session; his letter is on file, and the date will show; believe the request was made before the board ceased to take evidence; if the Democrats had had no notification of the sending for the Concordia boxes, then it was not fair; the Democrats did not have time after the request of Harris was made; the members of the board kept private memorandums of our private sessions; Mr. Kenner is the secretary, and after a secret session the memorandums are handed to the secretary; Mr. Abell may have signed his name as secretary, but he is a clerk. [On request of Mr. McMahon Mr. Wells sent for his private memorandum book and the book which contained the receipts for returns from supervisors.] I am strong in my political bias, made so by bad treatment; my partisanship is not strong enough to make me be unjust; I had no pecuniary interest which would be likely to cause me to favor one side or the other; my property has been burned and not paid for; I have a large claim against the government, with little prospect of getting it paid; the Republicans have not served me squarely; my chances for getting my government claim are quite as good under Tilden as under Hayes; my claim did not influence me or warp my mind for one side or the other; Mr. Tilden's letter ignoring such claims did not warp my judgment; my relatives also have claims against the government, but we are not friendly and have not been for many years; their claims did not bias my mind; did not say that my claims would cause me to unduly support the Republican party; can not now remember the conversation between me and Mr. Freret concerning the matter; that conversation was held years ago; did not tell Mr. Freret that I was bound to favor the Republican party; I am surveyor of this port; the pay is a nullity, say about $200 per month; have my son as my deputy; have no relations in my office; I do not consider the office of Returning officer a State office, and it has no pay.

To Mr. Hurlbut—The commissioners of election are appointed by the supervisors of registration; commissioners must make their returns to the supervisors and supervisors must make their returns to the board; in the parish of Concordia the trouble was about the electoral vote; there was an omission of the names of some electors on the tally sheet; when we examined the box we found that the votes were there, but they had not been placed on the tally list; we examined the tickets and found that the electors' names were on them; we then counted those names; we sent for East Baton Rouge boxes; after election the boxes are placed in charge of the court clerk; the boxes that were examined were examined in public; my government claim is about thirteen years old; I have a claim in Congress for property taken from me by the government; the amount is about $6000; the property was taken by General Banks.

Direct—The law says that the supervisors must appoint commissioners from both parties; the supervisors of registration were generally Republicans; in many instances the commissioners were all Democrats; the board did not hold any open sessions after the closing of the evidence; do not know how 178 votes were transferred from the Democratic to the Republican electors in the parish of Vernon; there may have been a clerical mistake in that matter; we frequently certified to the returns as brought to us by the clerks, without always examining them; if the supervisor fails to do his duty the remedy rests with the courts, not with the board; I think I have discharged my duties honestly; if the polls that were thrown out were generally Democratic the party was unfortunate; my opinion is that the present election law is the only law that will suit under the present condition of things; in Concordia the tally sheet came with the returns; the supervisor's statement agreed with the tally sheet; we sent for one Concordia box; think we did not send for boxes from St. Martin; no poll in the parish of Orleans was thrown out by the board; Mr. Spofford asked us to call for boxes of Orleans parish, but we refused; if some polls were left out by the supervisors we could not help it; the board had only to deal with those things which the supervisors furnished us. [The books called for arrived.] This book is the wrong one; it is not the one I sent for; it does not show what we wanted; the other book is the right one; it contains the stubs of the receipts for election returns; it shows which came by mail and which by another source. [Mr. Jenks then read all the stubs, some of which stated how the returns came; some did not indicate anything.]

To Mr. Townsend—It is a fact that the board elected Mr. J. M. Sandidge a member, but he declined, and Mr. O. Arroyo was elected; Mr. Arroyo said that he would not remain on the board if another Democrat was not elected; Mr. Arroyo is a Democrat, and he served some time.

Direct—The board failed to agree on a nomination to fill the vacancy; it was our duty to fill the vacancy; I never asked anybody to take the place; the board did not refuse to elect a member; the Democrats knew that the board had failed to agree on the name sent in for election; Dr. Kennedy was the gentleman proposed; we did not take a vote on it; I was in favor of Dr. Kennedy; do not know about the other members; there was no agreement not to agree; do not think my holding a position is contrary to the President's order; I said that I held the Returning Board papers as a State officer, but I should not have said so; I am custodian of the documents; I do not receive a salary as president of the Returning Board; sometimes the Legislature makes appropriations for the board; know A. S. Badger, and he was appointed tax collector by Kellogg; I do not know that any of my relatives received money or notes from Badger; the mind that invented such a story is a corrupt one; I never received anything from him.

The following questions were put by Mr. Jenks, who read them from a slip of paper he held before him:

Have you directly or indirectly received any portion of the money paid in satisfaction of twenty or more notes of $1000 each, made by A. S. Badger, of Orleans, and paid through a bank of this city?

Was or was not certain notes of A. S. Badger paid to a relative of yours?

The answer is given above, and it was given emphatically.

To Mr. Townsend—If the board appointed a Democrat, and if that Democrat should change to a Republican, the board could not eject him.

To Mr. McMahon—Do not think that if Casanave or Kenner were to turn Democrats that they would be turned out or bulldozed out.

The committee went into secret session, after which it adjourned until six o'clock.

At the evening session the first witness was—

C. S. Abell—Reside in New Orleans; lived here since 1869; came from South Carolina; am assistant secretary to the Returning Board; was not continually present during the executive sessions; the election returns were sometimes received by mail and sometimes otherwise. [Witness was interrupted at considerable length by Mr. Morrison concerning the usages in our election matters, all of which has been testified to by several witnesses.] I know that the board canvassed and compiled every return that it received; do not know how many polls were thrown out and not returned, but by this paper before me I see it is sixty-nine; can not tell what the aggregate vote would be; was present during some of the sittings of the board; do not remember a conversation in the board concerning a poll of Orleans parish; know nothing of poll No. 2, eleventh ward; I was in and out of the room; I am a member of the flour board; was appointed last August by Lieutenant Governor Antoine; the pay is by fees; was once employed as inspector in the Customhouse.

Mr. Jenks asked witness concerning the matter of his income, what real estate, bank stocks, etc., he owned, but witness flatly refused to answer the questions.

Frank Johnson, colored—At the last election I voted the Democratic ticket; I canvassed the parish of Catahoula; before the election I was told I would be turned out of the church if I voted the Democratic ticket; know of a secret association among Republicans called Council of Freedom; it is oath bound; some of them told me they were armed, in Catahoula parish; I am president of a Democratic club of about thirty members; I was turned out of the church, and my license as a minister was taken from me; the colored men who joined the Democrats did so freely; know that there was intimidation used to make colored men vote with Republicans; they were told that if they voted with Democrats they would be put back into slavery; wives left their husbands for joining the Democrats.

To Mr. Hurlbut—Have lived in Catahoula a year; have been a local preacher there in the Baptist Church; when I joined the Democratic party I quit preaching; [laughter] my congregation did not want me any longer, and told me so; members of the council told me that they had given up their registration papers, by order of the president; the idea of taking the papers was to make the men vote in a body; the colored people there have arms; I have seen them wear them; they have cartridges, No. 42; the rifles were sent up to them about the first of October; the population is about equal, but it may be there are more whites than blacks; I was at poll No. 12; there was no trouble there; Old Dick Hazard voted an open Republican ticket; three colored men voted open Democratic tickets; about 160 votes were voted at that poll.

Direct—Women belong to the secret council.

During the secret session it was voted to put the members of the Returning Board in contempt for failing to furnish the committee the papers, documents and information demanded in the subpenas issued to the board the day that the committee arrived here. This action was immediately telegraphed to the House of Representatives.

The committee adjourned until eleven o'clock this morning.

The Temperature.

The thermometer at Louis Frigerio's, No. 50 Chartres street, stood as follows December 21: At 8 A. M., 60°; at 2 P. M., 61°; at 6 P. M., 61°. Lowest point during the night of December 20, 58°.

No Lions in the Path.

A Washington special to the Chicago *Post* gives the following under date of December 16:

"I don't see any lions in the path," said a distinguished Senator and lawyer in conversation with your correspondent to-day. "All we have to do is to proceed in the manner prescribed by law, count the 185 votes that are legally and fairly ours, in the presence of both houses, or of as many members thereof as choose to be present, and declare Mr. Hayes elected. That is all there is of it. I do not want any new law or reference of the subject to any tribunal not now provided by law and the constitution. I am satisfied that Hayes and Wheeler are honestly elected, and do not for myself need any further investigation, though I do not object to the acquisition of knowledge at any time."

This is very nearly the exact language of one of our ablest Senators, and it is safe to say that nearly all of the Republican Senators and Representatives agree with him.

In regard to that bugbear of the House "withdrawing in a body and setting up a government of its own," it is only necessary to say that there is nothing in it. The law required the electoral vote to be counted in the presence of as many members of both houses as choose to be present. It does not demand the presence of every member, or even that the President of the Senate shall ascertain that there is a quorum. Now it is absolutely certain that a very large number, nearly all of the Republican Representatives, will witness the count, and it is just as certain that a very considerable number of Democratic members of the House will be present, and will acquiesce in the result.

All through the Forty-fourth Congress the Democrats have never been able to obtain a quorum to carry any nefarious measure. The talk, therefore, of an attempt on the part of the House to "secede in a body and elect Mr. Tilden" is simply absurd. This revolutionary programme will be opposed by Republican Representatives and by many Democrats, especially those from the South.

Southern men regard the situation in a light much different from what the Northern Democrats would like to have and are trying to make the people believe. There is no talk among them of war and all that consequential nonsense in which the renewed copperheads of the rebellion and their infected descendants are indulging. There may be, and naturally would be, a vein of selfishness in their political creed. They would like Southerners in office, at least in offices which ought to come to them under a fair division in respect to population. But you will find among most of them an inclination to fraternize rather with Republicans, if they can get justice, than with Democrats who will feed them only crumbs.

There is a marvelous reaction going on to day in politics, and it would surprise no one conversant with the sentiments being developed here to see a union of the conservative Democrats of the South with the conservative Republicans of the North. All the former seek is fair treatment and justice, and they begin to see that the desire of Republicans to conciliate means more to their future and to their immediate happiness than the cant and hypocrisy and selfish machinations of the Northern Democrats who propose to use the South only to further their own purposes.

The attitude of Hill, Lamar and others is a representative one—that of affiliating conservatism. They propose to do what is right, what is lawful, what will give them and their people relief. Alliance with Northern Democrats offers but little encouragement in view of what they regard the treachery of the past. Alliance with Republicans means fair treatment from an honorable enemy, a condition full of promise, and an opening to secure the blessings of a peace which, for political purposes, the Democrats have done their best to prevent. The sentiments of the men I have named are honest, earnest ones, and represent the feelings of a large proportion of the people of the South. I believe there is a revulsion of popular feeling among the Conservatives, North and South, which will end, as I have intimated, in the strongest political union ever known. The Northern Democrats will do everything under heaven to prevent such a consummation. They will oppose fraternization with all the chicanery and influences which they can control, and set in play every passion that will still further embitter the antagonism between sections, and so render the union impossible.

The cry for war in this Tilden business is from the North, and not the South, and the slowly shifting sentiments indicated make more likely than ever a peaceful and happy solution of the vexatious presidential problem.

Tilden's Suits.

When the facts as to the suit of Henry H. Boody against Samuel J. Tilden, to recover $34,673 80 grabbed in Northwestern railroad stock-job, were made public, it was promptly denied as a campaign lie, and the public was assured that at the proper time Mr. Tilden would fully explain the matter, completely vindicating himself. The facts charged, it will be remembered, were that Tilden, who was a director in the Northwestern Company, entered into a pooling arrangement with Boody and others whereby the stock of the Galena Union Railroad Company was to be bought up and unloaded to the Northwestern at a handsome profit, which Mr. Tilden was to share. That is, as director and trustee for the stockholders of his company, Mr. Tilden proposed to prostitute his position to skin his stockholders in the transaction for his own profit. In the suit, Boody further alleges that when the transaction was complete Tilden proceeded to skin his associates of the pool out of $26,000 of the profits. Now, the proper time for Mr. Tilden to set up his answer seems to have come, for he has filed it. And that answer, which was to be his full vindication, so long promised, is that the suit against him is barred by the statute of limitations—not that the facts alleged in Boody's bill are not untrue, but that Boody's claim is so old it can't be sued on. The plea is, in short, precisely such vindication as was Tweed's "What are you going to do about it?" It is a confession of the fraud charged.—*Chicago Tribune.*

Specimen Witnesses.

The New York *Times* of the sixteenth says:

The House sub-committee in New Orleans had a sample yesterday of the colored people who worked and voted for Tilden. One was a milkman, who served white customers, was desirous of obliging them, and thought that "a change" would enable him to get his money more promptly. The other was a person who had been assaulted for his political opinion, but who made no charge against his assailants, and, oddly enough, submitted to the indignity of an arrest by them. The third was a colored orator who had been turned out of the Legislature by Republicans, "illegally," he thinks, after being "illegally" elected for a second term. Being of a forgiving disposition, however, he offered to work for the Republican committee, and it was only when his services were declined that he went over to the Democrats. So far, not much progress has been made in proving the great revulsion in the feeling of negro voters in Louisiana, which is assumed to have given Tilden a majority in that State.

Christmas present,
Christmas present,
Christmas present.
For one dollar, worth $15,000.
For one dollar, worth $15,000.
For one dollar, worth $15,000.
For one dollar, worth $15,000.
Grand drawing, January 2.
Grand drawing, January 2.
Grand drawing, January 2.

Having been left, Sam Cox is leader of the left wing.

BY TELEGRAPH.

TAKING TESTIMONY.

THE SUB-COMMITTEE AT SHREVEPORT

THE FIRST DAY'S PROCEEDINGS

[Special to the New Orleans Republican.

SHREVEPORT, December 21, 1876.

Messrs. Meade and Danford arrived by special train this morning, and joined Mr. House, the other member of the congressional sub-committee, all of whom are quartered at Cumpston's restaurant.

Their first meeting was held this evening at Colonel S. J. Ward's office, on Milam street, Mr. Meade acting as chairman.

The witnesses examined were Messrs. W. H. Wise, A. B. Crowder, Reuben White, Albert Phillips, Warren Gillard and Nobert Butcher, of Caddo parish, the three latter being colored laborers on Mr. James Foster's plantation, and Senator A. B. George and W. Carloss, of Bossier parish.

Nothing of any importance was elicited.

Congressman Danford, by his pertinent cross-examination of witnesses, proved himself fully equal to the task of coping with the numerous attorneys assisting the Democratic members of the committee.

If to-day is a sample of the testimony to be produced, your correspondent feels justified in stating that this sub-committee will not have much consolation for the general committee when they make their report.

B. C. White, of the *Telegram*, and Captain McKenna, Mr. James Heffner and Mr. A. A. Millican are the committee on the part of the Republicans, while Major Moncure, N. C. Blanchard, Esq., and several other members of the legal fraternity are acting for the Democrats.

Judge J. B. Elam arrived with the committee, and is taking a very active part in the investigation.

About 8 P. M. the committee adjourned to meet at the Courthouse to-morrow morning. X.

CONGRESS.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, December 21.—A resolution was offered by Mr. Anthony providing that when the Senate is adjourned on Friday, the twenty-second instant, it be to meet on Tuesday, the twenty-sixth instant, and unless otherwise then ordered when it adjourns on the twenty-sixth instant it be to meet on the twenty-ninth instant, and that unless otherwise then ordered when it adjourns on the twenty-ninth instant it be to meet on Tuesday, January 2, 1877, which led to a lengthy discussion.

Mr. Sherman, chairman of the Finance Committee, said the bill passed by the House making the silver dollar of standard weight a legal tender will be taken up soon after the holid