NEW ORLEANS REPUBLICAN.

SINGLE COPIES: FIVE CENTS. OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA. TERMS: $12 PER ANNUM.

VOLUME X.—NO. 219. NEW ORLEANS, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1876. WHOLE NUMBER 2994.

THE SENATE COMMITTEE.

Fifth Day.

The first point discussed was the sending to the Returning Board for all papers as asked for by Senator McDonald's motion.

The chairman stated unless it was expected these would contradict the statement made by the board, he could see no use in it.

Senator McDonald said he did not doubt they would agree as to the parishes cast out, but was advised that as to the total vote they would not. He also thought it best to see the original papers. The statement does not show what polls were rejected by the supervisors.

The chairman said there was no objection to adopting that rule. But the board was engaged in making its report to the Legislature, which met a week from Tuesday.

Senator Saulsbury desired that the committee should have the original documents.

Senator McDonald did not doubt the list of the twenty-two rejected parishes was correct, but did not see how the committee could determine whether the board had acted according to law or gone outside of it unless it saw the papers on which it based its action.

Senator Wadleigh, though he wished to see the originals, considered that as the board was to determine who was elected and had the returns for that purpose, and no one was supposed to know what they were till they made their report, was not willing to demand them while engaged in that work.

Senator McDonald thought the committee should formally request the board to produce them, as it had yet made no demand. He read a statement under section three, claiming the board could not reject a poll of its own motion or go behind the returns.

The chairman stated his view was that papers were not necessary for the board to ascertain whether fagrar or law reigns; the Legislature had given the power.

The matter went over.

Senator McDonald stated they wished an examination of Eliza Pinkston by commission.

Senator Saulsbury was in favor of this, confident that counsel would not unduly press the witness. He did not think it proper for a body of the dignity of the committee to go around town after witnesses.

Senator McMillan thought this body wished to ascertain the truth, and it was not a body to let its dignity stand in the way of ascertaining it.

This matter went over also.

William R. Hardy—Was born in Indiana; resided in Louisiana since January, 1868; in Louisville before; studied law; was assessor of taxes till 1872; then engaged in planting; was recorder of Monroe in 1874; then appointed district attorney pro tem.; resided in Ouachita since 1868, have a family; am a voter and a Republican; went into the war as a war Democrat; was candidate for parish judge; canvassed the parish; there was an interruption caused by the assassination of Dinkgrave; and the conduct of Democrats at the barbecue of St. James Chapel; the canvass was resumed only when the assistance of the United States army was had; it was impossible without; the troops went ahead and were stationed about 400 yards from the meeting; there was only one meeting without them; knew Dr. Dinkgrave; he was the leader of the party; threats were made against him; Walter Logan warned him he would be killed if he did not desist from canvassing; he was a bold man and treated them lightly; they were verified soon after; he was born in Ouachita; was at one time in the medical department of the United States army; the Sunday previous to his assassination he told me he had met two disguised men, mounted and armed, on his road from home, who watched and followed him; asked to have me go home with him; would have gone but wife objected; Dr. Dinkgrave and Mr. Lea went home to Judge Ludeling's house; Monday he said he was afraid, but refused to make affidavits as the Democrats would charge it was for political effect—to make a martyr of himself; don't know where he lodged Monday night; he did not go home; Tuesday the same; Wednesday he was killed; at 10 A. M. he was very much depressed; said he did not think any one in Ouachita would kill him; thought that the only way to do was to pursue a straightforward course; at half past three he rode by on his way home; soon after heard the report of a shotgun; Ennemoser and I did not go to him, but remained with our families; a priest went to him; he was brought to Monroe from Judge Ludeling's house and buried the next day; the effect on both white and colored Republicans was to completely demoralize them; the whites could not but think they were likely to be the next; Dinkgrave was a native, had relatives there and many more friends than they; the colored people were entirely demoralized; knew James Jackson; he was an inoffensive colored Republican; it was reported his body was on a load of wood; had been removed when I got there; marks of buckshot were in the wood; he had been found dead in his wagon; his hat was found where he was shot; knew Primus Johnson; was a colored Republican; a Methodist preacher of good character; saw him after his death at Eaton Logwood's house; went there with ten soldiers to take Eaton's dying declaration; learned of it at twelve M., October 10; discussed the matter with Colonel Hale and Colonel Richardson, who suggested the declaration; his brother came for a physician; those on the Island refusing to attend; had met two men, who, learning that he was Eaton's brother, searched him, and wanted him to go to the woods with them, but he escaped; he was afraid to go back; Ferdinand Bynum was an inoffensive Republican, who was killed; knew Eaton Logwood; Colonel Hale knew the roads to him were picketed and offered an escort; started at nine o'clock; proceeded very cautiously; arrived at ten; there were no colored men there, but some came afterward; put three of them on guard with guns; soon they came and they did not dare even to protect the life of Eaton Logwood to be seen with guns by white characters; Eaton was an industrious, hard-working, honest man; only saw the wounds on Henry W. Burrell; he stated he met a wagon containing two or three men, one of whom shot him; Henry Clay was shot at the same time; William Lewis was shot afterward; Spencer Dickerson was shot before; they were shot by Ed Hathaway, a Texan, who came early in the spring and was employed by Mr. Scarborough, a member of the rifle clubs; he was the most desperate man I ever met; was a member of the rifle companies to preserve the peace of Ouachita parish; George Shelton was shot about October 15; started to investigate the case; found it was impossible to investigate it; could not converse with a witness without having a Democrat overseeing it; was not allowed to converse with my witnesses; Colonel Richardson, attorney for the defense, a very active Democratic leader, told me he would not permit me to go into town and examine colored people out of his presence; am convinced that Will Howard, an active bulldozer, was the man who did the shooting; the examination was before Justice Morris, a Democrat, who had nothing to do with the rifle clubs, but was controlled by them; an alibi failed, but the justice indorsed the papers that there was no evidence against him; Manuel Richards told me a rope had been put around his neck, and he swung up; Henry Foster the same, and shot at; several complained of being driven from home; George Roberts' door was broken down and the house shot into; Aaron Turner, George Brantly, Ned Mitchell, Andrew Harris and Lee Pool reported they had been driven from their crops by J. T. Swan; was told by Mr. George Miller that I must do nothing, and not advise colored people to defend themselves in their own houses; that would do well for white people; Democrats came to Republican meetings to overawe, and not to listen; they were always armed; it terified the colored people. The first indication of violence was an affidavit of Downs against Seizemore, a Republican, that he had said there would be hell in the election; it was published in Caldwell, a Democratic parish; the next was the conduct of Democrats at St. James Chapel, August 24; was the only speaker; was interrupted; saw the meeting must be dispersed. Witness detailed the cutting of the rope. The Monroe Rifle Club was sent for; Mr. Dinkgrave was assassinated the following Wednesday; there was no investigation as to shooting into houses of Republicans, but was as to Democrats; a man, colored, is now in jail for it, although there is no evidence against him; was called on by Messrs. Williams, Gundy and Slack, who said I had been charged with having incited the negroes to fire into the houses of Democrats; denied it; they desired I should go down to the Island and tell the colored people not to fire into them any more; refused to go, after consultation with others who were accused the same way, because it would immediately be said we had advised them to do it at first and were now afraid of the consequences; the houses shot into were those of Messrs. Faulk, Garrett and Chandler; Judge Robert Ray went there and told the colored people if they had had anything to do with it they should have nothing more to do with it; the Democrats on this covered him with ridicule for doing the exact thing they had asked me to do; the members of the Monroe rifle company, through Mr. Slack, refused to assist Mr. Hamlet; told me they would not respond; heard Mr. John McEnery make a violent speech at Monroe; spoke bitterly of Mr. Packard; called him a thief and liar: that the Republicans were mean, low down, etc; his speech was so violent that I did not feel safe to remain; was assured the contrary by Democrats; that Mr. McEnery did not represent their sentiments, and that he or Mr. Nicholls would cease to canvass; Mr. Alfred Bourges was there then to organize the Republican party, but was convinced it was useless, and went away; when Lieutenant McCauley was going to Cuba he received a note; went with him to the house of a colored woman, who told him a lady had said that if Mr. Brewster and Mr. Hamlet got on the stand to speak they ought to be shot; Mr. Lacy was present, and said he would be there; she told it to him as a warning; one Democrat was injured, a colored man, on the railroad; made affidavit it was by roustabouts who were out of work; were placed under heavy bonds; no other case occurred in that parish; was United States supervisor of poll No. 1; November 6, with Judge Caldwell, commissioner, started from Monroe at half-past three o'clock; had the poll box; was halted after passing Chauvan bridge; was halted by George C. Phillips and John Mills; on the left were a large number of armed men; Judge Caldwell asked if it was possible he was halted; was told it was by Captain Theobald's orders; told them who we were; ordered the driver to go on, and he did drive on; met a wagon with provisions; met fourteen more men, J. T. Swan being the only one living in the parish; think I know all but a very few men; there was no violence; Democrats refused to let the colored people vote as they wished; took Republican tickets and certificates of registration from them and escorted them to the box to vote the Democratic ticket; it was impossible for them to vote the Republican ticket; saw no arms at the poll; all colored men had to pass through the Democrats in order to vote; Mayor Endom is an ardent Democrat; there was a large number of colored men in Monroe, November 6, in order to vote the next day; a proclamation was issued by the mayor stating there were prospects of a riot, and advised the colored people to return to their wards; the mayor brought some to me indorsed "Go to hell with your proclamation," "We don't want peace," but could not tell who had returned them to him; by my advice he called on Colonel Hale for aid to preserve the peace; left Ouachita November 14; have not been back; do not feel safe.

To Senator McDonald—Did not distribute tickets, as I was an officer; the two who were to be present were turned back; Mr. Walter Logan had Republican tickets over his arm, which he had asked me for; the character of Walter Logan and Tidwell before this canvass was good; did not see tickets taken away from colored men except once; the majority of colored men can read and write their names; there were many strangers at the polls who did not vote; possibly they might have been residents of Ouachita, but not probable; believe the colored man assaulted by the roustabouts was a Democrat; took notes of Mr. McEnery's speech and wrote them out that night; will furnish them; Mr. Stubbs, a good citizen, Democrat and high toned gentleman, told me Mr. Nicholls had told him he disapproved of Mr. McEnery's speech, and would not continue the canvass if he did; Mr. Nicholls' speech was moderate; Mr. Wiltz' manner less so; there were white people who came to Monroe when their houses were fired into; they did not appear afraid; they said: "Let them come on if they want to," etc; the Texas desperado, Hathaway, was captured by the rifle club; Captain McCloud took him; the club would not follow Hamlet's orders or his colored deputy; Hathaway is in jail; he was a member of the rifle club; said the boys had gone back on him; Horton has been heard telling him from the outside that it would all be fixed up; he had taken an active part as a Democrat; Mr. H. G. Dodson, who was with Dinkgrave, said that a man who passed by the name of Grace, and who was living at Capt. McCloud's place, looked to him like the man who shot him; Joe Venoit, Sim Medlock and another were near there; the man was a stranger; was disguised.

To Senator Saulsbury—Have no personal knowledge, gained by being present, of the whippings, hangings and other outrages; have official knowledge and original affidavits.

To Senator Wadleigh—Gave a ticket to a colored man who asked for it; a white man took it from him, and looking steadily at him, tore it slowly in pieces; threw them away; turned and looked steadily at me; asked him if that was the way he proposed to treat voters who wished to vote another ticket than his; he shook his finger at me and said, "That's enough from you;" didn't say any more; obtained information of arms found from Colonel Hale's report; they were a few shotguns only; the shooting of Dickerson was on Saturday; Hathaway was arrested Sunday; the rifle clubs did all they could to prevent the finding of Dinkgrave's assassins and impede the officers of the law.

To Senator Oglesby—The Republican vote at poll No. 1 should have been about 200.

To Senator Saulsbury—Was paid for attendance by the United States; by the marshal; mileage and per diem; about $53.

Alfred Bourges—Has resided in New Orleans about fifty years; attended a Democratic meeting in Ouachita, at Monroe, before the courthouse, in the public square; Mr. John McEnery made a speech; took notes; Mr. McEnery in commencing gave a biographical sketch of himself; declared distinctly that he was a Bourbon and a Last Ditcher, and would die in the last ditch. After some rambling remarks about his heroic maintenance of the Democratic interest since 1872, he spoke of Mr. Packard as follows:

"Ladies and gentlemen, did you ever see the thief Packard, who villified our honest candidate, General Nicholls, by offering him to canvass the State with him? Did you ever see him? He has the most horrible countenance you ever saw. He is a thief and a scroundrel—the embodiment of all the combined corruption and rascality in this State. Just think of such a thief canvassing the State in the company of our noble candidate for Governor."

He continued this villification at some length, and then said:

"I would kill him if I had the power, and it is lucky for him, and probably for me, that I have no such power. But he ought to be killed, and if some one could put a bullet into him [pointing with his right hand to his temple] it would be a blessing to this State."

He also launched his diatribe against all the white Republicans, calling them carpetbaggers and scallawags, and stated they ought to be killed or run off. How long, ladies and gentlemen, said he, do you think they would remain after we gave them notice to quit? No longer than it would take the ink to dry on that letter. Our State is cursed with a lot of rascals, scoundrels and thieves and they will be got rid of as soon as we carry the election, and we will carry it at all hazards; although Ouachita has been Republican, this time we will make it different; he continued in the same style at some length; witness went to Ouachita as a member of the Republican State Central Campaign Committee, to organize the party in North Louisiana; got there a few days after Dinkgrave was killed; was requested by the few Republicans he could find, most of them being in the woods, to leave—to leave quick; that it was impossible to organize the party; was a Democrat up to 1867 or 1868; never held any office except as member of the city council a short time and of the Legislature in 1867–68; was in the Confederate army.

While cross-examining, Senator Saulsbury suggested to Mr. Bourges that he had been informed Mr. McEnery was likely to deny the statements made of his speech.

To Senator Saulsbury—Don't profess to give all of Mr. McEnery's speech; most violent speech ever heard; was informed he made the same speech in St. Tammany and St. Martin; he referred to all Republicans as thieves and rascals; am positive the terms "ought to be killed," "if I had the power would kill him," were used by Mr. McEnery; made the report to the committee; it was published in the REPUBLICAN; the Democrats first thought to ridicule this and me as a spy, but concluded to deny it; at least one of the papers did; Mr. McEnery published a card denying it; I then called on General Nicholls, and all who were present on the platform with Mr. McEnery to give their version, but none of them did; it was the most violent speech I ever heard.

To Senator Wadleigh—Nobody but Mr. McEnery denied it.

To Senator Saulsbury—Mr. McEnery published a card, but after I fastened it on him he was silent; all of the Democratic candidates were present.

Stephen Woods—Was United States supervisor of poll No. 2, first ward of Ouachita; was not at the polls election day; started from Monroe; met pickets, armed and mounted; was halted; told who I was; was told I could not go on, and ordered to go back; they were white men; know Captains Theobald and Lewis; they were Democrats; haven't slept at home since August 30 till November 7; was warned by Democrats at the house, half a mile from Monroe, Mr. John Hudson's, that I would be shot; the house was fired into November 7; saw three men outside; every road leading into Monroe was picketed; the effect of murdering Dinkgrave and the other outrages was to entirely demoralize the Republicans.

To Senator Saulsbury—The roads were picketed November 6; don't know that there was great excitement in Monroe, and that the people were afraid of the colored people coming into town, except that they told them to go back to their own wards; reported the fact of being turned back to Colonel Hale; one bullet fired into the house struck the bed where Turner and I were lying; was summoned by United States Commissioner Woolfley; was paid mileage and per diem; paid in United States money by the marshal.

To Senator Wadleigh—Don't know that it was United States money; only know that I was paid by the Marshal.

To Senator Wadleigh's astonishment he stated he was a colored man.

H. C. C. Astwood—Resides in Carroll; was United States deputy marshal at the last election; attended all Republican meetings from October 28 to November 7; was present at the meetihg at St. James Chapel, November 3; on the way to the meeting with Mr. Hamlet met an armed body, all white but two; they yelled at us; intimidated the colored people so they refused to follow us to the meeting; said they had been ordered not to go; was first speaker; the whites surrounded me; heard: "You're a God damned liar;" saw women and children running; saw Mr. Howard with his hand on his revolver; believed this was a free country; would speak if I died for it; Colonel Hale restored order; during my speech Henry Pinkston cheered me and was very enthusiastic; was told afterward he was killed; knew Howard; left Monroe November 12 under escort of United States troops.

To Senator Saulsbury—Attended five Republican meetings; the armed men only yelled and rode hard in front of us; don't know personally what they said to other people; there were 300 people there; over 100 whites; the troops were at some distance; was summoned by Commissioner Woolfley; was paid for mileage and attendance.

The chairman asked what motive there was in asking these questions.

Senator Saulsbury stated it was his object to show the facilities the Republican party had to carry the election and to bring witnesses before the Returning Board. They not only had the use of the United States army, but the use of the United States money, and to put the facts before the people.

Senator Wadleigh said that so far as the use of the United States army was concerned it was used to prevent the friends of Senator Saulsbury from murdering our friends, and for one he was willing to assume his share of the responsibility.

The chairman stated that as far as putting the fact before the people, it did not seem important, if the investigation could be properly had, but he did not think it came within the instructions given the committee, and if the proof of a fact got before the Returning Board it would not make the proof stronger or weaker.

George H. Denton—Lived six years in Ouachita; was at Monroe at the election at ward No. 3; live in ward No. 5; couldn't vote there; the white people had been riding round at night and told us they had tried eight years coaxing, and now would try something else; told the people they had better go to Monroe and vote; we had to escape to get there; when we got there we were ordered to leave.

To Senator McDonald—Live the other side of the river from the Island; Mr. Fuller told Garrett Esau to go with him to ward No 2 and made him vote the Democratic ticket; knew of two others driven off the same plantation he was on, and had heard of many others.

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

THE HOUSE CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE.

Tenth Day's Proceedings.

The first witness called was—

William Williams, colored—I reside in New Orleans; since the election I have been beaten; one Sunday night as I went out of church somebody called me, and asked me if I did not vote the Democratic ticket; I told him no; I was then knocked down and beaten and shot at two times; I did not vote; intended to have voted the Democratic ticket; the names of colored men who were to vote the Democratic ticket were pretty well known.

To Mr. Townsend—I drive a buggy for a Democratic physician; my employer did not tell me how to vote; do not know the men who assailed me; was not threatened before election; nobody told me that they would finish me; I was registered in the eleventh ward; did not vote because I thought I was just as well off without it.

R. J. Hogan, colored—I live in West Feliciana; the election was a free and fair one; saw no intimidation in the tenth ward; before election heard colored men say that any nigger that voted the Democratic ticket ought to be killed; do not know that Democrats made negroes vote their ticket; I resigned my position as police juror and began to canvass my ward for the Democrats; there were many colored people voted with the Democrats; know nothing about men riding around the country whipping men, but I heard of it; I made an affidavit in the Customhouse in this city; told them what I heard about the killing of Gair and Carter; I know what I said, but I do not know what they put into the affidavit; I signed and swore to the affidavit; never regarded my own life in danger; on election day I was at the seventh ward poll; voted in the tenth ward; in 1874 the Republicans had about 200 majority there.

To Mr Townsend—I am a farmer; rent the land; was elected police juror in 1872 and 1874; have heard of the regulators; resigned my office in November, 1875; the jury were indicted for malfeasance in office and one was sent to jail; while Sterling was in prison we allowed him his per diem; the police jury was cussed for d—d niggers and d—d rascals by the Democrats; heard that the Regulators were riding about the country whipping colored people for stealing; the Regulators, I was told, were both white and black; the expense of being a police juror was too costly for me; the charge of malfeasance in office would have cost me $75; the Regulators whipped three colored men on my place; did not see it because I was in my house; the bulldozers shot at Bemiss Williams because he started to run away; they told the men they whipped that they must leave; Mr. Barrow told the colored men who joined his Democratic club that he would take care of them; I asked Barrow what was the best thing we could do; had no talk with him about joining the Democrats; heard of the murder of Michel; heard about Gilbert Carter being killed; they were colored men; did not hear who killed them; Barrow said to us that he hoped we would all vote the Democratic ticket if we wanted a good government; I joined his Democratic club; it was about June when I signed the roll; never voted the Democratic ticket before; there were other colored men in that club; do not remember that I said I would vote the Republican ticket if I dared to; heard of Regulators riding over the parish before the election; heard that the bulldozers were whipping men because they were Radicals; after election I signed a paper presented by a white Democrat saying that the election passed off without intimidation; I did not sign it through fear; have been back home since election and since September; did not tarry long; did not care to go back until my Customhouse testimony was straightened out; nobody talked to me about giving my testimony here; I came here voluntarily.

To Mr. Morrison—Did not hear that my Customhouse affidavit was printed wrong; guessed that the man who wrote my affidavit was not putting it down right.

To Mr. Townsend—Colton, a colored Republican whose house was burned in Feliciana, did not go home with me after I made my affidavit; he went home, but we ran off.

To Mr. Jenks—The marshal paid me for being a witness.

E. A. Burke—I have the tally sheets of poll No. 2, eleventh ward; it is signed by three commissioners, two supervisors and a deputy marshal; I saw the men sign it; there were no weapons in sight; McEnery, the Democratic elector, received 419 votes; Kellogg, the Republican elector, received 94 votes; this poll has never been sent to the Secretary of State; it has been omitted; Republicans alleged intimidation; the Returning Board did not include it; Kempton had a protest saying that he had signed the tally sheet under duress; I know that to be false; A. W. Kempton has the reputation of being a scoundrel; he has been indicted twice in Galveston; the indictments are for swindling the city of Galveston and for releasing prisoners for a consideration while he was chief of police of Galveston; I have a document signed by several persons who declare that the election was quiet and fair; that poll had 510 votes; I have copies of the registration lists for the years 1874 and 1876; visited the poll half a dozen times on election day and several times at night; heard that Kempton had requested somebody to keep the tally, but all the commissioners were satisfied; late at night, when almost all the work was complete, Kempton told me that he felt too unwell to perform any more work; told him that there was only five minutes more work to perform; Kempton had just previously been in another room with Backers and Hearsey, and held a consultation; after they came out Kempton and Hearsey refused to sign, they stating that they had been intimidated; that was between twelve and one o'clock at night, and that was the first I had heard about intimidation; I am satisfied that the election in the eleventh ward was perfectly fair.

To Mr. Townsend—The consolidated statement does not contain poll No. 2 of the eleventh ward; there is no other complaint in that ward; the Returning Board accepts returns from assistant supervisors of registration; the supervisor failed in his duty in not sending up all the papers; the Returning Board never had before it in regular form all the papers relating to poll No. 2; the board had a certificate of the votes polled; there was a protest signed by Kempton against the board receiving poll No. 2; the protest says that there was a disturbance in the poll room at 8 A. M.; I was not there at that time and heard nothing of it.

Direct—The paper signed by six or eight citizens, rebutting the statements made by Hearsey and Kempton, went before the Returning Board.

A. E. Billings—I reside in New Orleans; voted with the Republicans last election; the character of A. M. C. Hearsey was bad; I would not believe him on oath; an affidavit was made in 1859, charging that Hearsey had picked a pocket of C. Huming; accused was discharged; he is now a policeman.

To Mr. Townsend—Have not known anything of Hearsey for three years; have heard policemen say that they would not believe him on oath; have heard thirty or forty say so.

C. J. Landig—Election in the eleventh ward was free and fair: counting the votes at poll No. 2 was very slow; Hearsey had charge of the box; there were a few discrepancies in the tally sheets; saw a pistol hanging on the wall; it belonged to Percy Campbell; one dropped out of Hearsey's pocket; heard no threats of any kind; I made no threats to obtain possession of the box key; I put nothing into the box, but took out a poll list; was a sworn commissioner at that time; Kempton said he was too tired or sick to continue at work during the night; nearly every allegation in Kempton's protest is false; heard Major Burke ask several persons inside if the arrangement to permit Kempton to retire for a time was satisfactory, and we replied that it was; no threats were made to make the men sign the tally sheets; the supervisor took the box to the courthouse; prior to the time that Kempton and Hearsey left the back room there was no sign of intimidation that I saw.

To Mr. Townsend—I carried a pistol election day; the law permits commissioners to carry weapons on election day; can't tell where to find the law; wore the pistol because I did not know what might happen.

Direct—Hearsey had charge of the box, and after 10 A. M. he began to receive notes every few minutes from the supervisor, taking up more time than I deemed necessary in reading them.

James Flower—Reside in New Orleans; on election day was in the eleventh ward; was at poll No. 2 from the time it opened until it closed and the box sealed; did not know of threats of any kind; a pistol hung on the wall; after Kempton put Mr. Putnam at the tally sheets, he (Kempton) remained in the room; there were no threats made to obtain possession of the box keys: know of no violence from first to last; the tally sheets were signed voluntarily.

To Mr. Townsend—I was a clerk at the poll.

George W. Church—On the day of election I was at poll No. 2, eleventh ward; was at the poll from half-past five o'clock in the morning until one o'clock that night; heard of no threats, and saw no pistols drawn; Hearsey worked very slow in taking tickets out of the box when the counting was going on.

Oscar L. Putnam—I kept the tally sheets at poll No. 2, eleventh ward, at the request of Kempton, the supervisor, who said he was sick; I knew of no threats; I was deputy sheriff at that time; I was there on the part of the Democrats.

W. C. Flower, L. H. Howard, Charles Eager, J. M. Harding and Percy Campbell testified to about the same things that the last two witnesses did.

Mr. Townsend recalled Major Burke, and asked his opinion as to what power was superior to the Returning Board in final decisions relative to the election. Major Burke replied that as he was not a lawyer he could venture many opinions on the subject. A desultory conversation ensued, but as it was not evidence it is not reported here.

The committee adjourned until 6 P. M.

As the committee is greatly divided into sub-committees, this branch consisted of Messrs. Morrison, Jenks and Townsend.

One of the sub-committees, composed of Messrs. Phelps, Blackburn and Hurlbut, sat in a room adjoining the hall of the Chamber of Commerce, and began taking testimony for the parishes of Orleans, Livingston, Lafayette, Tangipahoa, Jefferson, Lafourche, Terrebonne, Plaquemines, St. Charles, Iberia and St. Landry. Tangipahoa was the first parish taken up, and H. A. Schreiber sworn.

At the night session the first witness was—

Lieutenant Samuel N. Holmes—I am at present stationed at Baton Rouge, and belong to the Thirteenth Infantry; at the last election I was at Baton Rouge; the general feeling in the Feliciana and Baton Rouge was to avoid a breach of the peace, especially among Democrats, during the canvass; on the day of election I was at some of the polls in the city of Baton Rouge; visited a poll on Church street out of curiosity; noticed that a great many colored people were voting; there was plenty of opportunity to vote; in my intercourse with the people saw no trouble, no unfair dealing; residents, after the election, expressed surprise at the polls being thrown out.

To Mr. Townsend—There was no partiular object in our being stationed at Baton Rouge; it is a military post; it was understood that we were sent to Feliciana to preserve the peace; previous to our going there John Gair had some trouble; his sister was hung for attempting to poison Mr. Sanders; Gair was killed; one or more colored men were killed on the Pierce place; they were shot at by unknown parties; the colored people were greatly frightened; heard of the killing of Simpson; the coroner of Baton Rouge told me about it; he told me that he would not go again, as he was afraid to; I know Lieutenant Davies; heard of his being shot at between Jackson and Clinton; I consider the case of John Gair as a case of bulldozing; have not heard of white Republicans having been driven from the parish; colored Republicans never spoke to me about the troubles; do not know that colored men were driven from East Feliciana, my position prevented me obtaining many particulars of what was going on; considerable fear and a feeling of insecurity may have existed among the colored people generally, but I can't say positively: I did not go into the country much.

Direct—Do not think that the Gair case grew out of politics; I know the sheriff of Baton Rouge.

Charles Scott, colored—I live in Algiers; voted the Democratic ticket; was threatened after election; a man told me he would kill me because I voted the Democratic ticket; the men who threatened me were colored Republicans; my family was threatened; some men promised to cowhide me and some threatened to kill me; I do not go out nights; formerly voted the Republican ticket.

To Mr. Townsend—I drive a dray daily; was not threatened before election; changed my politics this last election; thought I might just as well vote for those who furnished me bread and meat—the people who gave me work; Tom Bury, William Thomas and John Valcour threatened to take my life; came out to-night with Peter Cramer; did not really make up my mind how to vote until election day; didn't think there was any harm in it.

J. C. Davis, colored—Reside in New Orleans; voted the Democratic ticket last election; was secretary of a Democratic meeting that was broken up; Poindexter was speaking; a lot of white men, in citizen's dress, entered the room and called the speaker a liar; turned Democrat in 1874; turned voluntarily; canvassed Lafourche, Ascension, Pointe Coupee, St. Helena and other parishes; I did not hear of a single colored man who turned Democrat by force; a white Republican of St. Helena visited Governor Kellogg, and told him that bulldozers were after the colored men; Kellogg told him that it did not matter much how many niggers were killed—it would be a good thing for the party to tell to the country, he said.

To Mr. Townsend—I addressed five meetings in Lafourche, and one in Livingston; heard no complaint among the colored people excepting that they had had bad government for eight years; nobody hired me to go into the country to canvass; I tendered my services to the Democratic committee, and they paid my expenses; in all they gave me about $175.

Direct—The Condon boys in the third ward told me that if I voted at one of the back polls they would put out my lights.

Charles A. Price, colored—Reside in St. Charles parish; before last fall I was a Republican, but I never voted; changed to be a Democrat last election to better my condition; I joined an open Democratic club that had over 100 members, seventy-five of them colored; attended a Republican meeting, and a vote was taken whether to hear me or not, and they voted to hear me; some of the officials pulled me down off the platform; afterward I attended another Republican meeting at Hahnville; I was attacked afterward, and some of the men said they were going to make a solid Republican or solid Democrat out of me; one night as I was riding home, Colly and Jerry Thornton caught me, when one whipped me with a cane while the other held a pistol; they whipped me about three miles on the road; they called me very hard names; I made an affidavit against them; they begged my pardon afterward, and asked me to let the affair blow over; I spoke at several public political meetings.

To Mr. Townsend—At the Republican meeting that I was called on to speak Colby, the coroner, and Jerry Thornton pulled me down from the platform; never prosecuted the men who whipped me; I was a candidate for justice of the peace, but had to withdraw, and I left there before the election; my Moonlight Club was broken up before the election; the seventy-five colored men scattering; the whipping I got broke up the club.

Major Burke—I was at the Returning Board when the sixth poll box of the second ward was opened; I discovered that the supervisor had omitted poll No. 6 from the consolidated statement; he told me that that poll was so greatly mixed that he could not make much out of it; several gentlemen examined the returns; the vote of poll No. 6 was called for by Governor Palmer for electors and Governor; for Kellogg 83, McEnery 298; poll No. 6 was omitted by the board; I heard only one charge against that poll, and that was that in one instance a figure on one paper was indistinct—we could not tell whether it was a 7 or a 9; by looking at the tally sheet we found that the figure was 9; a Mr. Davidson, a commissioner at poll No. 6, seventh ward, has made an affidavit that he did not sign the tally sheets or other papers; a gentleman is now present in this room who saw him sign the papers; Davidson's signature is on the papers.

To Mr. Townsend—This is one of the original second ward tally sheets, furnished by Mr. Black; the other was given to Mr. Brim, the supervisor of the second ward; do not know why that return you hold did not go to the board; A. J. Brim filed a protest against poll No. 6, because, as he said, the return was so mixed that he could make nothing out of it; I do not know that the board did anything more about the matter; Mr. Anderson acknowledged that the error in the second ward return was a clerical error; the mistake did not change the election of any officer; now I think of it I can not positively say about the office of upper coroner.

R C Black—On the last election I was commissioner at poll No. 6, second ward, parish of Orleans; I saw Mr. Davidson sign the return; saw Davidson sign the tally sheets immediately after the election; I filed a compilation of the vote before the Secretary of State; during election day Davidson offered to bet a hat that we had the quietest poll in the State.

Thomas Maclair—I saw Davidson sign the papers.

Charles Cavanac—Evidence was filed by the Democratic counsel before the Returning Board in reference to polls in the second ward.

Edgar H Farrow—Verified the testimony of foregoing witnesses.

Names of several other witnesses were called, but no response was given.

Adjourned until eleven o'clock to-day.

PRESIDENT GRANT'S VIEWS.

What he Says of the Political Crisis—Policy of the Administration—Incendiary Democratic Demonstrations—The Legally Elected President to be Inaugurated President.

A Washington letter of December 18, to the New York *Graphic*, says:

The President was visited yesterday by a party of old friends from Missouri. Some time was spent in pleasant social conversation. After the departure of his Missouri friends the writer of this dispatch called and had an extended conversation with the President upon the different questions that now agitate the public mind, among the number that of the threatening attitude of certain portions of the people of Indiana and other States. In referring to this subject the President said that up to the present time nothing had been brought to his attention officially, though he had seen occasional reference in the newspapers to political agitations in certain sections, and had also had information to the same effect from other unofficial sources, but that the government was not insensible to the necessity of vigilance, whether statements be true or false. So far as the agitations in Indiana were concerned he could see no other cause for them than in the inflammatory resolutions promulgated by the Democratic State and county committees, but that they were, so far as he was informed, met by a faint response on the part of that portion of the population they were intended to arouse. He said that there were a few incendiary characters in every community, and these could make a great deal of noise, but that the American people had too much regard for law and order to be led by them. At present he had no apprehension of serious trouble, but what might occur he could not foretell. He could say that he should not in case of emergency hesitate to exercise his constitutional authority. He could not see, however, any occasion for the indiscreet manifestations of some of the Democratic local leaders, and could hardly think that they were inspired to their action by any higher authority, as it was a grave responsibility for any man or body of men to embroil even a State in a war of factions, and much more to array themselves in antagonism to the supreme authority of the national government.

He said that the electoral votes had not yet been counted, and would not before some weeks, but whoever was constitutionally and lawfully declared to be elected President and Vice President of the United States it would be his duty to recognize them and to surrender to them the reins of authority, and this he would do; that he had no wish to force any particular person upon the people, but would see that the person declared to be elected as his successor was placed in possession. He was not to be the judge of the election; that that was a matter to be decided as provided by the constitution and the statute; that before and since the election he has simply used his executive power to see that the laws were obeyed and peace was maintained; that duty he should continue to exercise until the last moment of his responsibility as the chief executive of the nation.

Reverting to the excitement in Indiana, he said that if it should spread he thought the loyal elements in that State and of the rest of the Union would have moral influence enough to prevent an open outbreak. He did not think that a government which had withstood the shock of nearly four years of battle would now fall before the clamor of a mob.

He said that it was gratifying to observe the conservatism shown by many of the Southern leaders, and he felt that the same spirit would ultimately prevail all over the land; that those who were now disposed to incite a civil war were those who had everything to gain and nothing to lose in such a great national calamity; that the best men of both parties counseled moderation and were opposed to any other solution of such complications as existed than that of peace. The power of the President over the militia of the States in event of any attempt at a contravention of the act of Congress in the declaration of the election of the President naturally suggested itself.

The President said that the statutes were clear on that point, that the act of 1795 clothed the executive with ample powers. It says:

"Whenever the United States are invaded or are in imminent danger of invasion from any foreign nation or Indian tribe, or of rebellion against the authority of the government of the United States, it shall be lawful for the President to call forth such number of the militia of the State or States most convenient to the place of danger or scene of action as he may deem necessary to repel such invasion or to suppress such rebellion, and to issue his orders for that purpose to such officers of the militia as he may think proper.

The President said that it was his recollection that during the riots in New York in 1863 a portion of the national guard of New York was called out upon the direct authority of the President, and co-operated with the regular forces in their suppression, and that this would apply to any other part of the United States.

In regard to the many published statements purporting to foreshadow the action of the government on the question as to which of the two State governments in South Carolina would be accorded official recognition upon the question being properly presented to the government, the President said they were without any authority whatever; that the question had not yet been presented, and of course could not be decided upon until properly presented. The government could not decide any question until all the facts were known.

Referring to the report of a heated discussion in the Cabinet on Friday last over the situation in South Carolina, wherein it was stated that Messrs. Taft, Cameron, Chandler and Tyner favored proceeding to extreme measures at once and deposing the Wallace Legislature with troops, the President said the Cabinet was harmonious on all important measures, that there had been no heated discussions, and that so far as he knew no official of the government was in favor of any proceeding not sanctioned by the constitution and the law.

After some further conversation as to public matters the President alluded to his proposed trip to Europe, and said that he did not expect to sail until some time in June. He thought, however, that some time in March he would make a trip to the West Indies, visiting Havana and other points of interest in that region, and return to the United States in time to make preparations for his trip to Europe in June. In regard to his future residence in the United States he considered Galena, Illinois, as his permanent home, but would probably spend some time in Washington during the winter seasons. He is having all his family property, including pictures and other valuables, packed up, and is otherwise making preparations to vacate the White House in time to have it prepared for his successor.

TCHOUPITOULAS STREET LOTS AT AUCTION. Messrs. Nash & Hodgson, auctioneers, sell two valuable lots of ground on Tchoupitoulas, near Washington street, at twelve o'clock M. to-day, at the St. Charles Auction Exchange. See the advertisement.

BY TELEGRAPH.

TAKING TESTIMONY.

Shreveport Branch of the Congressional Committee.

[Special to the New Orleans Republican.

SHREVEPORT, December 22, 1876.

The Congressional Committee have been in session all day at the courthouse. The witnesses examined were Messrs. H. H. Gibson, J. W. Fuller, Cyrus Steers, Benjamin Thomas, Abner Hill, Charles Dewing, Squire Bailey, Patrick James, Robert J. Looney, of Shreveport, and H. W. Ogden, James W. Wilson, John Moore, Henderson Neale, Samuel Furniss, D. W. N. Swann, G. B. Abercrombie and M. J. Robinson, of Bossier.

Nothing of importance has been elicited thus far.

The committee leave for Mansfield Sunday morning. X.

CONGRESS.

Senate.

WASHINGTON, December 22.—Oregon discussed. A call showed no quorum, and the Senate adjourned.

In the Senate to day, in the absence of a quorum, and as the matter was already before the Committee on Privileges and Elections, the following was adopted without a division:

WHEREAS, It is alleged that the Governor of the State of Oregon has issued a certificate of election to one E A. Cronin as one of the electors of said State, instead of issuing such certificate to one J. A. Watts, alleging that the said Watts was