THE SEARCH FOR FRAUDS.

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AMAZING RASCALITY IN FLORIDA.

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Mr. Cronin's Version of the Proceedings of the College.

ILLEGAL ACTION OF THE LOUISIANA BOARD.

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FLORIDA.

THE PURSUIT OF FRAUDS BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE—AMAZING RASCALITY UNEARTHED—BALLOT-BOX STUFFING IN ARCHER PRECINCT NO. 2—THE SENATE COMMITTEE IN SECRET SESSION.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Jan. 3, 1877.

The sub-committee of the House, which has been investigating frauds in Alachua county, returned last night. They made an extensive examination of the alleged frauds at Archer precinct No. 2, and find the charges of ballot-box stuffing and rascality fully corroborated.

BOGUS VOTES.

Two hundred and sixteen bogus votes were placed in the ballot box after the close of the polls. The 216 votes added were prepared in Gainesville, and comprehend the names of dead men, unknown persons and parties who swore they voted elsewhere. Several names are repeated several times.

CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE.

The committee ascertained that there was no mucilage at Archer precinct, on the day of election, and yet the forged list of 216 names was attached to an original by this substance. They regard the whole transaction as one of the most villanous rascalities yet unearthed, and say that these conspirators, L. G. Dennis, W. K. Cessna and others implicated, would be convicted before any court in the country.

UNSCRUPULOUS AUDACITY.

They are amazed and startled at the unscrupulous audacity of the entire affair. Both sub-committees of the House are now here and will probably return to Washington in a day or two. The report to Congress will probably be made on the first of February and will be a lengthy document.

The Senate committee is still here sitting with closed doors. They leave to-morrow for Gainesville.

THE CHANCES OF A MINORITY REPORT.

It is impossible to ascertain whether the House committee will present a minority report. Pressure has been brought to bear on the republican members by local republican politicians to do so, with what effect is not known.

BAKER COUNTY.

The committee has summoned new witnesses from Baker county, the returns from which were altered by the State Board of Canvassers.

DREW'S INAUGURATION.

Jacksonville was wild with excitement yesterday over the inauguration of Governor Drew. One hundred guns were fired amid general enthusiasm.

THE QUO WARRANTO PROCEEDINGS AGAINST THE HAYES ELECTORS TO BE CONTINUED—THE STATE LEGISLATURE TO INVESTIGATE THE ELECTION FRAUDS.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

TALLAHASSEE, Fla., Jan. 3, 1877.

Perhaps ex-Attorney General Williams, who left here yesterday, may be called or sent back. The proceedings by *quo warranto* commenced against the Hayes electors in the Circuit Court and set for hearing on the 28th ult. have not been abandoned, and a notice of mandamus proceedings has been filed in the Supreme Court, which will commence its regular term on Tuesday next.

THE ELECTION FRAUDS.

A committee of the lower House of the State Legislature will investigate the election frauds in Alachua county at the late election, and especially at Archer precinct, No. 2, which has a national notoriety. Messrs. Dennis and Cessna, the two members of the House from that county, are charged with grave complicity in these frauds and may lose their seats by it. General Barlow will have no difficulty in recognizing the propriety of these proceedings.

LEGISLATORS TO BE UNSEATED.

The republican members from Dade and Baker counties may be unseated by their contestants. In the latter county the republican member admits that he was fairly defeated. Everything betokens quiet and a discontented expression is rarely heard from either white or black.

THE GOVERNOR'S CABINET.

The Governor has not completed his Cabinet as there is some difficulty in filling the Treasury appointments. He is looking for the best men and not the most prominent politicians.

LOUISIANA.

THE HOUSE INVESTIGATION IN THE FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT—THE ILLEGAL ACTION OF THE RETURNING BOARD EXPOSED.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

SHREVEPORT, Jan. 3, 1877.

The House sub-committee reached here this morning, after an exhaustive journey of 200 miles with teams, and have examined over 200 witnesses. The testimony in regard to the alleged frauds in Vernon parish was received from the District Clerk, the Supervisor of Registration and others, all showing an entirely

FREE AND FULL ELECTION;

that the republican vote there has never before exceeded one, but this year it was two for the Hayes electoral ticket. The action of the Returning Board must necessarily have been without the slightest justification.

TESTIMONY OF MR. LONG.

John J. Long was examined at Mansfield and reiterated, with emphasis, everything contained in his letter to Mr. Wells. The committee has completely exposed the frauds and pretences set up against every poll rejected in the Fourth Congressional district and will reach New Orleans on Saturday or Sunday.

PRESIDENT ORTON REPORTED IN CONTEMPT BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE—OFFICIALS SUBPŒNAED BY THE MORRISON COMMITTEE—CARD FROM THE BUSINESS MEN OF NEW ORLEANS.

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 3, 1877.

The House sub-committee from Baton Rouge having returned and made a quorum the House Committee, by a party vote, reported President Orton, of the Western Union Telegraph Company, to the House as in contempt in refusing to answer the second subpœna. The House committees are examining witnesses relative to the general character of the campaign. Nothing of importance has been elicited.

Messrs. Crapo and Ross, of the sub-committee investigating Ouachita parish, have returned to this city. Mr. McMahon has gone to Washington.

OFFICIALS SUMMONED TO TESTIFY.

Governor Kellogg, Lieutenant Governor Antoine and United States Marshal Pitkin have been summoned before Morrison's Committee.

A CARD FROM BUSINESS MEN.

A card has been published, signed by about 400 firms and business men, reciting that the liberties and welfare of Louisiana depend upon the establishment and maintenance of the lawfully elected government, of which Mr. Nichols is the executive head, and promising to pay five per cent of the taxes for the ensuing year in advance to support the same, and advising citizens throughout the State to do the same. Republicans say many who signed the call had already paid their taxes.

The democratic Legislature has rented Odd Fellows' Hall to hold their sessions in.

LOUISIANA'S VOTE—ADDRESS BY GENERAL VAN ALEN.

At a meeting of the Republican Reform Club, of New York, held last night in the hall of the Municipal Society, on Madison avenue, General James H. Van Alen, one of the committee invited by President Grant to visit Louisiana for the purpose of witnessing the acts of the Returning Board, delivered an address recounting his experience. The speaker expressed his conviction that the republican Presidential electors were fairly elected in Louisiana, and eulogized the report of Senator Sherman to the President to that effect.

The registration of the State for the year 1876 showed 92,996 whites to 115,310 blacks, and from this he argued that it was only reasonable to expect a republican majority, inasmuch as the blacks, when allowed a free expression of opinion, were, with comparatively few exceptions, republicans. The face of the returns, the speaker said, showed 83,326 votes for Tilden and 77,623 for Hayes, but the mass of testimony, which covered 2,000 large manuscript pages, showed violence and intimidation in several parishes to such a degree that the Returning Board was compelled to throw them out, which left a majority of honestly cast votes for the republican candidates. The speaker dwelt at length on the "bull-dozing" policy pursued in the parishes of West Feliciana, Morehouse, Ouachita, Baton Rouge, Claiborne, Richland, Grant and Union, and argued that the action of the Returning Board was final, in support of which he quoted from the decision of the Supreme Court of Louisiana. In referring to the claim by democrats that the diminished republican vote was due to a reaction caused by corruption in the State government the speaker said:—

"I deny that there is evidence to justify a belief that any great number of men, heretofore republicans in Louisiana, freely voted for Governor Tilden rather than for Governor Hayes in the hope of a remedy. The wise and prudent and patriotic words of our Presidential candidate were familiar throughout Louisiana, and no wiser, more prudent and more patriotic words have been spoken or written about the Southern troubles which have resulted from the mistakes of reconstruction and from the control of federal appointments by ambitious and unscrupulous republican leaders to whom President Grant unfortunately surrendered the dictation of them."

THE SOUTH CAROLINA COMMITTEE.

WHAT MR. ABBOTT, ONE OF THE COMMITTEE, HAS TO SAY OF THE POLITICAL SITUATION DOWN THERE.

[From the Boston Post.]

Hon. Josiah G. Abbott, one of the Congressional Committee sent to South Carolina to investigate and report upon the actual result of the recent election in that State, reached Boston late Saturday night and was interviewed by a *Post* reporter. After learning the object of the visit, Judge Abbott, by request of the reporter, made a general statement of what the committee found in South Carolina and the conclusions they arrived at, as follows:—

The object and purpose of the committee was to find how the vote in South Carolina had actually been cast. We examined as carefully as we could, but we found it very difficult; everything was kept somewhat loosely and matters are not very well arranged in the different State offices. We found an absence of a great many of the precinct returns, as they are called, and we were utterly unable to supply them. The law in South Carolina provides, in the first place, that each county shall be divided into quite a number of precincts, more or less, according to the size of the county; and three managers are appointed for each precinct, who are obliged to count the votes the moment the polls are closed and make their return before they separate to the people and to a board of three persons called the County Canvassers. Then the County Canvassers are required to aggregate the returns from the precinct returns, and make a return of it, with the returns of the precinct managers, together with the papers in the case, to the State Canvassers, a body made up of State officers generally—I think five State officers, three of whom in this case were candidates for re-election in this very election. And it is claimed—out that seems to be a disputed question—that the State Canvassers have the power to decide all questions that may arise as to the validity of the vote. I doubt whether a full construction would give them power as far as that, but at any rate that was their claim. But neither the precinct nor the county managers, I think, have any authority more than to exercise a ministerial power. We obtained, as far as we could, the returns of the precinct managers, which seemed to be the most reliable testimony as to the vote. But we found that there were a great many returns which had not been made; or if they ever had they were not in the possession of the State Canvassers at the office of the Secretary of State. The committee have been at work very carefully in supplying the places of the precinct managers' returns, so as to get at the vote as it was cast. We had to send to every part of the State, and it was a difficult undertaking, but I think we finally succeeded in supplying the places, or rather getting at the result in each precinct, although many of the returns were wanting, and never have been supplied to us.

The following conversation then ensued:—

Q. How many precinct returns were missing? A. There was an absence at the beginning, I should think, from thirty precincts, but some of them were supplied; returns were found from time to time, but the returns of quite a number of precincts were never supplied, and we were obliged to get at the managers or the clerks of the managers and ascertain the facts from them; we always found a record or some memorandum of how the vote was cast in those precincts where there was no return; so I have no doubt we got substantially at the vote as it was cast in the different precincts from every part of the State where there was an absence of returns.

Q. Was this absence of precinct returns due to any defect or loophole in the law? A. No; the law seemed to provide for the returns being made. It was quite specific. There seemed to be an uncertainty as to whether they were in the Secretary of State's office. In some cases the County Canvassers testified that they were sent there, and the Secretary of State claimed that all that were sent there were produced. It is a matter about which there was some contrariety of views. Some evidently had been mislaid, because they were furnished during the examination. From time to time they were found, quite a number of them. I can only say I was satisfied, and I think the subcommittee to whom it was referred, that we had arrived substantially at the vote as it was cast.

Q. What did you find to be the actual difference between the vote cast for Hampton and that cast for the Hayes electors? A. That I cannot state with any exactitude, because I have not now the means with me, but I should think there was a difference of 2,000 between the two tickets. I should not be able to tell you now as to the aggregates on each ticket; I only looked at the difference between them. There was a difference, I should think, in the neighborhood of 2,000; I only approximate it. Governor Hampton's majority, I think, was 4,100 of the votes cast, and the majority was quite considerable on the other side. The figures I have not with me, and I cannot recollect them. I know there was somewhere in the neighborhood of 2,000 votes.

Q. Do you know whether the result which the committee arrived at will make any change in the election of Congressmen? A. I did not even try to ascertain. That is a matter for Congress to decide. The parties in power have given certificates to two democrats and three republicans. Certainly in two, and perhaps in three cases, the seats of the republicans returned will be contested.

Q. Were you not a little surprised at the result of the investigations of the committee? A. I confess I was somewhat surprised at the result after what I had heard and the claims that were made on one side and the other. But I think an election law which permits a final Canvassing Board to be the arbiter to decide when they may be candidates for re-election; and they were, a majority of them—the Secretary of State, the Comptroller and the Attorney General; there were three, I think, members of the Board who were candidates for re-election; and although they went through the formality of each one retiring, or at least not undertaking to vote upon his own particular case, at the same time the same questions were to be decided in each and every case. It seemed to my mind a monstrous proposition, that the Board to decide upon the rest of the ticket should be so directly and positively interested in it. The election law down there, I should say, ought to be entitled "a law to encourage repeating," rather than anything else. There is no registration, and even though the constitution of their State requires the Legislature to provide for it directly, they never have provided for it. Any person is allowed to vote in any precinct of the county that he pleases, and the result is that there are some counties with fifty odd precincts and a person from any part of the county can vote in any precinct he pleases. If, with no registration, any better means could be taken to encourage repeating I have failed to see it.

Q. Were these precincts established, as Colonel Saltonstall said of those in Florida, all on one side of the county and none on the other? A. I did not hear any special complaint about the arrangement of the precincts. The counties seem to be cut up into quite a number of precincts; in some of them, as I say, there were fifty odd voting places. None of them, I should think, had less than seven or eight, as I recollect it.

Q. What was the condition of affairs at the capital? A. I can only say it was to me a very sad sight. The first day we got there we went up for the purpose of obtaining from the Secretary of State's office the records of the returns. We found the State House in possession of the United States troops. They were in the lower or first story, quite a number of them, and apparently remained there night and day. There we saw the black constables, very many of whom certainly did not have the appearance of being the most intelligent police officers. Everybody was questioned. Some of our committee in going up were stopped, but, upon its being found out who they were, of course they were let in.

Q. What do you think of the Senate? A. I should suppose, as far as an outsider could ascertain, that the Senate was a legal body. It was a more respectable looking body than the House, though it had a large number of blacks in it. The Chamberlain House was composed almost entirely of colored people—I believe there were two or three whites in it. It was claimed that a very large portion of them could not read nor write, and I did not hear it contradicted.

Q. Do you consider that the quiet and order which prevailed there was owing to the fact that the people were helpless to defend their rights or was it the result of higher considerations of duty? A. There was a terrible condition of things there, but I am bound to say that everything, as far as I could see, was entirely quiet and peaceable during all the time we stayed there. I saw no trouble, no disturbance. Mr. Hampton's inauguration I did not attend, but I was on the street and there were some people, not a very large assemblage there. Everything was perfectly quiet and there was no trouble, and the people, as far as I could judge, seemed to be perfectly quiet. Respect for General Hampton, love of order or some other motive seemed to keep the people of South Carolina perfectly quiet in the presence of the Governor. A very strong feeling evidently existed, but in view of the fact of their having been robbed as badly as they claim to have been, and evidently believe they have been, their remaining so quiet and so patient as they are is certainly very wonderful and shows a very strong self-possession which very few people, I think, would manifest. As far as I could see there was no military force that would have stood for a moment if the people had had any disposition to interfere with them. I do not think it was supposed for a moment that there was anything but moral restraint that kept them quiet. Of course a force might have been sent there, but the force which was there—I do not think there would have been any difficulty in sweeping it away in a moment. I think the quiet which has prevailed there depended entirely upon the moral restraint through the whole white population.

Q. You saw Governor Hampton, I suppose; what kind of man is he? A. Yes, I saw him. I have known him since 1868, more or less. He impressed me as being a very cool, kind hearted, honest man—one who had the interests of the whole people in South Carolina honestly at heart.

Q. Do his speeches fairly represent him? A. As fairly as possible, from all that I could see of him. We used to have occasion to see him very frequently in reference to obtaining information. From all the intercourse we had with him, and from everything I could hear or see, I have no doubt his speeches fairly and truly represent his intentions. I have do doubt, to a greater extent than anybody else could do, he would protect the colored and white people to the very extreme in all their rights.

Q. Do you think there is any doubt that he will ultimately gain possession of the government? A. My own impression was that in the course of the winter he would necessarily be in possession of the government *de facto* as well as *de jure*. From all that I could see there seems to be an entire lack of support to the Chamberlain government, except simply from the moral power of the United States troops. I do not believe from what I could see and hear the taxes will be paid at all. The courts are evidently on the side of Hampton throughout the State, certainly the Supreme Court, and, I should judge, most of the circuit courts, and the administration seemed to be powerless.

Q. What sort of men are the judges of the courts? A. Those of the Supreme Court are republicans, or had been republicans up to the time of this contest. Those in the other courts, perhaps, with one or two exceptions, had also been republicans. There was one black man in the Supreme Court and two white men. One, Moses, is a native of South Carolina. Mr. Willard was formerly from New York. They seem to be fair men.

Q. Do you think the Senate will act with the Hampton House if it comes into power? A. Well, there is a large number of democrats in it, and if the Hampton House was fairly put into power I should suppose the Senate would act with it. That would be a matter of conjecture, however. Upon the great question of how the votes were cast in South Carolina, I think all the committee saw that they might find out how the vote was cast, if they could, and give the result. But I do not think it would be a very wise undertaking to go into the methods, whether of fear or favor, by which the result was produced; when you come to that you enter upon a sea where there is no chart or compass, and I was going to say reader. But I think, although there may be some corrections that may fairly be made by going over it again, the committee have come substantially to the correct conclusion.

Q. Did you sign that statement which was published as coming from the committee to the people, saying that after a careful examination of the returns from all the precincts in the State, you found that all the Hayes and Wheeler electors have a fair majority on the face of the returns? A. No; we signed no report, and the committee made none that I know of. Just before we left the sub-committee agreed that the people had the right to know, and that a statement of the substantial results might be made public. I assented to it, and very likely my name may have been put to it. I signed no report at all. I only supposed that substantially the result was authorized. On the whole, we thought it was desirable that the people should know the result we had reached.

THE OREGON ELECTORAL MUDDLE.

INVESTIGATION BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE—MR. CRONIN'S VERSION OF THE PROCEEDINGS IN THE ELECTORAL COLLEGE—MR. MORTON'S SEARCH FOR THE MYSTERIOUS EIGHT THOUSAND DOLLARS—ANOTHER RECUSANT TELEGRAPH MANAGER.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3, 1877.

The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections to-day continued taking testimony in relation to the Oregon case. Mr. E. A. Cronin, of Portland, Oregon, the elector who received the highest number of votes on the democratic ticket, and to whom Governor Grover issued a certificate of election, was the first witness called, Senator Kernan conducting the direct examination.

TESTIMONY OF MR. CRONIN.

Mr. Cronin testified that he is a lawyer, and has lived in Oregon since April, 1865; after giving a brief history of the late election in Oregon Mr. Cronin stated that he attended the meeting of the Electoral College; in answer to a knock he opened the door of the room in which the Electoral College met, and he received an envelope containing the certificates of the electors from the hands of Secretary of State Chadwick; he put the envelope in his pocket, because he was of the impression that an attempt might be made to take it from him; he stated that after leaving the table at which the republican electors sat he observed their proceedings, but could not say what they actually did; he does not think they took a ballot for President and Vice President.

EXAMINATION BY MR. MORTON.

In answer to Mr. Morton, the witness stated that Governor Grover had not informed him that his (Cronin's) name was on the electoral certificate or that it was to be put on; on the morning of the day on which the Electoral College met the witness went to the Governor's room; he saw the Governor's private secretary, who was then engaged in making out certificates for electors; the witness looked over the shoulder of the secretary and saw his name on the certificate; upon hearing a knock at the door of the room in which the college met he surmised who and what was there, but had no previous arrangement with any person or persons whereby the certificate should be handed to him; Mr. Chadwick did not call the witness's name when he handed in the envelope containing the certificate; Messrs. Lazwell and Kluppel were in the room where the college met, but not by previous arrangement; the witness understood they would be there, but did not tell them to come; he appointed Messrs. Miller and Parker electors; he had a previous understanding with them that they should be outside ready to answer when called; they did not come into the room until he had read the certificate to and left the republican electors; he showed the certificates of electors to Messrs. Miller and Parker, but don't know whether they read them or not; witness told the republican electors that he took their silence as a refusal to act with him; they made him no answer which he heard.

WHAT TOOK PLACE IN THE COLLEGE.

Mr. Parker was made secretary of the college, and a ballot was taken, witness writing the ballots; Messrs. Parker and Miller are democrats, and cast their vote for Hayes and Wheeler; the witness never met Mr. Miller until the day of the meeting of the Electoral College; on the evening previous to the meeting of the college Mr. Kluppel informed the witness that Messrs. Miller and Parker would act with him if he needed them; the witness read the certificate through in the presence of the republican electors; Mr. Cartwright could have read it also, as he stood only one pace from the witness at that time; witness said he did not feel bound to put the certificates on the table when the majority of the college so ordered.

The question of right did not enter into that as much as the question of expediency; he had never advised with any lawyer in relation to his right to cast an electoral vote; he had never had any conversation with Senator Kelly in regard to the course which he (Mr. Cronin) should pursue in the electoral college; it was generally conceded by republicans and democrats on the day previous to the meeting of the electoral college that witness was to receive a certificate of election as an elector; all that Governor Grover had said was that this was an important question and he wanted to hear all that could be said on both sides; witness was at the table with Messrs. Parker and Miller in the room where the college met between ten and fifteen minutes; upon leaving there he went to the office of the State Treasurer, then into one of the rooms of the executive office to prepare the electoral returns; neither Governor Grover nor Secretary of State Chadwick were present; the returns were signed and sealed between six and seven o'clock in the evening.

EXPENSES TO WASHINGTON.

Witness was elected messenger to bring the vote to Washington before he left the room in which the college met; no arrangement was made there to pay the expenses of the trip; in the evening witness asked to be allowed to resign as messenger, as he could not afford to make the trip; he had spent $1,500 during the campaign for election purposes; no promise has ever been made him that the money thus spent shall be refunded; is not a rich man; spent the money with no idea of getting it back; he has a law practice worth from $5,000 to $6,000 a year; when witness stated that he could not afford to come to Washington there were several prominent democrats present; they thought he ought to come, and said that he would probably be subpœnaed to come; witness was asked what his expenses would be, and some of the gentlemen present expressed their willingness to help to pay them; he estimated his expenses at $3,000; those present thought it too much, and he refused to come for less, he had a case to try in the Supreme Court of the State of Oregon, which interfered with his coming; he advised with his client in relation to his coming and his client said:—

"You may as well go, for unless Tilden is elected the country is gone, and then the case won't amount to anything."

The matter of witness' expense was fixed up at Portland; he was not sure of the money to pay his expenses until the day before he started for Washington; the actual expense of making the trip from Portland to Washington is about $200; Mr. Bellinger, Chairman of the Democratic Committee, informed witness the day before he started for Washington that he (Bellinger) had $2,800 and the additional $200 to make the $3,000 required was raised; a note signed by Bellinger and witness was deposited at the banking house of Ladd & Tilton; Tilton is a New Yorker, and his politics are unknown to witness; he does not know where the $2,800 came from which he received, but supposed it was raised among the democrats of Oregon.

A MAN NAMED PATRICK.

Witness knows a man named Patrick; met him in the office of Judge Strong at Portland; Mr. Patrick lives at Omaha; Mr. Bellinger met witness on the street in Portland about ten days previous to the meeting of the Electoral College and informed him that a gentleman wished to see him (Mr. Cronin) at the office of Judge Strong; witness refused to go, and told Mr. Bellinger that whatever was done in this electoral muddle must be done by others than himself; witness afterward went to Strong's office and there met Mr. Patrick, who said that he had heard that witness had said that if a certificate as an elector was issued to him he would not act, but witness informed Mr. Patrick that he had changed his mind, and Mr. Patrick said to witness

"If Tilden is President he will give you anything you want"

Witness informed Mr. Patrick that if he (Patrick) was acquainted with Mr. Tilden he might tell him that he had nothing to give which he (Cronin) wanted; witness was a little angry at Mr. Patrick for talking in such a manner; Mr. Patrick informed witness that he supposed the reason he (Patrick) had been sent to Oregon was that he was the furthest one West; witness did not know what Mr. Patrick meant by this remark; he had heard that Patrick is superintendent of a mine in Colorado; Patrick said nothing about money in his interview with witness; witness never saw Patrick except on the one occasion above mentioned, and had no conversation with Bellinger about Patrick; witness had received no message from the East in relation to the electoral muddle before seeing Patrick; witness knows of a Dimond in New York; thinks he is a banker; after the Electoral College had met and adjourned witness saw a despatch signed "Bristow," which said:—

It is important that the returns of Oregon should be properly made up and sent to their destination.

Ladd & Tilton have a banking house at Portland; Ladd & Bush have one at Salem; A. E. & C. E. Tilton, of No. 115 Liberty street, New York, are correspondents of the Oregon banking houses above mentioned; witness received drafts for the money for his expenses between four and five o'clock P. M. on the 8th of December, in Ladd & Tilton's bank, from the manager, Mr. Quackenbush; there were three drafts—one on New York and two on California banks; the $2,800 was not tendered witness in cash; Dimond's name is mentioned in the draft on New York, which is for $2,100. Witness did say at first that he would not act as an elector if a certificate was given him, but changed his mind after looking up the law and after hearing of the actions of the South Carolina, Florida, and Louisiana returning boards.

In answer to Mr. Kernan witness stated that he canvassed the State with Mr. Watts and they closed the canvass together at Portland; Watts being a postmaster had been mentioned by both he and witness in a jocose way at public meetings; witness knew Watts was ineligible as an elector before the election, but said nothing about it.

TESTIMONY OF MR. TURNER.

William L. Turner, manager of the Western Union Telegraph office at Jacksonville, Oregon, was the next witness, and, in answer to questions from Senator Morton, stated that he saw a man, whom he supposes was Mr. Patrick, pass through Jacksonville on the 26th of November; Mr. Kluppel lives at Jacksonville, but witness did not know of Patrick and Kluppel's meeting at Jacksonville.

Senator Morton then asked—Do you know of any despatches in relation to Mr. Patrick having passed over your wire?

Witness—I cannot divulge anything passing on the wire.

Q. What do you know about $8,000 having been transmitted from New York to Oregon by telegraph? A. I know of nothing that I can divulge.

Q. Did a despatch in regard to Dimond pass over your wire? A. I decline to answer.

Q. Did not Dimond telegraph to Ladd & Tilton, of Portland, to draw $8,000 on him between November 25 and the first Wednesday in December? A. I decline to answer.

A. I ask if you know anything in regard to another sum of $1,700 telegraphed previously to the $8,000, and from A. E. & C. E. Tilton, of New York, to this same firm at Portland? A. I decline to answer.

The committee then adjourned.

ACTION OF MISSOURI DEMOCRATS.

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 3, 1877.

The Democratic State Central Committee, in session at Jefferson City, this evening adopted a preamble and resolutions declaring that the democratic majority in the November election is the best evidence of the sentiments of the democracy of this State, and it is, therefore, unnecessary to call a convention to give expression to the views of the democratic voters of the State; and having full faith and confidence in the wisdom and patriotism of the democratic Senators and Representatives in Congress, they declare the willingness and purpose of the democrats of this State to support whatever just plan may be authoritatively adopted for the solution of the Presidential difficulties which so seriously threaten the peace and welfare of the country.

GOV. HAYES' CORRESPONDENCE.

THREATENING LETTERS FROM VARIOUS PARTS OF THE COUNTRY—THE LUCUBRATIONS OF A SOUTHERN WIDOW.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

COLUMBUS, Ohio, Jan. 3, 1877.

For some time Governor Hayes has been the recipient of letters from various parts of the country suggesting that he should come out like a man and decline to make further contest for the Presidency. Some of these letters have been respectful, some abusive and some of a threatening character. A few have been ornamented with cross bones and death's heads, but all letters of this class were written by persons of little education, if fearful and wonderfully irregular chirography is any index. These letters have produced considerable amusement here, and Mr. Hayes has given the suggestion little attention.

"FROM A SOUTHERN WIDOW."

To-day another letter was received from some cheerful idiot who seeks to hide his stupidity by signing the letter with the words, "From a Southern Widow." This letter is dated St. Louis, December 29, but states the writer is a native of Louisiana. After apologizing for obtruding upon Mr. Hayes' attention, the letter declares that Mr. Tilden is elected.

THE GIST OF THE LETTER

is embraced in the following paragraph:—

I don't wish to intimidate or bull-doze you, my dear sir, but would just remind you that we Southerners once said we would not have Lincoln for our President, and we did not very long. Also recollect one Wilkes Booth, and that there are others of the same ilk left behind. A word to the wise is sufficient. Your wife and children may need you, and if you know your best interests you will give up being President now and will come boldly, bravely and squarely to the front and declare you will give way to the man who so clearly won the race, and do so at once, my dear sir, to quiet the country and for your own safety, for you will not be President this time, that is certain.

Hayes is not the man to scare at such trash.

WHO'S BOSS?

THE SECOND PRIMARY ELECTION IN THE TWENTY-SECOND ASSEMBLY DISTRICT FOR THE CONTROL OF THE GENERAL COMMITTEE OF THE DISTRICT.

The second Tammany primary ordered for the Twenty-first district took place last evening at East Side Hall, corner of Eighty-sixth street and Third avenue. A large crowd assembled in the vicinity and a formidable force of police was on hand. Three tickets were put in the field—one headed by Hugh H. Moore, another by William A. Boyd and the third by Thomas B. Tappan, the last ticket being known as "the compromise" or "harmony" ticket. The inspectors of election, John J. Gorman, Thomas S. Brennan and Joseph Blumenthal, commenced to canvass the large number of votes cast immediately after the closing of the polls. They stated it would take them until long after midnight to complete the count. It was understood, however, that the "harmony" ticket had been elected. The success of this ticket leaves both the Boyd and Moore interests out in the cold.

THE FIRST ASSEMBLY DISTRICT.

The Tammany Hall General Committee of the First Assembly district for the ensuing year met last evening and selected the following officers:—President—P. G. Duffy. Vice President—Edward Cahill. Secretaries—John P. Ryan, Hugh Dalton. Treasurer—Denis Quinn. Sergeant-at-Arms—William J. Aitkman. Delegates to Committee on Organization—Nicholas Muller, Thomas Cleary, Patrick Kerrin, James Healy and Thomas E. Smith.

DAVID DUDLEY FIELD'S VOTE.

The Board of Aldermen will meet as County Canvassers on Tuesday next, for the purpose of counting the votes recently cast in the Seventh Congressional district.

STAMPED OUT.

Officer Sage, of the Sixth precinct, was yesterday tried before the Police Board on a charge of perjury in that on his preliminary application for appointment he had sworn that he had never been convicted of any crime. On his trial yesterday it was shown that he had been in the Penitentiary three months for using cancelled postage stamps.

TURNSTILES INDICTED.

The Grand Jury of Hudson county, New Jersey, yesterday made a presentment in court against the turnstiles in use at the Hoboken ferry, on account of their inconvenience and the injury they have inflicted on citizens crossing the ferry. The presentment further states that they constitute a nuisance which should be speedily abated.

SUDDEN DEATHS.

John Nolan, aged twenty-six, of No. 86 North Moore street, died suddenly last evening.

Rosina Gowan, aged twenty-seven, of No. 311 East 121st street, died suddenly last night.

OBITUARY.

EPH HORN—MINSTREL.

One of the few remaining members of the Bryant-Seymour coterie has sung his last song, and cracked his last joke. Far away from the play house, with its merry crowds, in a little narrow room at St. Vincent's Hospital, he closed his eyes, a joke still lingering on his lips. At three o'clock yesterday afternoon he bade goodby to Mr. and Mrs. Tony Pastor, and half an hour later he was dead. On leaving him Tony cheered him a little by expressing the belief that soon he would be well again. The dying minstrel's eyes brightened and he said, "I guess so, Tony; I was always a good man at the end." These were his last words.

The remote cause of the death of Eph Horn is a too common weakness of certain "variety" managers. It appears that the dead minstrel went to Trenton, N. J., on Christmas eve with a "show," the conductor of which, in burnt-cork parlance, "skipped" with the funds and left the performers to get back to New York as best they could. The players, Horn among the number, held a parley with the railroad manager on the station platform, and on the way to New York he was heard to complain that he had taken cold. On arriving in the city he went to the house of Mr. Pastor, where he lodged, and on the following morning he was unable to go abroad. He gradually grew worse, and when a physician was called in he found the patient suffering from pneumonia and advised his removal to a hospital, where he would have constant and competent attendance. Mr. Pastor thereupon arranged for his admission into St. Vincent's Hospital, where he died at half-past three yesterday afternoon.

Mr. Horn was born in Philadelphia in 1820. In 1849 he began playing minor parts with various local shows. In 1850 Jerome B. Fellows and Earl Pierce, at that time managers of the Olympic Theatre in this city, were on the lookout for attractions, and hearing of the rising young minstrel in the Quaker City, sent for him. He came and opened at the Olympic here on August 1, 1850. From that time out his success was assured, and he rapidly rose into the first rank of his profession. In 1851 he was connected with Charley White, the famous darky impersonator, in the management of a show at No. 444 Broadway, but the affair was pecuniarily a failure. In 1860 he and Charley White appeared together at Lingard's New Bowery Theatre, theirs being the first burnt cork faces that ever appeared on the stage of that ill-fated house. Since that time he had been identified with many shows as a performer and with several as manager. These latter ventures were, however, uniformly unsuccessful. Mr. Horn leaves a wife and two daughters, at present residing in Philadelphia.

THOMAS MUTTER HOFF.

Mr. Thomas Mutter Hoff, the youngest son of Admiral H. K. Hoff, United States Navy, and grandson of the late Commodore Bainbridge, died in Philadelphia on the 27th December. Mr. Hoff was a gentleman of fine culture and gave good promise of a brilliant career.

JOSEPH RIPLEY.

The sudden death is announced on New Year's Day of Mr. Joseph Ripley, a prominent wool broker and a brother-in-law of the late Senator Buckingham, of Connecticut. For over forty years he was connected with the wool trade of this city, and was known and honored by all those who were in any way acquainted with that business in the United States. The wool trade will close their respective places of business to-day until noon. The funeral will take place at the Broadway Tabernacle, corner Thirty-fourth street and Sixth avenue, at half-past ten A. M.

REV. MICHAEL RONAY.

Rev. Michael Ronay, S. P. M., President of St. Louis' College, Forty-second street, New York, died last Saturday in the house of the Fathers of Mercy, in Paris, at the age of forty-five, after a long illness. Father Ronay was well known in this city, especially to the congregation of St. Vincent de Paul's church, in West Twenty-third street, where he often officiated. He was one of the most eloquent preachers in the Catholic Church ever heard in this city, and wherever it was known that he was to occupy the pulpit a more than usually large congregation testified to his power as an orator. Being a man of splendid presence his preaching had all the greater influence over his listeners. A solemn funeral service for the repose of his soul will take place this morning in the chapel of St. Louis' College.

JUDGE M'CULLY, OF NOVA SCOTIA.

A despatch from Halifax, N. S., announces the death in that city of Judge McCully, of the Nova Scotia Supreme Court. The death took place on Tuesday night, and the deceased was in his sixty-ninth year. He had taken a prominent part in Canadian politics for over twenty-five years previous to his appointment to the judiciary, and he was very generally respected for his worth and ability.

THE CROPS.

REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 3, 1877.

The report of the Department of Agriculture for November and December has just been issued. The returns of the corn and cotton crops were published in November.

The potato crop falls not only below the extraordinary crop of 1875, but considerably below an average crop. Among the causes of the diminished yield drought was the most widespread.

The sweet potato crop of 1875 was a fair one, both in yield and quality. That of this year nearly equals it in both respects.

PRODUCT OF HAY.

The reported entire product of hay is eight per cent above that of last year, and the average quality about five per cent better.

Returns from all sections indicate that the product of beans is about seven per cent less than last year.

The product of buckwheat last year exceeded that of the previous crop. This year it falls about eight per cent short.

Returns show an increase of about fourteen per cent on last year's comparative large crop of sorghum.

THE TOBACCO CROP.

The tobacco counties reporting the comparative product, make returns not quite so favorable in the aggregate as those of last year. A decrease of product is indicated in Massachusetts, Connecticut, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina and Tennessee. An increase is indicated in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. Kentucky reports about the same as last year.

The quality of the entire crop of tobacco averages about the same as that of last year.

Almost the only complaint about the apple crop is that its superabundance has greatly diminished its market value.

THE WHEAT CROP.

The December returns indicate that the acreage in winter wheat has been increased about five per cent over that of the previous year. The small area sown in the New England States is fully maintained, and some additions were expected to be made after our returns were sent in, as in some counties it is customary to delay sowing this grain until just before freezing. All of the Middle States return an acreage equal to that of last year except New York, which loses eight per cent. The South Atlantic coast States report a considerable increase, a small deficiency in Georgia being overcome by a marked increase in North Carolina and South Carolina. In the Gulf States, Alabama and Mississippi report an increase which overbalances the decline in Texas. Florida and Louisiana grow but insignificant crops. The inland Southern States all report an increased acreage. North of the Ohio River, Michigan and Wisconsin report a decrease of wheat acreage; but the other States report increased breadths, enlarging the acreage of this section about three per cent. West of the Mississippi River Missouri enlarges her acreage at least one-third, Kansas one-eighth and Nebraska nearly one-half. The Pacific States also report a large increase. The condition of the crop appears from the returns to be about ten per cent above the average on the whole.

The acreage of winter rye in 1876 does not materially differ from that of 1875.

LOST PROPERTY IN BROOKLYN.

Property Clerk William H. Muldoon, of the Brooklyn police, reports the value of the articles recovered by the department of that city during the month of December as being $2,297 99. The articles which had been stolen were restored to the owners. Mr. Muldoon says:—"Owing to the extreme care with which the police and firemen conducted their search for property in the ruins of the Brooklyn Theatre a large collection of relics was recovered and turned in at this office. The majority of articles thus secured possessed no intrinsic value, but in numerous