# THE MEMPHIS DAILY APPEAL.

ESTABLISHED 1840. MEMPHIS, TENN., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1876. VOL XXXV.—NUMBER 307


**CLOSING RATES**

*Yesterday of cotton and gold: New York cotton, 12 1-8c. Memphis cotton, 11 1-4c. New York gold, 107 1-2. Memphis gold, 107 1-4.*

**WEATHER PROBABILITIES.**

WAR DEPT., OFFICE CH. SIG. OFFICER, WASHINGTON, December 20, 1 a.m.

*For the Gulf States, Tennessee and the Ohio valley, easterly to southerly winds, slowly rising temperature and falling barometer, with clear or partly cloudy weather during the day, followed by threatening weather and possibly light rain in the Mississippi valley and southwest during the night.*

**OBSERVATIONS YESTERDAY.**

WAR DEP'T, SIGNAL SERVICE U. S. ARMY, TUESDAY, Dec. 19, 1876, 10:08 p.m.

| Place of Observation. | Bar. | Ther. | Wind. | Weather. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Galveston | 30.31 | 50 | E. | Cloudy. |
| Indianola | 30.30 | 40 | N.E. | Cloudy. |
| Louisville | 30.32 | 26 | Calm. | Clear. |
| Memphis | 30.31 | 31 | S. | Clear. |
| Nashville | 30.30 | 27 | Calm. | Clear. |
| New Orleans | 30.31 | 39 | Calm. | Clear. |
| Shreveport | 30.31 | 38 | S.E. | Clear. |
| Vicksburg | 30.34 | 36 | E. | Clear. |

W. M'ELROY, Sergeant.

RUSSIA has contributed one million rubles for the purpose of reorganizing the Servian army.

BOTH branches of the Republican so-called legislature of South Carolina have agreed to adjourn *sine die* on Friday.

TEN members of the board of school visitors are to be elected next month, and we have not heard of a candidate yet. Are all the patriots dead?

WE publish on the second page of this issue of the APPEAL the full report of the opening of the Tennessee, crowded out of our issue of yesterday by the pressure on our advertising columns.

ON the eleventh of next month an election will be held for officers to fill all vacancies in our municipal government, including members of both branches of the general council. Is it not about time we were hearing from candidates?

A DISPATCH from Constantinople announces that the plenipotentiaries have received dispatches from their respective governments approving the decisions arrived at, and the preliminary conferences are therefore concluded.

IT WILL be seen from what we publish under the head "Crustaceous" that the Republicans are doing all they can to stir up trouble and bring about a bloody collision, in which we believe they will fail. The Democrats north and south know the value of peace and will maintain it.

GENERAL M. C. BUTLER, the United States senator elect from South Carolina, is a gentleman every way worthy the position to which he has been called by the legislature of his State. If permitted by the Radical majority in the senate to take his seat, he will prove himself all that his friends claim that he is as a conservative, prudent and able senator.

THE speech of General Nicholls, governor-elect of Louisiana, which will be found in another column, may be taken as an index of the policy which is to characterize his administration, and of his determination, come what may, to be governor in fact as well as in name. General Nicholls may be relied upon for all he says, for to a courage unquestioned he unites a discretion that is in largest part the basis of the confidence the people repose in him.

THE proceedings of congress yesterday were of little importance. In the senate, Senator Bogy made a speech in defense of the action of Governor Grover, of Oregon, in issuing a certificate to Cronin as elector, but the senate adjourned before Senator Bogy concluded. In the house, after considerable discussion, a resolution was adopted that the house adjourn from Saturday to Wednesday, twenty-seventh, and from Saturday, thirtieth, to Wednesday, third of January. After consideration in committee of the whole, Senator Durham, of Kentucky, in the chair, the house passed the fortification bill. The statues of Winthrop and Adams were then received.

## SOUTH CAROLINA.

**General M. C. Butler Elected United States Senator—No Action in the Supreme Court To-Day.**

COLUMBIA, December 19.—In the Democratic house to-day, seventy-nine senators and representatives were present, their being a legal quorum of the joint assembly at half-past two o'clock. United States senator was taken for United States senator, resulting in favor of M. C. Butler, he receiving sixty-four out of the seventy-nine votes. Nothing was done by the Republicans or the court to-day of interest. Everything is very quiet.

In the supreme court, United States District-Attorney Corbin filed a return to the rule for contempt. The court also heard argument in the case of Tilden against Hayes electors, but without taking any action. Adjourned.

## OREGON.

**Meeting of the Democratic State Committee Called—Governor Grover's Defense.**

SAN FRANCISCO, December 19.—A Portland dispatch says S. B. Bellinger, chairman of the Democratic State central committee, has issued a call for a meeting of the committee at Salem, Thursday, the twenty-first. The call has been issued in obedience to an order received from the National Democratic central committee. The object and purposes of the meeting have not been made public. Mr. Bellinger has not intimated in the call the object of the meeting, and the question excites much comment.

Governor Grover has published a long and elaborate statement of his official action regarding the recent election muddle in Oregon. The statement is designed by him as an executive decision, and is a studied defense of his official conduct. After discussing at length the legal features of the case, and citing numerous authorities in support of his position, the governor concludes his statement as follows: "Believing this to be the inevitable logic deductible from the law and facts in the premises, I conclude that Mr. Watts is not entitled to a certificate of election, because the constitution of the United States declares that he shall not be appointed, and that Mr. E. A. Cronin is entitled to a certificate of election as one of the electors of the State, because he is an eligible candidate, having the highest number of legal votes cast for that office, next after the election of William H. Odell and John C. Cartwright, whose elections are not contested. Any other decision would disfranchise the State of Oregon as to one-third her representation in the electoral college. To my mind it is a clear and positive injunction that the constitution of the United States on the subject of elections should be enforced, and in maintaining it in this particular result as above declared."

**Full Cabinet Meeting.**

WASHINGTON, December 19.—There was a full cabinet meeting at noon to-day, and at half-past two o'clock it was still in session.

## CRUSTACEOUS.

**What the Republican Leaders are Doing to Crystalize Public Anxiety and to Create Trouble and Bloodshed.**

**Morton, of the "Bloody-Shirt," Gone to Indiana to Give Life to the Long-Buried Corpse of the Golden Circle.**

**Dirty Davenport's Story—The Attitude of the Democratic Members of the House, and What is Said about it, Pro and Con.**

From our correspondents and from the columns of two of our New York cotemporaries, we have compiled the following interesting resume of the sayings, doings and movements of leading politicians, with gossip from both sides, indicative of what is most likely to result from the contest by the Republican party for the Presidency. Of course the story of Davenport, upon which Morton has made a mission to Indiana, is without foundation, and forewarned that it is so, any thing that Morton may have to say about it will be allowed by a too patient public to fall harmless to the ground. As to the attitude of the southern representatives and the Hayes negotiation for their suffrages and good will, we have only to say that, knowing them as we do, we can vouch for their incorruptibility under any pretext, and that they are above and beyond the reach of either Hayes or his party. They will be true to their people, to their convictions, and under any circumstances will do their whole duty.

**Times Look Squally.**

[From an Appeal Correspondent.]

WASHINGTON, December 15.—Times look squally here. Grant and his backers are bent on putting Hayes in if it is possible. To do that they will override law, constitution and everything. If the northern Democrats submit, they will carry out their designs, and if they resist, God only knows the end. Things look worse than they did in 1860. If Grant carries out his programme our liberties are at an end, and if he does not there will be resistance and a collision occurs, we will be hurled into a revolution to which the late civil war would be a mere side-show. That we confront dangers of the most serious and threatening nature, there can be no doubt. The end no man can foresee, for no one outside of the conspirators know the extent to which they will go.

**Curses not Loud but Deep.**

[From an Appeal Correspondent.]

CHICAGO, December 16.—Ben Hill's reply to Wood and Springer, in the Democratic caucus at Washington, is denounced by our Democrats here in bitter terms, and, in fact, the course of the southern Democratic members of the house, as being sort of careless as to who will be President, or, in other words, not showing such an inclination to inaugurate Tilden and resist the inauguration of Hayes as the northern Democrats do, has brought down curses loud and deep on all southern Democrats. This feeling does not appear in print, nevertheless, it exists, as it can be heard in all places where you find Democrats talking on the subject. There is another subject that is receiving a good deal of attention from all parties, namely, the story going the rounds that Hayes is making overtures to southern Democrats, promising, in case he is President, to weed out the brood of carpetbaggers and the obnoxious carpetbaggers in office and power in the south, and give power and place to representative Democrats in their stead; that he (Hayes) can do more for the south than Tilden; that the policy he would adopt for the benefit of the south, should the south quietly accept him as President, would be really more to its advantage, commercially, financially and politically, than anything any Democratic President could do; that, in a word, he (Hayes) will give the south to the southern people, believing in their honesty and love of country, and that they will do justice to the negro without exercising commandos, and take the stigma, black spot out of politics; as by this course of policy he expects to draw more than half the southern whites to his standard. I think the sayings of Ben Hill and editorials of some southern papers etc. as it were, a sort of coloring to this report. I cannot find anybody who speaks authoritatively on the subject, but all say they heard from so-and-so about it. There must be something in it, as the article in the *Tribune* headed "Hope for the South" would indicate. Of course you will see the article and judge for yourself. True or not, the report is half-way believed, and is causing quite a stir among politicians. I look on it as a sharp trick to divide us in the south, for how could we expect anything from the leaders of the Reds—they who have denounced us as "perjurers," "assassins" and "banditti." Besides, suppose Hayes did make this promise, which I do not believe, is he made of such metal that he could or would have a policy of his own for the south, contrary to the wishes of the leaders of his party? *Nix.*

**Hayes and the Southern Leaders.**

[New York Herald.]

CHICAGO, December 15.—It is positively stated here to-day, by a gentleman of unquestionably trustworthy character, that a Republican leader of great prominence in the western States, and who is known to maintain strictly confidential relations with Governor Hayes, is now on his way to Washington with the sanction of the Republican Presidential candidate, to propose, and if found practicable, conclude an arrangement, in the nature of a compromise, between the most influential members of the Republican party and such prominent conservative southern Democrats as Congressmen Lamar, of Mississippi, and Ben Hill, of Georgia, on the basis of the assent of the latter to the unchallenged declaration of Hayes's election and the inauguration of Hayes as President, with the assurance of a satisfactory division of cabinet officers and other positions of honor and profit under the Federal administration.

**Senator Conkling on Current Rumors—Will Grant be Made Secretary of War?**

WASHINGTON, December 15.—Senator Conkling, in a conversation to-night about the rumors circulated in regard to his retirement from public life, said that he had heard such statements were made about him; also, that if Governor Hayes were inaugurated President, General Grant would not go abroad, as he had intended, but would be appointed secretary of war. In a tone of pleasantry, and some sarcasm, Senator Conkling further added, "That is about all I know of it."

**Provision for Ex-President Grant.**

In respect to President Grant and provision for his future, a movement is said to be on foot to get the next congress to provide for the position of field-marshal, modelled after the French plan, and to assign him to it, allowing General Sherman to continue as at present general of the army. Still another project is spoken of to make him president of the Smithsonian institution.

**Davenport's Story.**

Mr. Davenport, of New York, came down here day before yesterday, and, it is said, brought with him an alarming report of a vast and dangerous conspiracy in the west and east, formed by Democrats for some purpose or other, nobody seems to be very certain what. It is thought that he got early information of the Indiana meetings, and of some other equally silly movements in Ohio. He seems to have spread consternation around him. For, after a protracted cabinet session, in which report says somebody called for the "sedition laws," and found, to his disgust, that there are no sedition laws, Senator Morton went post-haste to Indiana. Whether Mr. Morton goes as an angel of peace or a messenger of war is unknown, but the matter is thought of little importance here, for the Indiana movement is regarded by the Democrats, with very few exceptions, as a great piece of folly, which ought to be frowned down by everybody. It is reported here by Ohio congressmen that in their State both sides are forming into clubs, which have a president and secretary, who could easily be turned into captains and lieutenants. There is good Republican authority for the assertion that the Republican clubs who are thus forming in Ohio are members of a very compact and thoroughly organized secret society. This report deserves the attention of Senator Sherman, for when men are gathering into a secret organization for political purposes they are very easily led by bad men into mischievous acts. It is hoped here however, that neither Democrats nor Republicans in Ohio or Indiana will miscondict themselves. It is the opinion of the wisest men of both parties here that the Presidential question will be fairly and honorably settled when the time comes, and all are united in the hope that harsh and incendiary counsels will not lead foolish men, either Republicans or Democrats, in the west, to violence, for which there is neither occasion, or excuse. It is very certain that any lawless attempt by members of either party will be vigorously condemned by everybody here of both sides, and Democratic and Republican congressmen unite in advising their constituents to patience and peace. It is, however, the policy of the extreme Republicans to magnify the danger of Democratic follies in the west, and it is thought possible here that Mr. Morton has gone to Indiana mainly to bring back a carpetbag full of political thunder.

**Grant's Treasonable Scheme.**

[New York Herald.]

WASHINGTON, December 14.—I have delayed writing until now in order that I might inform myself as fully as possible of the actual situation here. To this end I have spared no pains, and my conclusions in brief are as follows: The administration party, by which I mean principally the clique of office-holders who have managed the Presidential campaign, intend to carry out their fraudulent scheme to the bitter end, and utterly without regard to consequences. The have undoubtedly acquired entire control of President Grant, who is prepared to go any length to aid them. The mental process by which the President has reached this conclusion is perfectly simple. He starts out with the proposition that under no circumstances shall this government be delivered over to those who sought to destroy it, and that this result shall be averted by any efficient means whatever. He then seeks for those means, and remarks that so long as they are efficient it makes no sort of difference whether they are legal or revolutionary, they are justified by the end to be attained. Having arrived at this point, he is in a proper frame of mind to accept any theory, to accredit any falsehood, to sustain any villainy. The will of the people expressed at the polls does not affect him at all. He quietly analyzes the returns and comes to the conclusion that but one loyal State was honestly for Tilden. He says that all the States lately in rebellion should be disregarded without hesitation and that all the border States are in as bad plight, because they would have been in rebellion if they had not been prevented by the presence of the armies of the Union. That thus only four States which have any apparent claim to be considered, actually voted for Tilden, viz.: Indiana, New York, Connecticut and New Jersey; that of these Indiana always contained a very large disloyal element, and is therefore to be regarded with suspicion; that New York, with the exception of the lower wards of the city of New York, which were filled with the most ignorant foreign voters, was really a Republican State; that Connecticut was carried for Tilden only by means of fraud, and that New Jersey therefore was the only State worthy to be counted at all which voted for the Democratic candidate. Now, in his role of "Savior of the Republic," the President concludes to carry out the will of those of the people who in his judgment are alone worthy to have or express any will on the subject, and to count for naught those of the people whom he regards as improper custodians of our liberties. So he calls into action his returning boards; he sends his commissions of office-holders to certify to the honor and patriotism of the returning boards, and he reinforces both of these precious inventions by the bayonets of the army; and all, look you, to preserve the fruits of the war, and to save the country from falling into the hands of the rebels. Now, having organized and employed all this unlawful machinery to frustrate the will of the people, as expressed at the polls, it is not to be imagined that the President should hesitate to proceed in the same direction, and by similar methods, at the final opening and counting of the electoral votes by the two houses of congress. This being the temper, and these the methods, of the Executive, the Radical majority in the senate find that their work is all prepared for them in advance. They are to meet in their own hall, to notify the house (as a mere matter of courtesy) that their presiding officer is about to open *and count* the electoral votes, and then proceed to do it in their own way. That way is to be that the president of the senate shall open just such votes as he chooses, and shall count them and announce the name of the person who shall have received the majority of the votes cast. This person the President declares he will have inaugurated, and will bring more troops here to aid him, if necessary, and that he will "have peace if he has to fight for it." It will be observed that this is essentially the methods of the southern returning boards and of the arrangement of the little difficulty in the South Carolina legislature by the interposition of the corporal's guard. In all these proceedings the house of representatives is entirely ignored, and the plan is so arranged that if any member of the house interferes he will be regarded as a mere trespasser upon the preserves of the senate and treated accordingly. That this is the deliberate plan of the administration cabal there is not the faintest doubt. That its successful prosecution will destroy civil liberty in America is as plain as anything in this world can be. There is only one way by which this treasonable scheme can be defeated, and that is for the people, without regard to party, to speak in condemnation of it in tones so unmistakable as to carry dismay into the hearts of those bad senators who stand ready to do the behests of the cabal, and to encourage those men who only wait for such encouragement to come squarely over to the side of law and order.

**Attitude of the Southern Members.**

WASHINGTON, December 15.—The southern members of congress, in interview to-day, appear to be growing restive under the continued misrepresentations of their attitude on the Presidential question, which are appearing from day to day in the newspapers. The sensational and wholly incorrect report of an interview Colonel Roberts, of New Orleans, had with Governor Hayes, at the home of the latter, in Ohio, was promptly exposed and contradicted, but it continues to be followed by similar statements, which are equally unfounded in fact. Some of these reports have no doubt grown out of a recent interview with Mr. Hill, of Georgia; but Mr. Hill does not reflect altogether the sentiments of his colleagues, and could not commitment the entire political guard of followers. It is possible that there may be one or two southern members who would concede the election of Mr. Hayes, with the hope of gaining something for their section by the concession, but it would be difficult to find them. They certainly would not represent the sentiments of the southern people. Neither among the southern men in congress or out of it is there the slightest disposition to concede the election of Mr. Hayes, or the faintest desire to buy his good-will by acting in bad faith toward their northern allies. The south did its part in the last election toward placing Mr. Tilden in the Presidential chair; it knows that he has been fairly elected, and should be inaugurated, and that position it is ready to maintain. Of course, if the north makes no resistance to the revolutionary programme by which the Radicals propose to put Mr. Hayes into the White House, the south must also give way, however unwillingly. But let the north show a bold front and assert its rights, and the south will not be found wanting. Of course, no southern man, and it might be further said no true lover of his country, desires the settlement of the Presidential question by an appeal to arms. And the inclination of a few adventurers are opposed to internal strife, and none are more ready to deprecate even the possibility of bloodshed than the much maligned ex-Confederates who hold seats in congress. They have seen quite enough of war and its horrors. All the war talk of to-day comes from the hangers-on of the administration and departmental employes, and the basest montrel are these least likely to respond to a possible call to arms. They are no doubt encouraged in their threats by the moderate and law-abiding policy of the Democrats in congress and by the apparent patience with which the people of the north have regarded the use of troops and the frauds of the returning boards in the south. A little more time they were compelled, reluctantly no doubt, to admit the election of Mr. Tilden and to concede that he would be inaugurated; now they say that if the attempt is made to inaugurate him there will be trouble, and that the Democrats will show their wisdom by forbearing to provoke a collision. Of course this is mere idle vaporing; but men who talk so are moved by the spirit which has Grant in leading-strings and dictates the Republican policy. The idea that threats of this kind could have any effect upon the Democrats in congress or out of it is too absurd for serious consideration; but it is not more absurd than the repeated assertions that the southern representatives here have any intention or desire to sell themselves to Governor Hayes or to place the fortunes of the south in his hands. To this a southern member to-day suggested in his presence the emphatic assurance that the southern Democracy have been tried by fire since the war, and their loyalty to the constitution and the Union proved beyond all question. These are the views as obtained by a correspondent of the *World* from conversations with nearly all of the southern members of the house.

**Morton's Mission.**

WASHINGTON, December 15.—There can be no question of Senator Morton's uncommon proficiency in bringing falsehood to the birth and promoting its successful delivery, and Washington has had proof of all day with a curiously consistent story which explains Senator Morton's hasty departure last night by the necessities of a gigantic lie, to which the able lieutenants of the Indiana senator find themselves unequal. Signs of ebbing popular favor at every point in the Republican campaign have been met by the invention of some new scandal or the discovery of some fresh falsehood about the Democratic party. Since the election, pretty steady lying has been pretty steadily kept up by a lot of men of rare experience and proficiency to continue the contest in a new rebellion, was them, had been, or would be in progress at the south. Within a week past letters have been received by southern Democrats in congress asking advice as to the approaching organization of armed forces, letters which have been uniformly traced to Republican sources and were intended to lure men into unwise and hasty expressions. Circulars to the same end have come through the south, forged by Republicans and sent to Democrats, in the vain hope that men who could not be forced by violence to violent measures might be trapped into equivocal utterances. All this has failed. The marvelous self-control of our fellow-citizens at the south, the singular self-possession of their leaders and the men they led have blighted these lies at the birth. They have fallen still-born, and as public confidence returns, the desperate gamesters, whose desperate game can succeed only by a breach of the public peace, are altogether likely to invent disturbances at the north and hint at a new rebellion at the south. There are difficulties in the way. The story must deceive northern men, must be told of northern men, in northern papers, by northern politicians. It is currently believed that Morton, and only Morton, is equal to the task. He has his whole story to invent, and it is claimed he has gone to Indianapolis to produce the gigantic and rounded lie. A great organization will be discovered, with books, and lists and passwords, and grips and other blood-curdling secrets of a more frightful riot. The recent meetings at Indianapolis had to do with it; the meetings of last January have more. The cabinet meeting to-day actually spent its time in listening to reports on the subject, and the country is shortly expected to spend its time in listening to the same report, with the telling difference that while the cabinet cannot be expected to believe the lies of its friends, the cabinet will expect the country to believe the lies of its friends, Senator Morton among them. A hasty conference was held yesterday at the capitol between Chandler, Cameron and Morton. It may or may not have its bearing upon Senator Morton's trip and the reports in today's cabinet meeting, but whatever their bearing, there can be no question that for the coming weeks no efforts will be spared to put the Democrats in the wrong by count, suggestion, plot, and open and audacious lying, first and chiefest from the State of Indiana. Meanwhile, no scintilla of evidence exists to support these falsehoods, and no checks will be given by them to the consistent and constitutional agitation for the rights of the people. Ohio is soon to follow the example of Indiana.

**What Morton is Expected to Prove.**

[Baltimore Gazette.]

WASHINGTON, December 15.—Yesterday afternoon Secretary Cameron came into the senate chamber, and Morton followed him out. They went direct to the White House. The news had been received that morning that the Democrats of Indiana were organizing into county clubs, and preparing to maintain their rights at all hazards. It had also been communicated to Grant, Cameron and Morton, that similar organizations were forming in Ohio, Illinois, Wisconsin, and other western States. They were represented to be secret in their character, and composed of the same material which made up the order known as the Knights of the Golden Circle. It was to contrive some plan for firing the northern heart, by pretending that these southern societies were being revived that Morton was suddenly called to Secretary Cameron's aid. After a protracted conference at the White House, Senator Morton returned to his quarters, where he gave out that a telegram had just been received which called him home, and with his Oregon speech half-finished and important committee work on his hands he flies off to Indiana after midnight. The scheme is to have Morton revive his fight against rebellious organizations. During the past campaign he charged Governor Hendricks and other prominent Democrats who supported Tilden with having been in full harmony with the Knights of the Golden Circle. He is to obtain prominent names connected with this present organization, and indict them boldly in the senate as conspirators. This, he and Cameron think, will prepare the public for the necessity of coming in Hayes, and placing the army at his command to support this new rebellion, and will serve as a warrant for increasing and maintaining the troops at Washington. The firm attitude of the Indiana Democrats have directed attention to that quarter, and Morton must now conspire to prop his lost cause by reinstalling old hatreds without the slightest foundation in fact. The present organizations are in no way similar to the Knights of the Golden Circle, whom Morton fought during the war. The country is forewarned of this political plot in time to checkmate its consummation.

**The Michigan Democrats.**

[New York Herald.]

DETROIT, December 14.—Interviews here to-day with prominent Democrats, representing various sections of the State of Michigan, exhibit a generally well-grounded fear that Governor Tilden cannot be inaugurated President without trouble. Scarcely any anticipate violence, although there are a very few who fear the question may come to a sanguinary issue. Some maintain that, having been lawfully elected President, Governor Tilden must be inaugurated at all hazards. Many thoughtful men assert that the question at issue is not "Hayes or Tilden," but whether we have a constitutional government. The establishing of a precedent of depriving elected a President whom it is most apparent is not the choice of the people, and who can only be seated in "in violation of the forms of law, is deprecated as most dangerous; as clearing the road for usurpation by whichever party happens to control the executive branch of the government, and necessarily bidding a final farewell to the liberties of a free people. Many of the most ultra Democrats, who maintain the certainty of Tilden's election, do not anticipate trouble of any kind; they think that such steps will be taken before the electoral vote comes before congress as will lead to a final and satisfactory settlement of the matter in favor of Governor Tilden.

## ANOTHER FIRE AT LITTLE ROCK

**The Entire Eastern Portion of the City at One Time Threatened—The Conflagration Finally Checked after Raging Four Hours.**

**The Miller & Prenzel Block Entirely Consumed—Loss, One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars.**

LITTLE ROCK, December 19.—Another fire has just broken out at thirty minutes past eight o'clock, on the corner of Markham and Sherman streets, adjoining the Miller and Penzell block, which threatens to destroy the eastern business portion of the city.

8:45—No water on the fire yet, although the fire department is out, and the streets thronged with people. It is reported that there is considerable powder in the building, and the officers are keeping the people from coming to the immediate vicinity.

THE UTMOST EXCITEMENT

prevails at present. The flames are confined to the extensive house of Jones, M'Dowell & Co., cotton-factors and commission merchants, in the Miller & Penzel block, a three-story brick building. The city council, which was in session when the alarm sounded, has just adjourned.

At the hour of 8:50, the Pat Cleburne, a steam-engine, is pouring two streams in the front door of Jones, M'Dowell & Co.'s store, and there is a possibility that the flames will be subdued. The new Silsby steamer, purchased by the citizens of Hot Springs, and brought here for trial, is taking water at the corner of Cumberland and Second streets. Should the building burn,

THE LOSS

cannot fall short of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. The fire department is doing noble work, and if the water holds out a portion of the building may be saved. The report of a considerable amount of powder in the building is denied, and every inch of available ground is occupied by the workers.

At ten minutes past nine the flames burst from the rear of the building, and the cry went up that "the block is doomed." There seems to be

NO HOPE.

If a wind prevailed the loss would be greater than the Metropolitan fire. The cause is as yet unknown. About three hundred men are engaged in removing the groceries within reach in Miller & Penzel's wholesale grocery house. The goods in the other side is mostly machinery and heavy goods. The work of razing the neighboring buildings is under way. The powder was removed at the commencement of the fire, yet hundreds of people refuse to venture near. The ground is trembling under the throes of the four steamers playing upon the building.

WATER GIVEN OUT.

At 9:20.—The water in the cisterns having given out, the steamers have gone to the river for water, the Silsby, in charge of Agent Randall, taken from the transfer boat, and the city steamers from the levee. The steamer, the Pulaski, is disabled, and is not at work. No water is being thrown on the fire at this moment. The second story of the building will be thoroughly gutted, and the loss will be from seventy to eighty thousand dollars, if the building is not destroyed. Both firms were partially insured.

During the time the engines moved from the cisterns to the river,

THE FIRE GAINED A HEADWAY

which seems impossible to check. The buildings occupied by the following firms will be ruined, the nearest ones being probably crushed by the falling walls: Harrison Reed, barber; Kaufman, toys and bakery; Popp, butcher; S. L. Volmer & Co., dry goods; the last named are insured. The neighborhood known as "Fighting" alley, comprising about twenty-five wooden buildings, occupied as saloons, etc., on the levee and Water street, is almost sure to burn.

JOHN CHAMBERS,

a railroad man, was dangerously injured by an axe dropped from the house. Many thieves are being arrested.

At 10:15—The fire has been raging two hours, and the walls of the block are falling. Thus goes the largest wholesale houses in Arkansas. The loss cannot fall short of one hundred and fifty thousand dollars. There is no telling where the flames will be stopped. The heat has driven the firemen from the surrounding buildings. Jack Curtis has been severely wounded by a box of merchandize dropping upon him.

and grasping this building. The steamers are playing on a large wooden building on the east side, endeavoring to prevent its spread in that direction. The general office of the Little Rock and Fort Smith railroad is in danger; it is owned by John M'Dowell & Co. and is an elegant two-story and a half brick. The third story of the Miller & Penzel block was the lodge-room of all the Masonic bodies of the city, and also the office of L. E. Barber, secretary of the Grand Lodge. The rooms were elegantly furnished and all the lodges paraphernalia, furniture, etc., was destroyed. The rear wall of the Miller & Penzel block, when it falls, will crush several wooden buildings, which the firemen have not time to raze. Mr. D. E. Jones says that there was no fire in his office, and the fire is believed by many to be

WORK OF AN INCENDIARY,

intent on destroying the city. At half-past eleven o'clock the fire is under control, and is confined to the one block, although those in the vicinity were badly damaged by both fire and water. The delay in moving the engines from the cistern to the river gave the fire a headway which could not be checked. Jones, M'Dowell & Co. is a branch of the houses of Bussey & Co., of New Orleans and Memphis.

**Work of the Committees.**

WASHINGTON, December 19.—The house judiciary committee held another meeting today for the consideration of the Western Union company's refusal to produce telegrams called for by the Louisiana committees and the general questions involved, but the sub-judiciary committee not being ready to report, the session was consumed in an informal discussion of the subject.

The ways and means committee has decided to report a resolution for an adjournment of the house from Saturday next to the following Wednesday, and for a similar adjournment over New Year's, from the thirtieth instant until the third of January.

The senate committee on privileges and elections have withdrawn the subpœnas for witnesses in the case of the alleged ineligible Presidential elector of North Carolina.

The house committee on appropriations has completed the consular and diplomatic bill. It appropriates one million one hundred and thirty-five thousand dollars, thirty to fifty thousand dollars less than the amount in the bill passed at the former session. The small reduction is in the pay and expenses of consulates. This bill is on the basis of the preceding one, and makes no changes of ministers, giving the same compensation as now, and does not change any consulates.

**The Scrip Mill.**

Chattanooga is just now having her annual "spell" of "scrip-mill." It always breaks out about this time of year, and runs until everybody is tired of talking about it; and then the gentle Chattanoogeese go on for ten months as usual. The "scrip-mill" disorder ought to be getting light with them. They have had it every year for eleven years.—*Knoxville Tribune.*

## INVESTIGATIONS.

**What the Committees Now Sitting in Washington, New Orleans, New York and Tallahassee are Doing.**

**Statement Made by the Democratic and the Republican Counsel to the House Committee in New Orleans.**

**The Case of General Frost, of Missouri—Rads Getting After the Telegraph Company for New York Politicians' Dispatches.**

NEW ORLEANS, December 19.—The senate committee was called to order at half-past twelve o'clock by Senator Howe, chairman, who stated that the committee was not yet provided with the desired tables of returns. He said the statement given the clerks of the senate committee by the secretary of the returning board was defective in several particulars; it did not indicate the votes thrown out in detail, but simply gave the aggregate number, whereas it was desired to obtain the votes rejected at each poll Mr. Morey, of the Republican counsel, stated that it would be well for the committee to take the testimony of a witness (Eaton Logwood) who, he said, was about to die of woounds received in Ouachita parish, and who was now in the city. Mr. M'Gloin, of the Democratic counsel, urged that in cases where it was alleged that a witness could not appear before the committee on account of sickness, a doctor's certificate to that effect be filed with the committee. After some discussion as to the best way of taking the testimony of Logwood, it was determined that it should be taken before a commissioner at his residence. The evidence elicited was materially the same as that given by Logwood before the returning board on November 28th, and included in Senator Sherman's report to the President. The clerk was instructed to procure the required tables from the board, and the committee adjourned until Wednesday morning at eleven o'clock.

**The Democratic Statement.**

The counsel for the Democrats submitted the following statement of their case to the senate committee:

First—That they received at the election held in this State, Tuesday, November 7, 1876, a majority of the legal votes over their opponents, averaging about eight thousand votes.

Second—That the election so far as the Democratic-Conservative party was concerned was fair and peaceable, and full, and that said candidates and said party used every exertion and endeavor to secure a free and full vote and a quiet election.

Third—That on the other hand their opponents and leaders of the Republican party of this State had, for some time previous to the election determined and conspired to carry the State by fraud and unfair means, and with that end in view did perform, among others, the following acts.

Fourth—They did appoint as supervisor of registration none but Republicans, and few but Republicans as clerks of registration, refusing to listen to the reiterated demands by the Democratic-Conservative party for representation, thus limiting and destroying the opportunities of detecting and preventing frauds.

Fifth—That they did in most instances send out to the country parishes as supervisors, corrupt and dishonest men from this city, whose residences were not in the parishes for which they were appointed, and in many instances selected for such supervisors and clerks employes of the United States.

Sixth—That said supervisors, in a number of the parishes of this State, did throw every obstacle in the way of the registration by Democrats, amounting, in many cases, to a denial of registration, on the other hand, affording every facility to Republicans, and the issuing of a large number of fraudulent registration papers to colored Republicans, amounting, in the State, to more than ten thousand.

Seventh—That said supervisors, in a number of cases, refused, in their revision of registration, to strike off the names of colored Republican voters which were clearly proven as fraudulent; and that on the day of election the greater part of said fraudulent registration papers were voted, raising the Republican vote of this State fully seventy-five hundred.

Eighth—That said supervisors were in communication with the campaign and other committees of the Republican party, and receiving instructions in relation to registration and injunctions to inflate the Republican vote, accompanied by promises of reward from the Republican administration if successful.

Nigth—That Republican voters and Republican leaders did adopt means of intimidating Democratic voters by threats of violence and undue and corrupt practices exercised toward colored voters, and by the wholesale issuance, just previous to the election, of warrants to the number of several thousand, without just cause for the arrest of the white voters, thereby causing terror and depriving the Democratic-Conservative party of a large number of votes.

Tenth—That said Republican leaders and said supervisors did employ artifices to prevent the casting of a full Democratic-Conservative vote in several parishes of this State.

Eleventh—That they did illegally appoint a large number of deputy United States marshals in the various parishes of this State, at a large expense to the United States government, and a large number of deputy constables, all of whom surrounded the polls in large numbers and intimidated voters.

Twelfth—That they did illegally expend the money of the government for partisan purposes, by commissioning large numbers of deputy United States marshals exclusively from the Republican party, by employing government clerks to write and copy affidavits and documents for use before the returning boards, and other partisan purposes, and by summoning and paying a cloud of Republicans large sums as mileage and per diem as witnesses before said board.

Thirteenth—That they did close the courts to all redress against the illegal actions complained of, entering *nolle prosequis* in cases where true bills had been found against the guilty parties, and otherwise protecting them from punishment.

Fourteenth—Your appearers further state and charge that the said Republican leaders did previous to, and after said action, conspire and determine to cause to be fraudulently counted the votes actually cast so as to destroy the large majority by appearers received and accord to their opponents a majority that thereby they had never received, said conspiracy and determination being shown by public declarations and by the course pursued in this connection.

Fifteenth—That as the instrument of said conspiracy was used, the returning board of this State was composed in violation of law requiring as a prerequisite to all action the filling of vacancies and a full board of five members.

Sixteenth—That said returning board usurped and exercised judicial functions contrary to the constitution of the State, which restricts the judicial power to the judiciary.

Seventeenth—That said board sought to escape all effective scrutiny by excluding observers or representatives of the Democratic-Conservative party at the most important portions of its labors, and by refusing to fill a vacancy, and by refusing to one party representation on said board.

Eighteenth—That said board conspired with said Republican leaders, and to accomplish said result violated the laws provided for its government, in every particular, as to the manner of receiving and opening the returns and canvassing the names, as to the formation and reception of protests, and as to the reception of evidence and decision of contests.

Nineteenth—That said board accorded every facility to fraudulent supervisors in the manufacture and presentation of protests, contrary to law and outside of their parishes, and affidavits to sustain the same, supporting said supervisors therein, and in the emasculation and falsification of the returns.

Twentieth—That said board altered its rules and modified its proceedings whenever necessary to promote the interests of the Republican party, and on the other hand cast every impediment in the way of the Democratic-Conservative party.

Twenty-first—That said board did, as a climax of said conspiracy, fraudulently cast out a large number of Democratic votes, say about thirteen thousand; in some cases casting out whole parishes without justification, and in others boxes showing heavy Democratic majorities, violating the law, and even violating its own rules and mode of proceedings, thereby accomplishing the result desired by said conspiracy.

Twenty-second—That among the electors by them declared elected was one O. H. Brewster, who, at the time of his nomination being voted for, held an office of profit and trust under the government, namely, United States surveyor-general of the land office for the district of Louisiana, at the city of New Orleans, and one A. B. Levisee, who was at the same time an United States commissioner; both said Brewster and Levisee being qualified and exercising the functions of said office, which rendered them ineligible as electors under the constitution of the United States, which declaration of election by said board was on the face of written protests and verbal objections.

Twenty-third—That in various parishes of this State there were cast a number of Republican ballots which bore only the names of three Republican electors, yet said board did count said ballots for Republican electors, although the names of five of said electors did not appear thereon, and that the number of such ballots reached close on to three thousand, which was a fraud on the part of said board.

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H. C. BROWN,
CHAS. CAVANNE,
E. A. BURKE,
J. A. A. GAUTHREAUX,
FRANK M'GLOIN,
Of Counsel.

NEW ORLEANS, December 19, 1876.

**The Republican Statement.**

LINE OF EVIDENCE SUBMITTED TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE BY COUNSEL ON BEHALF OF THE REPUBLICANS.

We charge as true, and propose to prove, on behalf of the Republicans, the following facts:

First—That the late election in this State was, at certain polls and in certain precincts and parishes, made null and void in law by violence and intimidation, occasioned by and consisting of secret conspiracies, leagues and armed bands of brigands known as "bulldozers," who have inflicted upon white and colored Republicans whippings, shootings, hangings, burnings, mutilations, assassinations, and in many instances have perpetrated murder and massacre; that by these means a condition of terror has been produced among the Republicans in certain sections of the State, which had continued for a period of more than twelve months prior to the late election.

Second—That the election law of this State was enacted to meet a similar condition of affairs which had occurred in 1868; that the law declares an election held under such conditions to be null and void, and the votes pretended to be cast under the insecurity, danger, fear and terror thus occasioned to be null and void; that the law vests the returning officers of the State with power to inquire into and examine the facts where such condition of affairs is charged, and to ascertain the truth of such charges, and, if proven, to declare the nullity of such election, and carry into effect such nullity by rejecting and refusing to count the pretended vote so made null and void; and that this election law is righteous, just and necessary.

Third—That the returning officers did so examine and inquire according to law, and did find that certain parishes and polls the election was made null and void by the causes