

STRIKING HARD PAN.

The Potter Committee Getting Down to the Bed Rock of Fraud.

Emile Weber Testifies That the Feliciana Parishes Went Democratic.

His Brother Influenced by the Promises and Assurances of Sherman to File His Protest.

The Man Who Found the Sherman Letter and Destroyed It.

Seymour Testifies Before the Sub-Committee That Jenks Did Sing That Affidavit.

THE INVESTIGATION.

The Potter Committee Still Prosecuting Its Inquiry.

WASHINGTON, July 2.—The Potter committee to-day recalled Thomas C. Anderson, who testified that he did not see any one sign the certificates of the electoral votes while in the governor's office in New Orleans; that Mrs. Jenks pleaded the poverty of her mother, and asked him to appoint her brother, A. R. Murdock, to a place in the custom house. Witness promised to do something for him this month, but has not yet. Murdock has had a letter from Senator Kellogg for some time requesting Kellogg to do something for him.

A long examination of the witness regarding the operations of the returning board elicited nothing new. In reply to General Hunter the witness said the returning board, as a body, never attempted to fill a vacancy with democrats. He had spoken to Mr. Smith, at present a reporter on the New Orleans Democrat, about accepting an appointment on the board, but he refused. Never knew of the board having asked Smith. Never heard it stated by any member of the board that the presence of a democrat was undesirable. The witness, in reply to Mr. Cox, said he had heard that Daniel Weber was killed because he had signed his protest. Never heard he was killed, as Judge Campbell had testified, because he was supposed to have had the Sherman letter on his person.

JENKS NO. 2.

Thomas H. Jenks testified he had never made an affidavit similar to the one submitted before the Louisiana sub-committee yesterday and in the handwriting of James E. Anderson. Never saw Notary Seymour in New Orleans, before whom the affidavit appears to have been made.

Jones E. Anderson, asking permission to explain, stated that on the 11th of May he met Jenks on the street, and as he (Anderson) was going to leave for the north at 2 p.m., Jenks requested him to use his influence toward securing him a position in Washington, and after some conversation, Jenks went with him to his office in the custom house, and dictated the affidavit in question, and he (Anderson) copied it, and then they went to Notary Seymour's office, and Jenks showed the document. The purpose of making the affidavit was to aid Anderson in securing Jenks a position. Anderson was to show the affidavit to Matthews, and endeavor to secure him an appointment on the strength of it.

WEBER'S BROTHER.

Emile L. Weber, brother of Daniel Weber, was sworn, desiring to read the statement of his connection with the republican party. Mr. Cox objected to the statements read being part of the testimony, and Weber refused to give the present.

H. Conquest Clarke, former private secretary of Governor Kellogg, retold his recollections of the signing of the electoral certificates, and promptly and emphatically denied all knowledge of who appended the supposed forged signatures. A secret session followed.

WEBER AGAIN.

When the doors were reopened Emile Weber was recalled and was given permission to read his statement, provided he would swear to the facts contained in it. The statement was read and set forth: he had no knowledge that democratic intimidation existed in the parishes of East and West Feliciana. His brother, Daniel Weber, and James E. Anderson had informed him the two parishes had gone democratic. Influence was brought to bear upon his brother to make him protest, and he had been approached very frequently to use his influence with his brother to effect the signing of the protest. He saw Anderson sign his protest, and saw the blanks therein. After Anderson had left Judge Campbell attached the affidavit to the paper. It was not sworn to by Anderson. It was a notorious fact in the custom house that Kellogg, Packard and others were preparing their respective protests. John Sherman, who was spokesman for the visiting statesmen, and he (Weber) knew that Sherman had given his brother assurances which caused him to allow his protest to stand after it had been made. Weber had in conversation with Sherman explained to him that his brother thought his parish had gone democratic, and he was disposed to take back his protest, whereupon Sherman assured him his brother would be cared for, and requested he send his brother to him.

His brother on the day he received it showed him the Sherman letter of assurance, and said he had received it direct from Sherman. Weber was familiar with the handwriting of Sherman, and was satisfied the letter was written by that gentleman in 1877. The Sherman letter was the subject of great misconception to the Weber family, and his sister-in-law, Mrs. Daniel Weber, had endeavored to find it among the papers of her husband, which were packed away in two trunks and a large shoe box. Late in the summer of 1877 he (the witness) had made a search for the letter and had found it in a shoe box and destroyed it forthwith. Mrs. Jenks had been in no way connected with the authorship of the Sherman letter.

About the 27th of November it was discovered that only six of the Hayes electors could be saved, and Kellogg on that day remarked to me: "We are after all beaten." In regard to the agreement between James E. Anderson and D. A. Weber I here state that I personally know that such an agreement was entered into, and was substantially the same as has been presented. My brother was murdered March 7. In the issue of the Ledger, of which he was editor previous to

his death, he threatened to publish certain letters and a statement emanating from the state auditor's office, and that is supposed to have supplied the immediate cause of his death, and to that extent might suggest his author. While I consider this threat the immediate cause of his destruction, I do not believe that it would have occurred if he had not made the protest which deprived the people of their votes, and thus placed himself in such a position that his personal enemies were encouraged to make this murderous assault. In the Sherman report appears a purposed affidavit from me as United States supervisor, containing a somewhat sweeping allegation of intimidation in the parish of West Feliciana. I declined, when requested to make an affidavit on this subject, to do so. This paper was subsequently prepared by L. B. Jenks, and without reading or examining it signed it. I performed no duties as United States supervisor, and should not have signed the paper if I had previously read it. I did not swear to it, but the jurat was attached by the commissioner as a matter of form merely. I have no defense to make for my action except to say that it was done without deliberation. Mrs. Jenks visited my sister-in-law in the summer of 1877, and urged her to hunt for the Sherman letter. Mrs. Weber declined to do so, or give her any information whatever. About the 27th of May she brought a letter from General Sheldon, offering to pay Mrs. Weber's expenses to New Orleans and Washington in connection with Sherman, and threatening in case she did not come to have her arrested and forced to go. Mrs. Jenks and her husband have always called the paper the Sherman letter. Tom Jenks, in fact, has claimed that his association with and cooperation Anderson was such as to give him an equitable right to some of the benefits that were supposed to be embraced in it. I have never heard it intimated until she gave her testimony that Mrs. Jenks was in any way connected with the authorship of the letter. I have not, nor has any member of my family, sought to use this letter as a means of obtaining office. I saw the members of the MacVeagh commission in New Orleans. Was informed that money had been used to secure the abandonment of the Packard legislature by certain members thereof. I could say something of amounts paid in certain cases, but could not say who disbursed the money or who supplied it. I had two conversations with General Hawley relative to the recognition of the Packard government by the administration, and he said the president could not, and would not recognize it. He conveyed the impression to my mind distinctly that the recognition of Nicholls and the abandonment of Packard was a foregone conclusion, and that this question had been determined by the administration before the commission left Washington.

A TROUBLESOME LETTER.

A letter was here shown Weber, which he identified as having been written by himself. He then said:

GENTLEMEN OF THE COMMITTEE—I object to the consideration of this letter, or of publications of any part of it, in this committee. It was published in a place in me in a very false position with the people down there, and I ask the committee not to allow it to be read for that reason. The statement I have made in that letter is in no way fact, and I do not like to say a word or two about this matter. That is the time I wrote this letter, what I wrote was given to me as facts, but since I have ascertained that I was misinformed, and therefore I mistated the case at that time.

It is as follows:

STATE SENATE, NEW ORLEANS, March 24, 1877.

DEAR COUSIN—Your favor of the 17th inst. I am sorry to say that though I had heard my brother, D. A. Weber, casually speak of a cousin living in New Louis, he never gave me any information concerning his connection with me. This is the only reason I can give you for not writing to you sooner. The time you refer to the Sherman letter of assurance, and told him Sherman gave it to him at the conclusion of the conference relative to him standing by his protest, and remarked that it was the best he could do at that time.

Question—Did your brother agree to stand by his protest? A.—He hesitated about doing so, but could not well avoid it, as he was under the pressure brought to bear upon him.

By Mr. Springer—Did you have the Sherman letter in your hand? A.—Yes, sir, I did.

Q.—What kind of paper was it written on?

A.—It was written on double sheet note paper. Witness then showed the size of the paper, which was about one-half the size of the sheet. Mrs. Jenks said the letter was written on. She claimed it was written on a single sheet of commercial letter paper. Witness said it was arranged before the election by Kellogg, Thomas C. Anderson and Packard to secure affidavits of intimidation in the parishes of East and West Feliciana for the purpose of throwing out these parishes. He was assured by Kellogg and others if he would use his influence with his brother toward having him make protest he (Weber) would be returned to the senate. He was defeated for the state senate by about 1,200 votes, and was returned by a majority. In reply to Hunton witness stated that some visiting statesmen had an interview with Eliza Pinkston before she was brought before the returning board. He thought one of those who interviewed her was Senator Sherman. He was of the opinion that Eliza Pinkston's outrage was a put-up job.

By Mr. Springer—Did you see the affidavit of Eliza Pinkston, formerly Eliza Pinkston, published in a New York paper? A.—Yes, sir, I did, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true.

Weber then related the circumstances as told him by his sister-in-law concerning the visits of Jenks to Donaldsonville, and read the following letter, which was delivered to Mrs. Dan Weber by Mrs. Jenks:

JUDGE SHELLABARGER—Your favor of the 17th inst. I am sorry to say that though I had heard my brother, D. A. Weber, casually speak of a cousin living in New Louis, he never gave me any information concerning his connection with me. This is the only reason I can give you for not writing to you sooner. The time you refer to the Sherman letter of assurance, and told him Sherman gave it to him at the conclusion of the conference relative to him standing by his protest, and remarked that it was the best he could do at that time.

Question—Did your brother agree to stand by his protest? A.—He hesitated about doing so, but could not well avoid it, as he was under the pressure brought to bear upon him.

By Mr. Springer—Did you have the Sherman letter in your hand? A.—Yes, sir, I did.

Q.—What kind of paper was it written on?

A.—It was written on double sheet note paper. Witness then showed the size of the paper, which was about one-half the size of the sheet. Mrs. Jenks said the letter was written on. She claimed it was written on a single sheet of commercial letter paper. Witness said it was arranged before the election by Kellogg, Thomas C. Anderson and Packard to secure affidavits of intimidation in the parishes of East and West Feliciana for the purpose of throwing out these parishes. He was assured by Kellogg and others if he would use his influence with his brother toward having him make protest he (Weber) would be returned to the senate. He was defeated for the state senate by about 1,200 votes, and was returned by a majority. In reply to Hunton witness stated that some visiting statesmen had an interview with Eliza Pinkston before she was brought before the returning board. He thought one of those who interviewed her was Senator Sherman. He was of the opinion that Eliza Pinkston's outrage was a put-up job.

Question—Did your brother agree to stand by his protest? A.—He hesitated about doing so, but could not well avoid it, as he was under the pressure brought to bear upon him.

By Mr. Springer—Did you have the Sherman letter in your hand? A.—Yes, sir, I did.

Q.—What kind of paper was it written on?

A.—It was written on double sheet note paper. Witness then showed the size of the paper, which was about one-half the size of the sheet. Mrs. Jenks said the letter was written on. She claimed it was written on a single sheet of commercial letter paper. Witness said it was arranged before the election by Kellogg, Thomas C. Anderson and Packard to secure affidavits of intimidation in the parishes of East and West Feliciana for the purpose of throwing out these parishes. He was assured by Kellogg and others if he would use his influence with his brother toward having him make protest he (Weber) would be returned to the senate. He was defeated for the state senate by about 1,200 votes, and was returned by a majority. In reply to Hunton witness stated that some visiting statesmen had an interview with Eliza Pinkston before she was brought before the returning board. He thought one of those who interviewed her was Senator Sherman. He was of the opinion that Eliza Pinkston's outrage was a put-up job.

Question—Did your brother agree to stand by his protest? A.—He hesitated about doing so, but could not well avoid it, as he was under the pressure brought to bear upon him.

By Mr. Springer—Did you have the Sherman letter in your hand? A.—Yes, sir, I did.

Q.—What kind of paper was it written on?

A.—It was written on double sheet note paper. Witness then showed the size of the paper, which was about one-half the size of the sheet. Mrs. Jenks said the letter was written on. She claimed it was written on a single sheet of commercial letter paper. Witness said it was arranged before the election by Kellogg, Thomas C. Anderson and Packard to secure affidavits of intimidation in the parishes of East and West Feliciana for the purpose of throwing out these parishes. He was assured by Kellogg and others if he would use his influence with his brother toward having him make protest he (Weber) would be returned to the senate. He was defeated for the state senate by about 1,200 votes, and was returned by a majority. In reply to Hunton witness stated that some visiting statesmen had an interview with Eliza Pinkston before she was brought before the returning board. He thought one of those who interviewed her was Senator Sherman. He was of the opinion that Eliza Pinkston's outrage was a put-up job.

Question—Did your brother agree to stand by his protest? A.—He hesitated about doing so, but could not well avoid it, as he was under the pressure brought to bear upon him.

By Mr. Springer—Did you have the Sherman letter in your hand? A.—Yes, sir, I did.

Q.—What kind of paper was it written on?

A.—It was written on double sheet note paper. Witness then showed the size of the paper, which was about one-half the size of the sheet. Mrs. Jenks said the letter was written on. She claimed it was written on a single sheet of commercial letter paper. Witness said it was arranged before the election by Kellogg, Thomas C. Anderson and Packard to secure affidavits of intimidation in the parishes of East and West Feliciana for the purpose of throwing out these parishes. He was assured by Kellogg and others if he would use his influence with his brother toward having him make protest he (Weber) would be returned to the senate. He was defeated for the state senate by about 1,200 votes, and was returned by a majority. In reply to Hunton witness stated that some visiting statesmen had an interview with Eliza Pinkston before she was brought before the returning board. He thought one of those who interviewed her was Senator Sherman. He was of the opinion that Eliza Pinkston's outrage was a put-up job.

Question—Did your brother agree to stand by his protest? A.—He hesitated about doing so, but could not well avoid it, as he was under the pressure brought to bear upon him.

By Mr. Springer—Did you have the Sherman letter in your hand? A.—Yes, sir, I did.

Q.—What kind of paper was it written on?

A.—It was written on double sheet note paper. Witness then showed the size of the paper, which was about one-half the size of the sheet. Mrs. Jenks said the letter was written on. She claimed it was written on a single sheet of commercial letter paper. Witness said it was arranged before the election by Kellogg, Thomas C. Anderson and Packard to secure affidavits of intimidation in the parishes of East and West Feliciana for the purpose of throwing out these parishes. He was assured by Kellogg and others if he would use his influence with his brother toward having him make protest he (Weber) would be returned to the senate. He was defeated for the state senate by about 1,200 votes, and was returned by a majority. In reply to Hunton witness stated that some visiting statesmen had an interview with Eliza Pinkston before she was brought before the returning board. He thought one of those who interviewed her was Senator Sherman. He was of the opinion that Eliza Pinkston's outrage was a put-up job.

Question—Did your brother agree to stand by his protest? A.—He hesitated about doing so, but could not well avoid it, as he was under the pressure brought to bear upon him.

By Mr. Springer—Did you have the Sherman letter in your hand? A.—Yes, sir, I did.

Q.—What kind of paper was it written on?

A.—It was written on double sheet note paper. Witness then showed the size of the paper, which was about one-half the size of the sheet. Mrs. Jenks said the letter was written on. She claimed it was written on a single sheet of commercial letter paper. Witness said it was arranged before the election by Kellogg, Thomas C. Anderson and Packard to secure affidavits of intimidation in the parishes of East and West Feliciana for the purpose of throwing out these parishes. He was assured by Kellogg and others if he would use his influence with his brother toward having him make protest he (Weber) would be returned to the senate. He was defeated for the state senate by about 1,200 votes, and was returned by a majority. In reply to Hunton witness stated that some visiting statesmen had an interview with Eliza Pinkston before she was brought before the returning board. He thought one of those who interviewed her was Senator Sherman. He was of the opinion that Eliza Pinkston's outrage was a put-up job.

Question—Did your brother agree to stand by his protest? A.—He hesitated about doing so, but could not well avoid it, as he was under the pressure brought to bear upon him.

By Mr. Springer—Did you have the Sherman letter in your hand? A.—Yes, sir, I did.

Q.—What kind of paper was it written on?

A.—It was written on double sheet note paper. Witness then showed the size of the paper, which was about one-half the size of the sheet. Mrs. Jenks said the letter was written on. She claimed it was written on a single sheet of commercial letter paper. Witness said it was arranged before the election by Kellogg, Thomas C. Anderson and Packard to secure affidavits of intimidation in the parishes of East and West Feliciana for the purpose of throwing out these parishes. He was assured by Kellogg and others if he would use his influence with his brother toward having him make protest he (Weber) would be returned to the senate. He was defeated for the state senate by about 1,200 votes, and was returned by a majority. In reply to Hunton witness stated that some visiting statesmen had an interview with Eliza Pinkston before she was brought before the returning board. He thought one of those who interviewed her was Senator Sherman. He was of the opinion that Eliza Pinkston's outrage was a put-up job.

Question—Did your brother agree to stand by his protest? A.—He hesitated about doing so, but could not well avoid it, as he was under the pressure brought to bear upon him.

By Mr. Springer—Did you have the Sherman letter in your hand? A.—Yes, sir, I did.

Q.—What kind of paper was it written on?

A.—It was written on double sheet note paper. Witness then showed the size of the paper, which was about one-half the size of the sheet. Mrs. Jenks said the letter was written on. She claimed it was written on a single sheet of commercial letter paper. Witness said it was arranged before the election by Kellogg, Thomas C. Anderson and Packard to secure affidavits of intimidation in the parishes of East and West Feliciana for the purpose of throwing out these parishes. He was assured by Kellogg and others if he would use his influence with his brother toward having him make protest he (Weber) would be returned to the senate. He was defeated for the state senate by about 1,200 votes, and was returned by a majority. In reply to Hunton witness stated that some visiting statesmen had an interview with Eliza Pinkston before she was brought before the returning board. He thought one of those who interviewed her was Senator Sherman. He was of the opinion that Eliza Pinkston's outrage was a put-up job.

Question—Did your brother agree to stand by his protest? A.—He hesitated about doing so, but could not well avoid it, as he was under the pressure brought to bear upon him.

By Mr. Springer—Did you have the Sherman letter in your hand? A.—Yes, sir, I did.

Q.—What kind of paper was it written on?

A.—It was written on double sheet note paper. Witness then showed the size of the paper, which was about one-half the size of the sheet. Mrs. Jenks said the letter was written on. She claimed it was written on a single sheet of commercial letter paper. Witness said it was arranged before the election by Kellogg, Thomas C. Anderson and Packard to secure affidavits of intimidation in the parishes of East and West Feliciana for the purpose of throwing out these parishes. He was assured by Kellogg and others if he would use his influence with his brother toward having him make protest he (Weber) would be returned to the senate. He was defeated for the state senate by about 1,200 votes, and was returned by a majority. In reply to Hunton witness stated that some visiting statesmen had an interview with Eliza Pinkston before she was brought before the returning board. He thought one of those who interviewed her was Senator Sherman. He was of the opinion that Eliza Pinkston's outrage was a put-up job.

Question—Did your brother agree to stand by his protest? A.—He hesitated about doing so, but could not well avoid it, as he was under the pressure brought to bear upon him.

By Mr. Springer—Did you have the Sherman letter in your hand? A.—Yes, sir, I did.

Q.—What kind of paper was it written on?

A