

## GENERAL TELEGRAMS.

## THE ELECTORAL INQUIRY.

## The Work Done Yesterday—The Proceedings at Atlantic City.

ATLANTIC, N. J., July 24.—The Potter committee this morning called Representative Kelly, the examination being conducted by Representative Hiscock.

Mr. Kelly testified that he visited New Orleans in November, 1876. President Grant, while in Philadelphia participating in the closing ceremonies of the exposition, sent for witness. He found President Grant surrounded by distinguished gentlemen, among them General Robert Patterson. President Grant proposed he should visit New Orleans to witness the action of the returning board. At first he declined, but the president said a number of prominent gentlemen of the democratic party had gone, and therefore he wanted him to go. He was merely to go to New Orleans as a looker on and to see that nothing improper should occur. Previous to going, he had no conversation with any one but President Grant. General Patterson concurred in the suggestion that he ought to go. He left Philadelphia the 15th of November entirely alone, but on the route found himself in company with Secretary Sherman, and on arriving at New Orleans found a number of visiting gentlemen, republican in politics.

The witness stated that the republican visiting statesmen found there the distinguished gentlemen democrats. A committee of the latter addressed a communication to the former proposing that the two bodies of visitors organize and participate in the business of the returning board. The republican committee replied, "We are here as private citizens with no official power; we can not, therefore, supersede or modify any law of that state, nor have we any right to control or influence any officers as to the manner in which they shall perform ministerial or judicial duties."

Senator Sherman concurred very decidedly in the views expressed by the republican committee. The visitors of the opposite side mingled freely at times. In answer to a question if the republican committee discussed any question involving interference with the official duties of the returning board, witness said he never heard such conversation in private or at meetings. If anyone had attempted such a thing it would have been treacherous to his associates as well as a violation of duty.

Kelly, in the course of his testimony, said he never heard of any suggestion to manipulate the parishes for any purposes, nor did he ever hear that affidavits were signed with the names of fictitious persons. He did not know of Sherman having a conversation with Weber and Anderson. He had no consciousness of having ever seen Weber.

The action of the returning board was not communicated to the witness in any way. He was, however, of the opinion, and frequently said so, that fraud had been perpetrated on both sides, but that if the just returns were made they would give the electoral vote to Hayes. His attention was called to Weber's testimony, in which it was stated that the returning board was influenced by the visiting statesmen to reopen the returns. The witness said this was unquestionably false in whole or in part. Nothing was done for any such association could have been made. The witness never heard of any such arrangement.

The general character of the evidence showed intimidation. Some of it was most abhorrent. He heard the stories of Eliza Pinkston and Rosa Richmond, and another old negro witness, and fully believed all their statements. There was violence of the most desperate character. If Eliza Pinkston's story is not true then the stage has lost a brilliant ornament. Mr. Kelly was cross examined by Potter, but nothing of importance was elicited.

Cortland T. Parker of New Jersey, testified that he visited New Orleans solely at the request of General Grant. He did not, while in Louisiana, hear doubts thrown on the protest made by Anderson as to East Feliciana, or that it was interlined, or that Anderson wished to withdraw it.

Representative Hale testified—Went to New Orleans solely at the request of President Grant, and not at the instance of Governor Hayes or any person for him. All republican visitors maintained the position that they should be careful to abstain from any attempted influence on the returning board. So far as he knew, this principle was strictly carried out. The witness and Senator Sherman were together every day. He had not seen the letter purporting to have been written by Weber and Anderson, dated November 19, 1876, and the alleged reply of Senator Sherman. If such letters were written he thought, from his intimacy with Sherman, that he would have heard of the fact. He characterized as false the testimony of Weber about visiting republicans influencing the action of the returning board. In reply to a question by General Butler Mr. Hale said, "I thought that if Hayes was elected president Packard was elected governor. I thought both were elected."

Representative Danford was recalled and testified that there was no discrepancy or difference between the votes cast for Hayes and those cast for Packard, except in Natchitoches, where Packard had 200 or 300 more votes than Hayes.

Ex Congressman J. Hale Sypher, of New Orleans, was examined by Chairman Potter and testified that he is a republican on principle, and that at the time the republican visitors were in New Orleans he met D. A. Weber at the entrance of the custom house, who asked, "Can I take the promises of gentlemen who are here to provide for me if I am driven out of my parish?" The witness replied to this: "Whom do you mean?" Weber mentioned Matthews and Sherman specially. The witness then said, "The gentlemen stand very closely to the incoming president, personally and politically, and I think you can trust them." Weber remarked he had been deceived a good many times, and as he, therefore, did not feel like taking any man's verbal promises he would demand a promise in writing.

The witness said that was the only way. The next day he again met Weber, who exhibited a letter, which the witness read, and then returned. Weber made no special remark, but appeared to be pleased with the letter, which purported to be signed by John Sherman. He had seen Sherman's handwriting. He would not testify that the letter was in Sherman's handwriting, but there was nothing to make him think it was not his handwriting. He presumed it was his. He could not give the purport, but the published letter, the original of which he hastily read, seemed to be substantially correct. This was between the 5th and 20th of November. He thought the body of the letter and the signature were in the same handwriting. He had seen the official signature of Sherman, but could not name any particular document, nor would he swear the signature to the letter. Weber had shown him it was genuine. That question did not enter into his mind. The letter was written on note paper. He first mentioned the fact of the existence of such a letter to his brother in Louisiana. He also mentioned the fact to Judge Shellabarger two weeks ago. The witness was asked whether he did not know another brother, J. R. Sypher, here present, was the legal adviser of James E. Anderson. Witness said he knew this only from newspaper report, and further, in reply to another question, said he had read the evidence that had been introduced against the existence of such a letter, and that Anderson's testimony was accordingly attacked. The witness said Weber did not state for what purpose the letter was given.

Secretary Sherman testified he was invited to go to New Orleans by President Grant, by

a telegram in terms something like the following:

"I would be gratified if you would go to New Orleans to witness the count."

At first he declined to go, but a second telegram was received from President Grant, saying—

"I think it important for you to go."

But he did not go till the Wednesday after. On his way to Cincinnati he stopped at Columbus, where he saw Governor Hayes. In reply to a question by Mr. Hiscock, he said his conversation with Governor Hayes was general about the election, all then being in the dark. Further examination was postponed until to-morrow morning.

## The New Orleans Branch.

NEW ORLEANS, July 24.—Before the Potter sub-committee to-day Judge Wm. R. Whitsaker and John Douglas testified regarding the signature on the second set of electoral certificates that in two cases the name of Joseph was written prior to that of Sheldon, and in one case the name of Sheldon was written prior to that of Joseph. They also testified as to the signature of Thos. S. Kelly on the letter received by the committee from Lake Providence.

Judge Hommera testified: Left New Orleans for Donaldsonville December 27, leaving Judge Morris Marks in New Orleans. This testimony was introduced to show that Marks was in this city on the day the second set of electoral certificates were signed.

Thomas H. Nolan testified: In 1876 assisted in the preparation of the affidavits in the custom house, and was in Eberville during the election. Aldin brought the tickets up there. The names of five electors had been left off. He said it made no difference, as they were for the state at large. Talked to Kellogg, Packard and Dibble about it three or four days after the election. They said we would lose the state by it. One or two parishes on Red river were in the same fix. Judge Hugh J. Campbell said the returning board would have to throw out democratic votes enough to equalize that action. In preparing the affidavits made them as strong as possible. Always endeavored to make a fair statement of the testimony of witnesses, but would, instead of making the witness say he had heard, "we made him say he knew of the allegations made. Found very few who had personal knowledge of the affidavits related. We all somehow fell into the same "run" up the affidavits. Was introduced to Messrs. Hale, Stoughton and Garfield. They were in the room where the affidavits were being made. The witness seemed to be interested in the work going on. They kept copies of the affidavits. Saw Mr. Garfield nearly every morning. Mr. Stoughton was up in the surveyor's office, where he was supervising the taking of affidavits for the Red river parishes. Three or four witnesses were sworn together. I never took any pains to read over the affidavits to the witnesses. They were generally told the affidavits would never be published. It was the understanding in republican circles that the state had gone democratic and they must by affidavits and protests make a case for the returning board to throw out poles enough to reverse the result.

Wesley Jackson, colored, to Mr. Stenger—Lived in Bayou Sara during the last election. Joined the "Sage Hill" club at the instance of Gilbert Carter. He was president. Didn't know until after the second meeting what the objects of meeting were. Then Gilbert Carter told me they wanted to kill certain white folks. After that I didn't attend any more meetings. The club lasted about two weeks. When Gilbert Carter was killed most of us left the parish.

To Governor Cox—Gilbert Carter came to my house and asked me to join the club. Nobody but Gilbert Carter told me what the club was. The witness gave the name of the club to the president of the club. Carter said the white folks had a club and bulldozed us, and let us get up a club and bulldoze them. I saw white men riding in the road, but they never pestered us.

The general character of the evidence showed intimidation. Some of it was most abhorrent. He heard the stories of Eliza Pinkston and Rosa Richmond, and another old negro witness, and fully believed all their statements. There was violence of the most desperate character. If Eliza Pinkston's story is not true then the stage has lost a brilliant ornament. Mr. Kelly was cross examined by Potter, but nothing of importance was elicited.

Cortland T. Parker of New Jersey, testified that he visited New Orleans solely at the request of General Grant. He did not, while in Louisiana, hear doubts thrown on the protest made by Anderson as to East Feliciana, or that it was interlined, or that Anderson wished to withdraw it.

Representative Hale testified—Went to New Orleans solely at the request of President Grant, and not at the instance of Governor Hayes or any person for him. All republican visitors maintained the position that they should be careful to abstain from any attempted influence on the returning board. So far as he knew, this principle was strictly carried out. The witness and Senator Sherman were together every day. He had not seen the letter purporting to have been written by Weber and Anderson, dated November 19, 1876, and the alleged reply of Senator Sherman. If such letters were written he thought, from his intimacy with Sherman, that he would have heard of the fact. He characterized as false the testimony of Weber about visiting republicans influencing the action of the returning board. In reply to a question by General Butler Mr. Hale said, "I thought that if Hayes was elected president Packard was elected governor. I thought both were elected."

The Last Day at New Orleans—How the Nicholls Government was Sustained—Major Burke's Testimony.

NEW ORLEANS, July 25.—Major E. A. Burke was the first witness called by the Potter sub-committee to-day. He testified substantially that he resided in New Orleans since 1869, was here in 1876. Left for Washington 13th of January, 1877, was sent by Governor Nicholls to represent the interests of the Nicholls state government. Nicholls was informed that efforts were being made to misrepresent the condition of affairs in Louisiana to President Grant, who, it was alleged, was asked to interfere in behalf of the Nicholls government. Nicholls was also informed that there was a determination to force on his legislature the election of two United States senators in the interest of the republican party.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.

The organization of the regulators anti-dated the campaign or the political organization.