

of an official count, and are firmly in the expression of belief in a successful issue of efforts. It is very evident they intend to stick to the point, and will exhaust every remedy before defeat.

W. Tiffany, heretofore reported missing, has been traced to the steamer *Bristol*, leaving on her on November 27th for Newport, since which all trace of him is lost. New York and Boston detectives are at work upon the case, as it is believed that he has been robbed and murdered.

CHARLESTON, 17.—A special dispatch to the *News and Courier*, received at 2.30 p. m., says that a colored democrat was severely beaten by radical negroes at Lawtonville, in the upper part of Beaufort County. The trial justice issued a warrant for the arrest of offenders, and five were arrested by the constable and posse. On returning with the prisoners last night they were attacked by a body of armed negroes, and two of the white constables killed and the prisoners rescued. The sheriff of the county is now on his way to Lawtonville.

Telegrams from Karnsville state that the negroes 2,000 in number, and armed, are at Stafford Cross Roads, near Lawtonville, swearing vengeance on every white man in the county.

WASHINGTON, 17.—The Attorney General recommended to the President, to-day, that a pardon be granted to William McKee, of St. Louis, now in jail at Jefferson City, and therefore a warrant for that purpose will issue without any delay. The pardon is recommended by Attorney Bliss, Broadhead and Dyer, to all of whom the reference of the application made to the Department of Justice has been referred.

COLUMBUS, S. C., 17.—The supreme court to-day issued auxiliary instructions to the board of canvassers to proceed strictly in the ministerial duty to canvass the returns and submit the same to the court. The board of canvassers, who have just met, decided to elect five gentlemen on each side to witness the canvass. The result will probably be reached to-night.

NEW ORLEANS, 17.—To the Hons. John Sherman, Stanley Matthews, J. A. Garfield, W. D. Kelly, Jno. A. Kasson, E. W. Stoughton, C. Irvine Ditty, J. H. Vanlon, Eugene Hale, M. S. Quay, W. S. Cumback, E. F. Noyes, Job Stevenson, Jno. C. Buin, Lew Wallace, Jno. Tuttle, M. A. McGrew, J. A. Chapman, W. P. Smith, Abner Taylor, S. R. Haven, J. M. Beardsley, C. B. Farwell, Courtlandt Parker, Sidney Clark, J. A.

Gentlemen—we are in receipt of your answer to our letter of the 14th instant, in which you inform us of your determination not to confer with us, for the purpose of exerting such influence as we may possess in behalf of such a canvass of the votes actually cast at the election in Louisiana, as by its fairness and impartiality shall command the acquiescence and respect of all parties. We sincerely regret this failure of our attempt to secure the co-operation of the citizens from other States in furtherance of the purpose which we supposed had brought them hither at this juncture. We regret it all the more because your refusal to confer and co-operate with us appears to be based upon a serious misapprehension of the language, no less than the spirit of our communication. It can hardly have escaped your notice that our statement of the result to be obtained by the co-operative action which we sought to bring about was a simple reproduction of the language of President Grant, at whose request we understand you are here. In his recent order to General Sherman that language was deliberately used, no doubt in view of the fact, about which, as we conceive, there can be no dispute, that the first and most essential prerequisite to an honest and just declaration of the result of the recent election in Louisiana, a fair and impartial canvass of the votes actually cast, and it seems to us that you do the President great injustice in supposing that in speaking of votes actually cast, he meant to include votes illegally cast, as you certainly do us injustice by the imputation of a desire to insist upon such a narrow and vicious interpretation. In our judgment, the expression "votes actually cast," of necessity designates votes legally cast, and, as a consequence,

of such votes only did we desire to secure a fair and impartial canvass. We beg leave to say, therefore, that you are mistaken in the belief that we invite your co-operative action, and you are no less in error in attributing to us a purpose to interfere with the legal authorities of the State in the discharge of their duties to claim the right and to arrogate to ourselves powers which we do not possess. In writing our letter, we were fully aware that both the organization and action, whether judicial or ministerial, of the returning board of Louisiana, were beyond any authoritative control without, and that it would be the height of arrogance and folly to attempt to alter the laws of a State of which we are not citizens, or to obtrude our interpretation of these laws upon those whose duty it is to administer them; but we had supposed, nevertheless, that there was an influence which might be rightfully exerted, even if by citizens of this republic who are strangers in this State, and we had taken it for granted that your presence here, in response to the suggestion of the President, was a recognition of this fact. We had supposed that it was not improper for us to remind the authorities of the State, by our mere presence, at least, that there are certain rules of fairness and justice which underlie all constitutions and laws, and upon whose observance must depend the acquiescence of people of all parties in the declared results of the Louisiana election rules, such as these, that no one ought to be a judge in his own case, that the decision of any contest ought not to depend upon the mere arbitrament of one of the parties thereto; that before such decision is made both parties ought to be fully and fairly heard; that all questions of law ought to be decided in conformity with its establishment of general principles, and all questions of fact upon evidence duly presented and weighed under the rules which are of universal recognition in all the States of this Union; that the trial of all causes involving public interests, at least, ought to be public, and that all the proceedings in the present electoral contest ought, by their manifest impartiality, to disarm the suspicion that the forms of law have been perverted into instruments for the violation of its spirit. In this connection we may be permitted to observe that, while undoubtedly as you say, a sedulous inculcation and cultivation of habits of abeyance to forms of law is vital to the preservation of constitutional liberty, it is no less important that the refusal to yield such obedience be not provoked by using these forms, as a means for subverting the ends for which they were designed. Without undertaking to question the sincerity of the belief which you are at the pains to express, that you know of no reason to doubt that the Louisiana returning board will make a perfectly honest and just declaration of the results of the recent election in Louisiana, we deem it not improper to remind you that the presence in this city of so many citizens from all parts of the Union, at this moment, seems to be evidence of widely prevalent distrust of the action of this board, and that such distrust has this foundation, at least, that the constitution of the board has not been changed since its returns were set aside by a congressional committee, of which the republican candidate for the Vice-Presidency was a member, and this distrust is not unnatural in view of the fact that, as we understand, one of the members of the returning board is a candidate voted for at the recent election; another is the holder of an office of profit and trust by the appointment of the present executive of the national government, while all the members of the board are believed to be in affiliation with but one of the parties to the present political contest.

In view of all this, it is hardly necessary to add that the terms of our letter were not designed to prejudge the question whether the functions of the returning board were judicial or ministerial, or both, but simply to invite you to see with us that whatever may be the character of these functions, they are openly, fairly and honestly discharged; and while we thus refrained from any attempt at stating or construing the laws of Louisiana, we deemed it equally irrelevant to the subject of our correspondence with you to allude to the duties devolving upon officers other than the constituents

of the Louisiana returning board under the laws and constitution of the United States whether, as you observe by way of illustration, under the Constitution, the President of the Senate both counts and declares the votes of the electors of the several States, his duty being purely ministerial and not subject to the control of Congress, or whether, as has been the practice for more than eighty years, a practice inaugurated by men, some of whom had been among the framers of the Constitution, the votes are to be counted under the direction and control of the Senate and House of Representatives, is a question upon the discussion of which we deem it no part of our duty to enter.

In conclusion, permit us to say that, notwithstanding your refusal to co-operate, we still cherish the hope that the returning board, warned by the history of the past, and conscious that its actions are being observed by the whole nation, will discharge its delicate duty with such circumspection, fairness, and impartiality as will give satisfaction to the American people. To this end we will continue to labor. Should a different result follow the action of the board, we shall have the satisfaction of knowing, that while you have taken the responsibility of declining to act with us, we have done all in our power to avert the consequences which may follow.

Very respectfully,
Jno. M. Palmer, Lyman Trumbull, Wm. R. Morrison, Ill.; Saml. J. Randall, A. G. Curtin, Wm. Bigler, Penn.; J. R. Doolittle, Geo. B. Smith, Wisconsin; J. E. McDonald, Geo. W. Julian, Maryland; Manson John Love, Indiana; Henry Watterson, J. W. Stevenson, Henry D. McHenry, Kentucky; Oswald Ottendorfer, New York; J. B. Stallo, Ohio; Lewis V. Boggs, James O. Broadhead, C. Gilson, Missouri; John Lee Carroll, Wm. T. Hamilton, Maryland; W. G. Sumner, Connecticut; P. H. Watson, Ohio; J. R. Conder, New York.

LOUISVILLE, Ky., 17.—Mr. Henry Watterson telegraphs the *Courier-Journal*, from New Orleans, that the returning board shows conclusively its intention to proceed without fear or shame in counting out Tilden's majority. In conversation with Senator Stevenson yesterday, Governor Kellogg admitted that of the votes cast, Tilden unquestionably received a majority. The writer speaks in severe terms of Ex-Governor Wells, stating that this man has the destiny of the United States in his hands; but there is no hope of fair play from him whom Sheridan once removed from office for being, as he said, an impediment to the execution of the law. Mr. Watterson reports having seen over 100 colored democratic leaders who deny the statements of Packard; also of having examined the affidavits of 500 other colored Democrats, who bear testimony to the fact that they voted of their own free will.

LITTLE ROCK, 17.—The official returns from this third congressional district show the election of Cravens, Democrat, by 269 majority over McClure, Republican, and Stuart, Democrat.

An accident was caused this morning on the St. Louis, Iron Mountain and Southern Railroad, near Malvern, by a broken rail ditching an extra passenger train following the regular train. Twenty-eight passengers were wounded; none killed.

CHARLESTON, 17.—A later but unconfirmed dispatch from Stafford's Cross Roads, says there was a fight there yesterday, lasting until dark, between twenty-seven whites and 300 well armed negroes. No negroes are reported hurt.

Twenty-five citizens, arrested under the enforcement act, were brought into Aiken from Ellerton section this morning.

No additional trustworthy particulars of the affair at Stafford's Cross Roads have been received up to 9:15 p. m., except that two constables, Deloach and Sherman, made the arrest of five negroes, and that early to-day dispatches were sent along the line of the Port Royal and Savannah and Charleston Railroad calling for help, which help is said to have been sent.

NEW ORLEANS, 17.—The democratic committee have received several hundred affidavits from negroes, and some from the republican officials in Ouachita, and other bull-dogged parishes, showing a peaceable and quiet election; also of the intimidation of negroes

who desired to vote the democratic ticket, but did not do so for fear of violence from republicans of their own color. The republican officials have counter affidavits in many cases, showing violence and intimidation where the democrats have sworn that nothing of the kind existed. In all the preceding Louisiana election muddles, the republicans have monopolized the affidavit business, but this time their efforts will probably be eclipsed by the array of affidavits that will be presented by the democrats.

The democrats are in good feather to-night over the news from South Carolina. Business continues extremely dull, with no prospect of improvement until the present political dispute is adjusted, and the election of President conceded by the opposing party. The belief seems to be very general that the returning board will repeat the performance of 1872 in effect, and declare Packard elected Governor.

CHICAGO, 18.—At a late hour last night United States detectives Tyrrell and Washburne, with the aid of two local detectives, captured the two men who attempted to steal the bones of President Lincoln from the vault in Springfield, Ill., on the night of November 7th. They are Terence Mullen, alias T. Duran, the proprietor of the Hub Saloon, 294 W. Madison street, where the arrest was made, and Jack Hughes alias J. Smith, an old counterfeiter, connected with the notorious Ben Boyd. These men have been shadowed since the attempt was made to despoil the tomb, and their guilt is said to be proven. The officers will take them to Springfield this evening to await indictment and trial.

BOSTON, 18.—Wool steady, firm. Transactions aggregate 2,000,000 lbs., mostly on manufacturers' account. There is more or less speculative inquiry. Sales of fine fleeces have been 155,000 lbs. X and medium Ohio and Pennsylvania 42 @ 46; XX 46 @ 47; XXX and above, nominally 51 @ 52. Sales of western fleeces have been 166,000 lbs., mostly at 39 @ 40, with a firm market. Combing and delaine firm, with good inquiry; sales 178,000 lbs. washed 46 @ 55, unwashed 34 @ 36; sales of California have been 649,000 lbs., with prices ranging from 14 @ 29 for Fall and 25 @ 35 for Spring. Supplies continue to arrive freely, and fall is fast passing into the hands of manufacturers. There is very little Spring offering. Pulled is scarce and firm, particularly the better grades of super, and very full prices are obtained. The sales of the week have been 72,000 lbs., including choice Maine and eastern super at 42 @ 46 1/2.

NEW ORLEANS, 18.—The following is the republicans' reply to the letter of the democrats:

Gentlemen—We are gratified to learn that we have misapprehended the language and spirit of your communication of Nov. 14th, and that we were in error in attributing to you the purpose to interfere with the legally constituted authorities of this State in the discharge of their duties. Perhaps this misapprehension was the natural result of the language employed. Your request was to meet and confer with you personally and through committees, in order that such influence as we possess may be exerted in behalf of such canvass of the votes actually cast, as by its fairness and impartiality shall command the respect and acquiescence of the American people. This, as we understood it, was a request to co-operate with you for the purpose of influencing the action of the returning board in the discharge of its duties. The President had requested us to attend there to witness not to influence such canvass, and knows that such request by him was not intended to limit us to witness the count of votes actually cast, but the entire proceedings of the board in reaching a result as to the votes legally cast and to be counted. We are gratified to learn that you concur with the President and with us in this understanding. You also state that you are fully aware that both the organization and action, judicial or ministerial, of the returning board of Louisiana was beyond any authoritative control from without, and that it would be the height of arrogance and folly to attempt to alter the cases of a State of which we are not citizens, or obtrude our interpretation of the laws upon those whose duty it is to administer them. We may, therefore, as we think, assume that you will agree with us that it would be arrogance equally to attempt, by our concerted action,

to influence the proceedings or result of the courts of justice, or of the boards acting judicially, and hence we are gratified at being able from the language and tenor of your letter, to assume that you did not wish to confer with us for the purpose of influencing the action of the returning board, but only to secure such co-operation on our part as would enable us, jointly with yourselves, to witness the proceeding throughout. A conference for such purpose would now seem to be unnecessary, as we learn from a communication just received from the board, which appears to us to accomplish that which, by your explanatory note, you desire to attain by the proposed conference. We will add that it is very apparent that if you wish us to see a fair and honest expression of the electoral vote of Louisiana, there is no difference between ourselves and you except as to our conduct in reference to that result. You have proposed a conference and active associated influence. This we regard as beyond our duty, or our privilege as individuals. We shall be happy at all times to confer with you, and, as individuals, to co-operate in whatever shall be right, but concerted action for the purpose of influencing an official board we hold to be beyond our privilege, and we shall hope that all may come to pass which good citizens can wish, without the use of any such means.

We remain, gentlemen,
Very respectfully,
John Sherman, Stanley Matthews, J. R. Garfield, Ohio; E. W. Stoughton, J. Van Allen, N. Y.; W. D. Kelley, Pa.; Job E. Stevenson, Ohio; Eugene Hale, Me.; J. M. Tuttle, J. W. Chapman, Wm. R. Smith, W. A. McGrew, Iowa; Sidney Clark, J. C. Watson, Kansas; C. B. Farwell, Abner Taylor, J. M. Beardsley, S. R. Haven, Ill.; John Coburn, Will Cumback, Indiana; C. Irving Ditty, Maryland.

SAN FRANCISCO, 19.—A Sacramento dispatch says, last night, during the performance at Moore's Opera House, the floor gave way, killing seven and wounding about one hundred spectators. The Opera House was situated over a large livery stable on Second street, between K. and L., and was formerly used as a State armory. It had recently been converted into a theatre by putting up a gallery and a tier of boxes, making the hall capable of seating a thousand. The floor was unsupported, except by the usual beams. A Vaudeville troupe had engaged the theatre, and being the opening of the establishment the house was crowded. Soon after the performance commenced a sudden sinking of the floor was noticed, accompanied by the cracking of the beams, and directly the entire auditorium, carrying with it the stage and gallery, was precipitated into the stable beneath. The rear portion was partly supported by stalls beneath and the audience were thrown forward toward the stage. The lights were extinguished by the concussion and a scene of fearful confusion ensued. A fire alarm struck and in a few moments the department were on the ground, and with the assistance of the police proceeded to rescue the wounded and remove the dead. A great crowd in the meantime assembled and the excitement was intense. Hundreds crawled from the ruins unassisted and uninjured. On clearing away the debris the following were found dead—S. W. Perry, janitor Court House; Frank Myers and W. J. Forster, composers, *Record-Union* office; Henry Vaca, Ezra Woolson, formerly county treasurer; Michael Tierney, and unknown. The performers escaped with some some bruises, Eddy Peake, of the Swiss Bell ringers, and Mrs. Wilson, variety performer, being most injured, but neither seriously. Many of the wounded taken from the ruins are in a critical condition and a number will probably die.

UTICA, N. Y., 19.—During an Episcopal Church entertainment at Perryville, Madison Co., on Friday evening, a portion of the floor gave way, precipitating over fifty ladies and children twelve feet to the floor below. Several of the ladies were severely injured, one probably fatally.

A telegram from St. Petersburg to-day says the state bank announces it is authorized by an imperial ukase, dated November 18, to receive subscriptions for an issue of 100,000,000 roubles in bank notes bearing interest at 5 per cent., the issue price to be 92.