

the board went into secret session, and we were not permitted to see the computation of returns already made, nor to know what rules the board adopted in passing upon the contested cases, nor the process by which it arrived at the results. We have been furnished a triplicate, or certified copy of the duplicate statement of the canvassers of the election of all the polling places in the State, from which has been compiled a consolidated statement of the entire vote of the State for presidential electors. From this statement, which we believe to be accurate, the majority for the highest Tilden elector over the lowest Hayes elector is 8,957, and the majority for the lowest Tilden elector over the highest Hayes elector is 6,300. The returns in our possession correspond precisely, in most cases, with those opened by the returning board. The difference in the aggregate arises mainly from the fact that the board did not have all the returns before it. The supervisors, all of whom were republicans, many of them employees in the custom house in New Orleans, some non-residents of the State, and one of them under indictment for murder, withheld the statements of the committees of the election. In some instances, where the democratic majorities were given, amounting in the aggregate to about 1,500 votes, the returning board refused to issue certified copies of the duplicate of the missing returns filed in the offices of the Secretary of State and the clerk of the district courts, or to take any effective measures to procure the originals. The returning board, in proclaiming the result of the vote for electors, made no statement of the vote cast in the several parishes, but simply announced the aggregate vote for each elector in the State, giving the Hayes electors a majority varying from 4,628 to 4,712. To accomplish this, they disenfranchised 3,350 democratic and 2,402 republican voters. This announcement is more in the face of the fact that the statement made by the commissioners of election, showed a majority ranging from 6,300 to 8,957 for the Tilden electors. No attempt is made to give a reason for this arbitrary action of the board, nor is there any statement to show what votes were counted and what rejected. As well might the officers canvassing the returns of the election for presidential electors in Ohio or Massachusetts declare the Tilden electors in those States elected in face of the fact that the returns showed a majority for the Hayes electors.

The murders and outrages which have been brought to our notice are frequently committed by persons of the same race upon each other, and, in a large majority of cases, have no political significance. The assumption of the republicans that all the colored in the State are necessarily republicans is by no means true. It is certain that thousands of colored persons who vote squarely and actively supported the democratic ticket. With the law and such facts before us as have been disclosed by the action of the returning board, we do not hesitate to declare that its proceedings, as witnessed by us, were partial and unfair, and that the result it has announced is arbitrary, illegal and entitled to no respect whatever.

Fifteen years ago, when Fort Sumter was fired upon by men who sought a disruption of the Union, a million patriots, without regard to party affiliations, sprang to its defense. Will the same patriotic citizens now sit by idly and see the representative government overthrown by usurpation and fraud? Shall the will of forty millions of people, constitutionally expressed, be thwarted by the corrupt, arbitrary, and illegal action of an illegally constituted returning board in Louisiana, whose wrongful action heretofore, in all respects similar to its present action, has been condemned by all parties? It is an admitted fact that Mr. Tilden received a majority of a quarter of a million of the votes at the recent election. This majority is ready and willing to submit to the minority when constitutionally entitled to demand such submission; but it is not willing that, by an arbitrary and false declaration of the votes in Louisiana, the minority shall usurp the power.

These are dark days for the American people when such questions are forced upon their consideration.

If it were true, as some insist, that neither the white nor the colored voters have, in all instances, been afforded an opportunity to give free expression to their wishes at the ballot box, shall we, by sustaining a fraudulent and illegal declaration of the votes cast, stifle the voices of the millions of voters who have freely expressed their choice, and thus seek to correct a great wrong by committing another immeasurably greater wrong? Can we sanction such action of the Louisiana returning board, and thereby form a precedent, under the authority of which a party once in power may forever perpetuate its rule, and so end constitutional liberty? Shall such be the fate of this republic at the beginning of the second century of its existence? are the momentous questions now presented for the determination of the American people.

(Signed,) JNO. M. PALMER,  
LYMAN TRUMBULL,  
WILLIAM BIGLER,  
GEO. B. SMITH,  
GEO. W. JULIAN,  
P. H. WATSON.

NEW YORK, 11.—The *Tribune* gives a carefully prepared list of the names of all the persons absolutely known to have been lost in the Brooklyn Theatre fire. This list gives a total of 271, of these the remains of 217 have been identified.

VICKSBURG, 11.—John P. Briscoe, a prominent democratic chancery clerk, of Clayborne County, was assassinated on Saturday last, while out hunting, two miles from Port Gibson. He was the only witness against the negroes who fired on the sheriff's posse on October 29th.

COLUMBUS, S. C., 11.—Positive information has been received here that the Loundesville murderers were not lynched as reported. The prisoners were taken from Loundesville to Anderson on Friday night and removed thence to Wallhalla, Oconee county, as a precaution against violence, and owing to the threats made by the people. The investigation discloses a horrible plot to murder the whites indiscriminately, which aroused the excitement among the whites to the extent of threatening summary punishment. The precaution taken averted this, and everything is now quiet. One of the captured murderers took laudanum, and died from the effects; the jury in his case returned a verdict accordingly. The prisoners are now safe in Wallhalla jail.

Judge Bond has delivered a decision discharging the board of State canvassers from custody on the ground that the supreme court of the State had no jurisdiction.

CHICAGO, 11.—The *Tribune's* Washington special says the gentlemen who went over to spend Sunday with Tilden, inform their democratic friends, to-day, that they found him fully convinced of his election, and determined not to abandon the field. He did not desire or expect that the contest should cause fighting, but he proposed not to stop until all means to secure his rights were exhausted. He would even carry the contest through the entire term.

SAN FRANCISCO, 11.—The theatrical fraternity of this city is making preparations to give a benefit for the sufferers by the calamity at the Brooklyn Theatre, N. Y.

John McCullough, manager of the California Theatre, will give the total receipts of his house on the same night the Brooklyn and New York theatres devote to that purpose.

Thomas Maguire, lessee of Baldwin's Theatre, Maguire's New Theatre and Maguire's Opera House, is making arrangements for a benefit at all these establishments.

The managers at Wade's Opera House will probably do the same. Camilla Urso offers the entire proceeds of her first concert tomorrow evening.

ST. LOUIS, 12.—Mrs. Julia Barreiras, well known in art circles as a portrait painter, fell from the roof of her house through the skylight this morning, and was instantly killed.

DENVER, 12.—The legislature, to-day, elected Hon. Hy. M. Teller, United States Senator for six years, commencing next March.

NEW YORK, 12.—Six thousand dollars has been contributed in Brooklyn for the relief of the sufferers by the recent fire.

Mayor Schroeder has called a meeting of the different relief committees at his office to take action in regard to the persons who

have been deprived of their support by the Brooklyn Theatre fire, and suggests that ladies should visit the houses of the sufferers, and also asks that collections should be taken up in the churches next Sunday.

WASHINGTON, 12.—The democratic members of the Louisiana and Florida investigating committees, appointed by the House, having made a formal demand on the Western Union and Atlantic and Pacific Telegraph Companies for all the dispatches that have passed between Secretary Chandler and prominent republicans in New Orleans and Tallahassee, the republican members of the committees will insist that all the dispatches bearing Mr. Hewitt's signature, or addressed to him, shall also be furnished to the committees. Some of the democrats object to this course, but the republicans say that they will be content that all the Chandler dispatches shall see the light if Hewitt's are also presented.

COLUMBIA, S. C., 12.—In the democratic house a ballot was taken for United States senator, fourteen candidates being in the field; the highest vote was for General M. C. Butler, of Edgefield.

Troops are arriving from Florida. In the republican house the ballot resulted in favor of United States District Attorney Corbin, who received 56 out of 58 votes.

In the senate Corbin received 17, and Gray, democrat, 12 votes. Corbin was declared elected.

CHICAGO, 12.—The republicans, at noon, to-day, began firing 185 guns in token of their belief in and gratification over the election of Hayes and Wheeler.

SAN FRANCISCO, 12.—Alfred Von Mehr, the defaulting clerk of Parrott & Co., was brought here by the steamer from Mexico, last night. United States Consul Kelton, on his arrival at Mazatlan, arranged for extradition, McHatton, vice-consul, withdrawing his objection, which made the previous trouble.

LITTLE ROCK, 12.—A *Gazette* special, from Texarkana, gives the particulars of a boiler explosion in a saw mill near that place, yesterday. Nine men were killed. The mill, one of the largest in the State, at the time of the disaster, was running full power.

WASHINGTON, 12.—The general feeling of the House is to adjourn at an early date till after the holidays, if the Senate will concur, or otherwise, to meet to adjourn every third day, until the House investigating committees shall have returned from the South.

The following has been furnished by Hon. Abram S. Hewitt, addressed to the Washington agent of the Associated Press: In yesterday's paper I find a dispatch from you reciting a conversation with President Grant in reference to the unfortunate state of affairs in South Carolina, and my interviews with him in reference thereto. So far as South Carolina was concerned the President enjoined no confidence; but expressly stated that I was at liberty to communicate his view to the public. He did enjoin confidence in regard to what he said of Louisiana affairs, and that confidence I have respected, although, as I have already stated to him, I believe the publication of his statements would do much to tranquilize the public mind. In regard to South Carolina the President stated that, in his judgment, not less than sixty-three members having certificates from the Secretary of State were eligible to organize the House and transact business. As this view accorded with my own, and as no confidence was enjoined, I telegraphed it in the following language:

"A. C. Haskell, Chairman, Charleston, S. C.—I am able to say that neither House will be recognized by the President until it gets sixty-three members holding original certificates from the returning board.

(Signed,) "ABRAM S. HEWITT."

My object in sending this dispatch was that I thought it would tend to allay the excitement in South Carolina and prevent a collision between the people and troops, of which we were very apprehensive. On the 6th of December I received a reply which induced me to send the following telegram to the President:

"To the President—I have received a reliable telegram from Columbia stating that sixty-three mem-

bers, holding certificates from the Secretary of State, have been sworn into the house presided over by Speaker Wallace, which is, therefore, organized in accordance with the requirements of law as stated by you."

"To the President—I have just received a later dispatch saying that the Supreme Court of South Carolina has pronounced its judgment, and declared the house presided over by W. H. Wallace to be the legally constituted House of Representatives, and that Mackey is a private person, not speaker, or in any respect an officer of the legislative body."

On the evening of the same day Senator Randolph suggested that he and I should call upon the President, and ask him whether, under the circumstances, he could not see his way clear to order the withdrawal of the United States troops from Columbia, and recognize the House of Representatives so constituted with sixty-three members. The President granted us an interview, which began by my saying that I had sent him two telegrams from the house in reference to South Carolina affairs. The President at once replied that he had received them, and that very late on the preceding evening he had received a telegram from Columbia saying that I had informed parties there that the President would recognize as the legal House that body which should have 63 members with certificates from the Secretary of State. The President said he had replied that he had not made any such statement; that he did not believe I had said he had done so, and that at any rate it was not true. I replied I had not sent any telegram to that effect, but had sent one, as nearly as I could recollect, as follows: "I am able to say that the President will not recognize any House that does not contain 63 members with original certificates from the returning board." The President replied, "That is correct. I did say so. That was my private opinion, but I did not say that I would recognize a house that had 63 members."

I replied, "That is true, but I think it is implied, and we have come to ask you to do so." The President replied that as at present advised he must decline to recognize the house containing sixty-three members, and he did not know that he would recognize the other house; that Chamberlain was governor until some one was regularly inaugurated in his place, and he should sustain him. The President did not say I had violated his confidence in any particular, but said it would have been a violation of his confidence if I had sent the telegram reported from Columbia, the sending of which I again denied. I then reminded the President that he had a mode of testing the accuracy of my recollections of his statements, because, immediately after the interview on Sunday, I had dictated the substance of the conversation, and furnished him with a copy, and requested him to return it to me with any corrections he might choose to make, either to be published if he would consent, or to be retained for his future justification in case that after the 4th of March next his intentions should be called in question. He has not returned me the copy furnished nor made any corrections there to my knowledge. The President said nothing to me in regard to my using any of his statements for the purpose of defeating the party which he, the President, represented. I have never regarded the President of the United States as representing any party, and I shall regret to see the President take any other position than that of the honored head of the people of the United States without regard to party.

(Signed) ABRAM S. HEWITT.

ST. LOUIS, 12.—There was a rush of ice from some point north of here this morning, which, forcing upon the ice in the harbor opposite the city, carried it down stream with great power, and taking with it several steamers lying at the bank. In the southern part of the city three vessels were sunk.

A reporter, lately from the Arsenal, gives additional particulars of the destruction of the steamers this morning. It appears that nearly all the boats of the Keokuk and Northern line were in winter quarters at the company's ship yards, supposed to be secure from the damage which the ice started. These steamers were forced from

their moorings and carried down the stream. The *War Eagle* and *Golden Eagle*, two large and valuable boats, were forced on shore opposite the arsenal wall in such a manner as to block the passage, and the other boats, which were crowded in, caused a complete jam. At 3 p.m. the *Jennie Baldwin* was low on shore and sinking slowly at the stern. The *Lake Superior*, *Alex. Mitchell* and the *Centennial*, a new boat, which has not yet made a trip, were crushed between the latter and the *Andy Johnson*; then the *Bayard*, an old craft, with her forward guards and deck crushed. Below these were the *Rock Island* and *Davenport*, both pretty old and not of great value. Then lay the *War Eagle*, valued at \$60,000, with her consort, the *Golden Eagle*, equally valuable, thrust through her larboard afterguards. The latter was partly forced on the rocks on shore, and was logged up under her boilers and her knuckle plank broken.

At 2 p.m. the ice again moved, crushing the boats still closer together and doing additional damage. The *Bayard* was almost completely crushed.

At four p.m. there was another movement of ice, which pressed against the boats with terrible power, and forced them further down, crushing the guards and upper works, the whole doing great damage.

Half an hour later the ice started again, and there was another crush and still closer jam. The starboard wheel and all the starboard guards of the *War Eagle* were carried away. The hull of the *Mitchell* was stove in, and she filled, but her position prevented her from settling to the bottom.

About nine o'clock to-night the *Davenport* sunk. In the meantime, the *Rob Roy* and *Northwestern*, which were injured, raised steam, and the *Redwing* and *Minneapolis*, with a number of barges were pulled out and taken to the bar, about a quarter of a mile below the arsenal, where they were considered safe.

The ice moved again at half-past nine and again at a quarter to eleven, the result being that the *Mitchell* was crushed nearly to pieces and forced against the *Centennial* so as to tear away almost her upper works. The ice was now piled up from ten to fifteen feet high. The pressure was tremendous.

At midnight the prospect is that the hulls of the *Centennial* and *Johnson* will be saved, and that the *War Eagle* and *Golden Eagle* may be rescued in a very broken condition, unless the water falls and leaves them high and dry. The river below the boats is clear of ice, and they alone prevent it from running.

All these boats belong to the Keokuk and Northwestern Company, except the *Centennial*.

No accurate statement of the loss can be given, but it is roughly estimated at \$200,000. There were also several freight barges mixed in the jam, some of which were wrecked and others slightly injured.

Besides the boats mentioned in the first part of this dispatch a number of barges were crushed and others badly damaged.

No such disaster has occurred here for ten years, and this was totally unexpected, as all these steamers were believed to be in safe quarters for the winter.

DOVER, N. H., 13.—The boiler in the engine house of Copperas Mine, on Green Pond Mountain, exploded last night, blowing the house to pieces. Two men were instantly killed and another fatally injured, and the fourth terribly mutilated.

CHICAGO, 13.—The *Journal's* Washington special says the President, in a conversation, characterizes Hewitt's course, in making public his confidential conversation regarding affairs in South Carolina, as infamous, and says he will not be caught this way again. He supposed the chairman of the Democratic National Committee had some honor, and would observe private conversations in future.

#### Beware of Tooth Pains

Vended under the name of Dent-rifices. Adopt and adhere to the only preparation that really preserves the teeth, and hardens the gums, fragrant Sozodont. Its effects on decaying teeth are marvelous.