

ADDRESS OF TODD AND HUNSAKER TO THEIR CONSTITUENTS.

"Words are but words, and words are wind,
Too feeble implements to bind."

In publishing, a few days since, the "confessions" of sundry political characters, we put forth the statement of Messrs. Forman and Mitchell in refutation of the depositions of Messrs. Hunsaker and Todd.

As a further commentary upon these extraordinary affidavits, and illustrative of the men who made them, we publish below their address to their constituents, issued on the 11th of January; and, in order that our readers may put the two things together, we reprint below the "confessions" now made by Messrs. Hunsaker and Todd. A perusal of the two documents will render entirely unnecessary comment from us:

[From the Pleasants, Jan. 11, 1873.]

NEW ORLEANS, La., Jan. 10, 1873.

To our fellow-citizens, the people of Louisiana:

We deem it our duty in the present anomalous condition of affairs to place before our constituents and the country the reasons that actuate us in the course of conduct we have determined to pursue. We are Republicans, and believe in a Republican form of government. We have acted with the National Republican party; but we cannot sanction the course that has been pursued in this State by the Custom-House portion of our party and by the Pinchback Government, and believe that no right-thinking person or class, no matter of what political shade or conviction, can sustain them in the gross violation of the rights of the people and their reckless and intolerant course.

The organization of the Senate and the House we consider as revolutionary. Senators notoriously elected have been displaced and those whom they defeated put in their places. Members of the Legislature returned by both boards have been ignored and their places filled by defeated candidates.

Proscriptive legislation has been rushed hurriedly through, proclamations have been made inhibiting the peaceful assembling of citizens by an Executive who holds his office without color of right and of law, and the popular will has been so defied and outraged, that we feel that we cannot longer act with a body, or support an Executive, who for party ends would sink every vestige of liberty in its final grave.

The question, Who constitutes the legal returning board? is subordinate to the question, What are the returns? Returning officers may count in or count out persons with or without returns; but the returns will show for themselves. We ascertain that Lynch, Hawkins, Longstreet and Herron entered into a conspiracy to declare Mr. Kellogg and his ticket elected, and that they did so without having the official returns of the election, and admit that their action was based on data and memoranda and affidavits, entirely unknown to the law; and when we see such violation of law perpetrated by these pretended returning officers, and when we see that Longstreet is immediately appointed to an office with \$6000 salary per annum; that Herron is given the office of Recorder of Mortgages of the parish of Orleans which he demanded from McEnery, as compensation in advance, for counting the returns in his interest, which monstrous proposition was refused; when we see that Hawkins is forthwith appointed to the judgeship of a court with a salary of \$5000 per annum; when we see that a minor son of Lynch was at once appointed to the office of Inspector of Live Stock, estimated to be worth at least twelve thousand dollars (\$12,000) per annum, it is painfully manifest that the action of the board was the result of a corrupt bargain, and that these appointments were given in compensation for official prostitution.

The Senate having been illegally organized by the revolutionary and violent usurpation of P. B. S. Pinchback, who was not the president of the Senate, or a member of it, and who called up and swore in as Senators persons who were notoriously defeated, against and in contempt of the protest of a large majority of the Senators holding over, and who alone had the right to organize the Senate, and in the face of the rule established two years before, in the organization of the Senate, on the motion of said Pinchback himself, then a Senator; and considering the public good, and the interest of our constituents, we have withdrawn from the body with which we have been acting, and will hereafter take our seats in the Senate which we believe truly represents the people of the State.

SAM. M. TODD,

Sixth Senatorial District,

H. L. SWORDS,

Eighth Senatorial District,

L. B. JENKS,

Twelfth Senatorial District,

THOS. H. NOLAND,

Fourteenth Senatorial District,

ROBERT WORRALL,

Sixteenth Senatorial District,

O. F. HUNSAKER,

Seventh District.

THE RETURNING OFFICERS ON THE

STAND.

Samuel M. Todd and Oscar F. Hunsaker depose:

That they were members of the State Senate of the State of Louisiana, sitting in the Mechanics' Institute on the 9th day of December, 1872; that afterward, to wit, on or about the 10th day of December, 1872, said deponents left the Senate sitting at the Mechanics' Institute, and united with the assemblage known as the McEnery Senate, sitting at Lyceum Hall, in the City Hall building of the city of New Orleans; that the Senate of the said McEnery assemblage proceeded to organize, and that on or about the date last named said Senate proceeded to elect a Returning Board or Board of Canvassers, who were to correct, canvass and compile the returns of election for State officers, Presidential electors, etc.; under the act approved by H. C. Warmoth, November 20, 1872; and said deponents, to wit, S. M. Todd and O. F. Hunsaker, together with S. M. Thomas, B. R. Forman and Archibald Mitchell were elected as said board; that the said board proceeded to organize by the election of O. F. Hunsaker, one of said deponents, president thereof; that the said returns were then produced from trunks and carpet-bags in a small room on an upper floor of the St. Charles Hotel; that said returns were brought to said room by one O. B. Bragdon, who appeared to be in possession of the same; that said returns had been opened, com-

plied and canvassed before they came into the possession of said deponents and the other members of the board; that although said deponents did carefully examine said returns and made themselves cognizant of the nature of the same and the mode and manner in which said returns were compiled, and the result sought to be shown, yet said deponents, neither jointly nor separately, nor in any way whatever, signed or authorized any person to sign for them the purported canvass of returns known in the congressional report on Louisiana affairs as the "Forman returns," dated December 11, 1872; by which returns it was made to appear that John McEnery was elected Governor, and that the Fusion State ticket was elected; neither did they, nor either of them, at any time, consent or agree that said purported canvass was or is correct, or authorized the publication of the same in any manner whatsoever; that soon after the meeting of said Board of Canvassers, above referred to, one of said board, to wit: S. M. Thomas, left the city, and if he ever resigned as a member of said returning board, it was not known to either of said deponents, nor did said O. F. Hunsaker, as President of said board, ever at any time receive any indication or any communication of the resignation or withdrawal of said S. M. Thomas from the said Board of Canvassers; and that neither of said deponents ever met or participated in any canvass of returns after said S. M. Thomas left the city, nor did they ever complete the canvass of said returns, nor did they ever authorize any person or persons to do so for them; said deponents further state that by the pretended canvass of said returns as published without the consent of said deponents, the returns from the following parishes are shown to have been entirely thrown out, to wit: St. Martin, Iberia, Terrebonne, Iberville and St. James; that the said parishes were and are well known to be largely Republican, the two parishes of St. James and Iberville alone giving more than 2500 Republican majority; that there was no sufficient proof or good reason why said parishes should have been omitted; that had the voice of said parishes been included in the publication of said purported returns, as of right it should have been, it would have added several thousand votes to the Republican ticket; and deponents further say that a fair, proper and correct canvass of said returns would have shown that William Pitt Kellogg was elected Governor of Louisiana at the election held on the 4th of November, 1872; and said deponents verily believe that said William Pitt Kellogg was elected Governor of the State of Louisiana by the actual votes cast at said election.