

More Light on the Louisiana Question.

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The fact that startling developments have been made which threw much light on the complicated Louisiana question was briefly announced in our telegraphic despatches some time since. It was also stated that Gov. Kellogg had gone on to Washington with evidence to sustain his right to office, and which showed that the claims of the McEnery party were based on frauds and conspiracy. At the time the President's proclamation was issued last summer recognizing the Kellogg government, we stated at some length the issues involved in the contest, and showed from the merits of the case that the President's action was based on the soundest principles of justice and equity; that the McEnery votes which were rejected by the Lynch returning board were fraudulent as charged, and that Kellogg had a clear majority of all the legal votes cast in the election of 1872. The evidence now referred to verifies our assertion so strongly that not the best friend of the McEnery faction can longer assert the justness of its claims.

We have before us the sworn testimony of more than half a dozen witnesses, members of the Warmoth and McEnery parties, admitting the practice of some of the most stupendous frauds ever perpetrated in the history of the country. The particulars are given with an exactness and minuteness of detail backed by figures which do not admit of a doubt or a question. The substance of the testimony of the principal witness is briefly this: B. P. Blanchard, State Register of voters, says that to his knowledge, in the parish of Orleans alone, by means of fraudulent certificates of naturalization and the registration of and voting on the names of dead men 6,737 illegal votes were cast for the Fusion or McEnery ticket and by erasures from the registry lists and other fraudulent means 3,010 votes were lost to the Kellogg party; that in the country parishes by the same means the Republican vote was reduced by 9,314 votes; that had the actual Republican vote been counted the whole Republican National and State tickets would have been elected by large majorities. Such is the sworn testimony of a warm friend of and a co-worker with the McEnery party. Following, comes the affidavit of his chief clerk, substantiating the foregoing statement.

Thomas J. M. Carey, chairman of the Fusion committee on naturalization, makes oath that, to the best of his knowledge and belief, 2,000 fraudulent naturalization papers were issued by that committee in New Orleans alone, on which votes were cast for the Fusion ticket; that on the day previous to election the commissioners of election, of whom he was one, were ordered to assemble at Mechanic's Institute to receive instructions, and that they were ordered to place every possible impediment in the way of voters not Fusionists, and that in this way the deposit of many Republican votes was prevented.

Oscar F. Hunsaker, chairman, and Sam. M. Todd, member, of the Fusion returning board appointed by the McEnery legislature, swear that their signatures to the returns, which declared the McEnery ticket elected, were forged; that there was no reason for throwing out the votes of the parishes of St. Martin, Iberia, Terrebonne Iberville and St. James, and that had these votes been counted, a fair and proper canvass would have shown that Kellogg was elected by the actual votes cast at said election. The testimony of two or three other State officials is to the same effect. It must be borne in mind that these are not the statements of partizans of Kellogg, but those of friends and supporters of McEnery, and that they were unwillingly brought out on the witness stand in a trial before the courts. They will be accepted as the clinching argument in the favor of the Kellogg government, and no intelligent reader can longer be in doubt as to the merits of the contending parties.

The status of the Louisiana case may be briefly summed up as follows: The Lynch returning board declares Kellogg legally elected by a majority of all the votes cast; the courts, from the lowest to the highest, have affirmed the legality of the Lynch board; the Supreme Court of the State has fifteen times sustained the legality of the Kellogg government; a

majority of a Senatorial committee, after careful investigation, also sustain it; the President sustains it; and the testimony of the Warmouth-McEnery officials sustain it. And yet we have on every side Democratic talk about "Presidential usurpation of State rights," "unwarranted interference," and "bayonet rule!"

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