

LOUISIANA.

Removal of Gov. Wells and Appointment of Thomas J. Durant as Governor of Louisiana—The Levee Commissioners and Gen. Sheridan's Reasons for Removing Them.

On Monday, Major-Gen. SHERIDAN, commanding the Fifth Military District, removed I. MADISON WELLS, Governor of Louisiana, and appointed the well-known Unionist THOMAS J. DURANT in his place. The order is as follows:

HEADQUARTERS
FIFTH MILITARY DISTRICT,
NEW-ORLEANS, JUNE 3, 1867. }

SPECIAL ORDERS No. 50.—His Excellency, the Governor of Louisiana, I. MADISON WELLS, having made himself an impediment to the faithful execution of the act of Congress of March 2, 1867, by directly and indirectly impeding the General in command in the faithful execution of the law, is hereby removed from the office of Governor of Louisiana, and Mr. THOMAS J. DURANT appointed thereto. Mr. DURANT will be obeyed and respected accordingly.

By command of P. H. SHERIDAN,
GEORGE L. HOOD, Assistant Adjutant-General.

At the same time Gen. SHERIDAN issued orders removing the Street Commissioner, and appointing Wm. BAKER in his place. The cause of the removal was neglect of duty, and the uncleanly condition of the city.

Some time ago Gen. SHERIDAN deposed the two rival boards of Levee Commissioners, one of which had been appointed by Gov. WELLS, and the other by a secession Legislature. The Governor thereupon obtained from the President and Secretary of War an order requiring Gen. SHERIDAN to withhold the execution of his order regarding the Commissioners. This order was as follows:

WAR DEPARTMENT,
WASHINGTON, JUNE 3, 1867. }

Major-General P. H. Sheridan, New-Orleans:

Application having been made to the President of the United States, by the Governor of Louisiana and others, for revocation of your order removing the Board of Levee Commissioners, and that the State authorities be permitted to proceed in the execution of the State laws, the President directs that all further proceedings be suspended until further instructions. You will please report the facts in relation to your order, with the reasons for giving it.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

Gen. SHERIDAN, in reply to the Secretary of War, gives his reasons for removing the Levee Commissioners. He says the Louisiana Legislature last Winter passed an act continuing the old Levee Board in office, so that \$4,000,000 appropriated might be disbursed by a board of rebellious antecedents, and adds:

"After the adjournment the Governor appointed a board of his own, in violation of this act, and made the acknowledgment to Gen. SHERIDAN that his object was to disburse the money in the interest of his own party by securing for it votes at the time of election. The old board refused to turn over its papers to the new board, and appealed to Gen. SHERIDAN to sustain it, which he would not do, as the question would then have gone to the Courts and have taken a year to decide. The State was then overflowed and poor people suffering. To abate this trouble and afford immediate relief, which the honest disbursement of four millions would give, an order dissolving both Boards was issued."

Of Gov. WELLS the General says:

"I say now unequivocally that Gov. WELLS is a political trickster and a disunionist. I have seen him myself, when I first came to this command, turn out all the Union men who supported the Government, and put in their stead rebel soldiers, some of whom had not doffed the gray uniform. I have seen him again, during the July riot of 1865, skulk away where I could not find him to give him a guard, instead of coming out as a manly representative of the State and joining those who were desirous of preserving the peace. I have watched him since, and his conduct has been as sinuous as the mark left in the dust by the movement of a snake. I say again that he is dishonest, and dishonesty is more than must be expected of me."