

In Marlboro' District, where Mr. Widdicombe is shown to have been during election day, although he did not vote there, the evidence clearly shows that the election was not conducted in a proper and legal manner, and in a mode which secured a full, free and fair expression of sentiment, as between Messrs. Brooke and Widdicombe. While open violence, riot and bloodshed did not occur, yet scenes were enacted which, if permitted to take place, would naturally lead to disorder, and that no violence or bloodshed occurred, seems to have been occasioned by the patience and forbearance of the Democrats.

A negro was speaking, while the election was in progress, near the Court House door, where the voting was going on; a colored man, deputed to act as special Deputy Sheriff to preserve order on the day of election, stationed himself at the inside door of the court-room, where the polls were held, and wearing the badge of authority, told the colored voters he had a right to examine their tickets—that he was stationed there at that door for that purpose—to see all the tickets that went in—and obtained their tickets when they had refused to show them until they were told they could not vote unless they showed their tickets. Six or seven tickets headed "Democratic Tickets," and with Mr. Brooke's name upon them, were thus torn up, and Republican tickets given the voters in their stead, before this was stopped. Mr. Widdicombe is proved to have taken three Democratic tickets from the voters as they marched up in file to vote, and given them Republican tickets before they were allowed to vote. He is shown also, upon another colored voter, to have foisted a Republican ticket, when the voter supposed he was voting a Democratic ticket. And without recounting the evidence of all that transpired at these polls, your Committee is satisfied that if the election had been fairly and legally conducted, the result of the election would have been different. The evidence further shows three cases where the parties were prevented from voting for Mr. Brooke, and voted for Mr. Widdicombe, by reason of intimidation, fear and threats of personal violence. These are Washington Johnson, James Shorter and Abram Coates.

Under the third objection, that minors were allowed to vote, while the evidence is conflicting in reference to whether Ambrose Carroll and Hamilton Carroll were minors, Henry Holland is clearly shown to be a minor, and we think the evidence is sufficient to leave no doubt on our minds that he voted for Widdicombe.

Under the fourth objection, that unpardoned convicts were permitted to vote, the evidence shows that three unpardoned convicts voted, and from the fact that they were identified with the Republican party, and other associating circum-