

ness to the Judges window at any of the polls. Many of the witnesses for the contestants, and all of the witnesses for the respondents, testify to the fact, that negroes as well as white men were voting all through the day, standing in line awaiting their turn. Almost all, certainly all of the serious disturbances of the day, occurred at a distance from the polls, and from the testimony, do not appear to have caused any suspension of the voting. How little effect upon the voting was caused by these disturbances, may be learned from the occurrences at the 1st Precinct of the 11th Ward, in the 2nd Legislative District. It was sought to prove that an organized attack was there made on the negro voters, and that many of them were prevented thereby from afterward approaching the polls. The attack was made at 6½ o'clock A. M. The negro vote at this Precinct, at the municipal election was 64, and at the November election, 62; two voters only having failed to vote at the latter election, whether from fear, sickness or other engagements.

In the 5th and 15th Wards, and in the 18th Ward, your Committee find that at different periods of the day, serious collisions between the negroes and the whites, were only prevented by the active efforts of the police. The evidence presented to the Committee warrants the conclusion, that these collisions were provoked by the approach toward the polls in the places named, of large bodies of negroes, in many cases carrying weapons displayed. It is in evidence, that the police succeeded in each case of collision, in separating the combatants, and that in repeated instances they offered to escort negroes who claimed to be voters to the polls, if they felt any apprehension for their safety.

The precincts of the last named wards, where these collisions occurred, are proven to be thickly peopled by negroes, and the testimony leads irresistibly to the conclusion, that the threatening manner of their approach to the polls provoked a riot.

A careful examination of the testimony will disclose that no such disorder existed in nine-tenths of the voting precincts of Baltimore city, as was calculated to excite apprehension, or to deter any man from depositing his ballot.

There is one feature in the testimony worthy of note. Not fifty cases of the exclusion of votes by force or intimidation, have been testified to. In the contest of 1860, the principles governing, which are sought to be applied to this case, a petition was presented to the House of Delegates, signed by 7,000 voters in the City of Baltimore, who had been prevented from voting by force or intimidation,

It is a necessary conclusion from the above facts, that the