

ballot by the voters; if so, please state the character and extent of such obstacle?

Answer. When I approached the polls I found the window occupied and crowded by a large party, who were turbulent and violent, and who, as I was informed, were principally not residents of the ward; they attacked Mr. Bean, who was acting as Reformer challenger; the movement from the window to attack him, cleared the way partially and I got up to the window and voted; finding Mr. Bean attacked violently and struck, I went among them and appealed to them to desist; one of them threatened to attack me, but did not do so; Mr. Bean was then extricated and saved by a police officer named George Robinson, who behaved very well on the occasion; these men continued there for some time with much violence and turbulence, attempting from time to time to vote; I was too far off to see whether they voted, but was informed that their votes were rejected by the judges, which seemed to exasperate them very much.

The polls were from time to time impeded by these persons while I was there, and when there was no turbulence, there was that degree of threatened violence exhibited towards those who came up to vote, cursing and swearing at them, which led me to appeal to this policeman, Robinson, to keep the polls clear, and he told me that he could not, that he had done his best; I asked him if he would authorize me to say to the Mayor that he could not keep the polls clear; his answer was, "Yes, sir;" on my way to the Mayor's office I called at Mr. Woodward's counting room, with the view of consulting him as to the best steps to be pursued, when we determined to ask Mr. George Eaton (who being President of the School Board, of which the acting Mayor was a member, would probably have more weight with him than I, a stranger to him) to go to the Mayor; Mr. Eaton, at our request, called upon the Mayor, and on his return stated that the Mayor professed every willingness to preserve order, and that he would send an additional police force to the ward, if necessary; on my return to the thirteenth ward polls, I found a very violent party around the polls, when one of them was arrested by policeman Robinson, assisted by one other policeman, and carried off, after which I did not see any policeman about the polls so long as I remained there; the window was entirely occupied on both sides by those who were said to be of the American party, one of whom attempted to vote and insisted on voting, but was refused by the judges; and he continued his position at the window, and by offensive remarks and pushing, appeared determined to irritate the gentleman who desired to act as challenger, Dr. Merryman, who was however crowded out, and not allowed to hold his position; at the same time this party seemed to be very turbulent, uttering oaths and exclamations constantly, trying to provoke some manifestation of discontent or resistance on the part of the Reformers, calling upon them to