

Ques. Mr. Alexander—You have spoken of the consternation occasioned by the appearance at Salisbury and Princess Anne of the armed forces. Was or not the consternation just as great amongst the members of the Democratic party as amongst those of the Union party?

Ans. I think it was.

Ques. Mr. Alexander—At what time was it first generally understood that armed forces were to be sent into the County to influence the elections?

Ans. Some two weeks before the election, perhaps more, there were threats given out by persons in the employment, or in some way attached to the Provost Marshal's office in the County, that there would be a military force present at the time of the election, and that no one would be permitted to vote whose loyalty was at all doubtful. This rumor had very general prevalence in Somerset county, and it was extended also to other Counties in the Congressional District visited by me. This rumor ultimately assumed the shape that no one would be permitted to vote who did not sustain what was called the unconditional Union ticket; so strong were these rumors, and such was the excitement in the District, that I felt it to be my duty to bring the subject to the notice of the President. I did so through Mr. Swann, Chairman of the Union State Central Committee. At my instance, Mr. Swann visited the President, and the substance of their interview is stated in their correspondence, a printed copy of which I now lay before the Committee as part of this answer. The assurance of the President, given through Mr. Swann, quieted my own alarms, and I took pains to let the substance of that assurance be known as widely as I could. The effect of that was to create the impression, as far as I know, that no armed force would be used at the election. I remained of that opinion, and so did others, so far as I know, up to the period at which these forces reached Salisbury. Their arrival amazed me, as it did every one. I supposed that there was no general understanding that armed forces were to be sent to the county, until their actual arrival. Mr. Swann visited the President on the 26th of October, which was Monday, and held his conference with the President, in which the President gave his assurance, and it was then understood that it was to be incorporated in a correspondence, and *was* afterwards so done. The substance of the interview was reported to me on the night of the 26th of October, and I returned home the next morning. I received a printed copy of the correspondence a few days after.