

(The following is the printed copy referred to, as laid before the Committee by the witness :)

THE ELECTION ON WEDNESDAY.

LETTER FROM PRESIDENT LINCOLN.

We were handed for publication, last evening, the following correspondence between the Hon. Thomas Swann and President Lincoln :

OFFICE OF THE UNION STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE, }  
BALTIMORE, Oct. 26, 1863. }

To the President :

*Sir*—A suspicion having taken possession of the minds of many loyal Union voters of the State of Maryland that the election about to take place on the 4th of November will be attended with undue interference on the part of persons claiming to represent the wishes of the Government, I am induced, by what I know to be the desire of a large number of our people, and in furtherance of applications daily made to me, to ask, most respectfully, that you would place me, as Chairman of the Union State Central Committee, in possession of your views upon this subject, in order that they may be communicated to loyal voters throughout this State.

I will beg you to believe, Mr. President, that it is with no doubt or distrust on my part, as to what will be your response to this letter, that I ask this favor at your hands ; but simply to satisfy a large class of persons who believe that an expression of opinion on your part, would not be without its benefit to the people of the State, in promoting what we all desire, a fair expression of the public voice.

I am, with great respect,

Your obedient servant.

THOMAS SWANN.

Chairman of the Union State Central Committee.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, }  
WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 27, 1863. }

*Hon. Thomas Swann :*

*Dear Sir*—Your letter, a copy of which is on the other half of this sheet, is received. I trust there is no just ground for