

Feb. 16th, 8½ P. M.

Committee met.

Present—Messrs. Tyson, Chairman, Westcott, Frazier and Hitchcock. Mr. Eugene L. Didier was sworn as reporter to the Committee well and faithfully, to the best of his ability, to perform the duties of that office.

Oliver W. Tilghman's Testimony.

1st General Question.—Were you a voter in Somerset County at the general election in November, 1863? if yea, state in what district.

Ans.—I was, in Salisbury District.

2nd General Question.—State whether you attended at the polls on said election day: if yea, state at what time you arrived there.

Ans.—Some time in the course of the afternoon; I went up to vote.

3d General Question.—State, in a narrative form, the occurrences at said polls, so far as they passed under your observation during the day.

Ans.—I understood they had rejected those tickets that were offered on white paper, and I wanted to prove the thing to my own satisfaction. I had a piece of white paper and a piece of yellow paper. I took two names off the abolition ticket (the yellow ticket) and wrote the same two names on a piece of yellow paper and on a piece of white paper, and advanced towards the polls with the yellow paper in my hand, and the white piece in my vest pocket. They made way for me to go up and vote. I asked the question whether I was entitled to vote. They said certainly. I was in the act of presenting the yellow ticket to the Judge, when I observed, if it made no difference, I believed I would vote the white one. Upon this a person who was looking over my shoulder said he objected to it. I turned around immediately, and asked him what were his reasons for objecting: if it was because it was on white paper? He said he was placed there for that purpose, to object to all on white paper.

I then opened both pieces of paper, and asked him to read the names for himself. He looked over them, and said they were both the same. I asked him what would be the difference whether I voted the white one or yellow one. He then observed, "I suppose you did this to find out something?" I told him I did it to expose the whole business. He then wanted me to vote. I said I would not vote to save his life. I then turn-