

sion of 1839, showing the disposition which had been of the State bonds? State whether or not you have found among the papers of the company a statement in the handwriting of Mr. Barnard conforming to the printed statement. If so, produce it to the committee; and also state whether the manuscript referred to, has appended to it, the signature of Mr. Barnard?

To this interrogatory, I answer, that I do not know who prepared that statement. I have found among the papers of the company a rough and incomplete draught of the statement referred to, which I believe to be in the handwriting of Mr. Barnard; but it has not his signature appended to it. Here is the paper.

*2d Interrogatory by Mr. Le Grand.* State whether or not the former plan of keeping the books of the company was not calculated to mislead the mind of those who might have occasion to examine them? State also whether it be possible without months of previous examination, to understand the affairs of the company from the books? and whether many important matters which should be properly entered in the books are not to be found only on scrips of paper, letters, &c. If you answer affirmatively, state whether you have adopted a different plan?

I answer to this interrogatory, that the books are difficult to be understood; but that the length of time it would require to understand the books, would depend on the natural capacity and the experience in such matters of each individual. I refer to my answers to interrogatories 3d and 8th as further answers to this interrogatory. I have not adopted a different plan of book-keeping. I should think it great presumption in any one to change the mode of book-keeping, no matter how defective, until he had longer experience in the affairs of the company, than I have had.

*3d Interrogatory by Mr. Le Grand.* Examine the file of letters and papers received from Mr. Peabody, now in your custody, and say which of them, if any, was put in your possession by the President since they were sent to you from Washington by Mr. Barnard? Did you from the papers placed in your hands by Mr. Barnard, make the statement showing the disposition made of the 5 per cent. sterling bonds, so far as Mr. Peabody was concerned, to which is appended the communication made by the President on the 8th January, 1841.

To this interrogatory I answer, that I have no recollection of any one of the letters of Mr. Peabody on the file, having