

OFFICE-HOLDERS.

THE EVIDENCE

OF

THE SELECT COMMITTEE

ON

The resolution offered by Mr. Stanly, of North Carolina, to inquire into the conduct of office-holders under Mr. Polk.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1850.

Laid upon the table, and ordered to be printed.

IN THE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, May 6, 1850.

On motion of Mr. Stanly,

Resolved, That a select committee of nine be appointed to inquire and report to this House what persons holding office under the last administration, as clerks in any of the public offices, Auditors, heads of bureaus, Commissioners of Patents, or Assistant Postmasters General, were correspondents of newspapers, wrote for, or edited newspapers; their salaries and compensation for the same; and who, in particular, was the author of certain essays signed "Bundeleund," and what office he then held: and, also, whether, during the last canvass for the presidency, any of the above-named officers absented themselves from their offices and official duties to make speeches and public addresses against the election of General Taylor: also, whether the above-named officers, or any of them, during said canvass, were called upon or required to subscribe or pay money for an electioneering fund against General Taylor, and at whose instance this was done.

Ordered, That Mr. Stanly, Mr. McWillie, Mr. Schenck, Mr. R. H. Stanton, Mr. Haymond, Mr. Hibbard, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Fitch, and Mr. Williams constitute the above committee.

Attest:

RICHARD M. YOUNG, *Clerk.*

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 15, 1850.

The committee appointed by resolution of the House of Representatives, May 6, 1850, to inquire and report what persons holding office under the last administration, &c., met; when the following gentlemen were present: Mr. Stanly, Mr. McWillie, Mr. R. H. Stanton, Mr. Haymond, Mr. Hibbard, Mr. Briggs, and Mr. Williams.

The following resolution was read by the chairman, viz:

Resolved, That a select committee of nine be appointed to inquire and report to this House what persons holding office under the last administration, as clerks in any of the public offices, Auditors, heads of bureaus, Commissioners of Patents, or Assistant Postmasters General, were correspondents of newspapers, wrote for, or edited newspapers; their salaries and compensation for the same; and who, in particular, was the author of certain essays signed "Bundelcund," and what office he then held: and, also, whether, during the last canvass for the presidency, any of the above-named officers absented themselves from their offices and official duties to make speeches and public addresses against the election of General Taylor: also, whether the above-named officers, or any of them, during said canvass, were called upon or required to subscribe or pay money for an electioneering fund against General Taylor, and at whose instance this was done.

On motion of Mr. McWillie,

Ordered, That the chairman be requested to report a resolution to the House of Representatives authorizing this committee to send for persons and papers.

On motion of Mr. Stanton,

Ordered, That the chairman be requested to ask leave of the House to employ a clerk.

The committee then adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 16, 1850.

Committee met, pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. Stanly, Mr. McWillie, Mr. Schenck, Mr. R. H. Stanton, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Fitch, and Mr. Williams.

Voted, That the following shall be the form of oath to be administered by the chairman to such witnesses as shall appear before said committee:

You do solemnly swear, on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that the evidence which you shall give relative to what persons holding office under the last administration, as clerks in any of the public offices, Auditors, heads of bureaus, Commissioner of Patents, or Assistant Postmasters General, were correspondents of newspapers, wrote for, or edited newspapers; their salaries and compensation for the same; and who was the author of certain essays signed "Bundelcund," and what office he then held: and, also, whether, during the last canvass for the presidency, any of the above-named officers absented themselves from their offices and official duties to make speeches and public addresses against the election of General Taylor: and, also, whether the above-named officers, or any of them, during said canvass, were called upon or required to subscribe or pay money for an electioneering fund against General Taylor, and

at whose instance this was done,—shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. So help you God.

Voted, That the following be the form of warrant for the summoning of witnesses to appear before the said committee, to wit:

By authority of the House of Representatives of the United States:

The select committee appointed by the House of Representatives, on May 6, 1850, to investigate the conduct of certain persons holding office under the last administration:

To ———, greeting:

You are hereby commanded to summon ——— to appear before said committee, in the city of Washington, in the committee-room on Public Expenditures, No. 80, on the ——— instant, at — o'clock, to testify, and the truth to speak, touching or concerning the subjects of investigation before said committee.

Witness EDWARD STANLY, chairman of said committee, at the city of Washington, this ——— day of ———, 1850, and in the 74th year of the independence of the United States.

———, *Chairman.*

The following resolution was laid before the committee:

In the House of Representatives, May 15, 1850, on motion of Mr. Stanly,

Resolved, That the committee appointed May 6, 1850, to inquire what persons holding office under the last administration were correspondents of newspapers, &c., &c., have power to send for persons and papers.

Attest:

RICHARD M. YOUNG, *Clerk.*

On motion,

Resolved, That the chairman cause Hon. William J. Brown, of Indiana, to be summoned to appear before the said committee, as a witness, at committee-room No. 80, in the Capitol, on Monday next, 10 o'clock a. m.

On motion, committee adjourned till Monday morning, 10 o'clock.

MONDAY MORNING, MAY 20, 1850.

Committee met, pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. Stanly, Mr. Stanton, Mr. Fitch, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Hibbard, and Mr. Williams.

Hon. William J. Brown appeared, and, being duly sworn, was examined, as follows:

1. *By Mr. Stanly.* Do you know what persons holding office under the last administration, as clerks, Auditors, heads of bureaus, Commissioner of Patents, or Assistant Postmasters General, were correspondents of newspapers, wrote for, or edited newspapers, their salaries and compensation for the same?

Answer. I was Second Assistant Postmaster General under the late administration of Mr. Polk. There were two clerks in the Post Office Department who corresponded with newspapers. One was James Laurenson, and the other William D. Wallach. Laurenson was a clerk in the First Assistant Postmaster General's office, as well as I now recollect, and kept the Postmaster General's record-book. He was the correspondent of the Baltimore Sun, and signed himself Mercury, and is still the correspondent of that paper, writes over the same signature, and still is retained

in office as clerk. I do not know what is the amount of his compensation. Mr. Wallach sometimes corresponded for the Raleigh Standard, and sometimes for the Ohio Statesman. I think he sometimes wrote for democratic paper in New Orleans. He was the corresponding clerk in my office, and had charge of the correspondence of one branch of the office. I know of no other clerks in the office who wrote letters for newspapers.

Some time before the meeting of the Baltimore convention, in 1844, the Postmaster General, the Hon. Cave Johnson, directed my attention to the fact that Mr. Wallach, one of the clerks in my office, was engaged in political correspondence with newspapers, and said there were some complaints about it, and spoke of the impropriety of such an engagement. I mentioned the matter to Mr. Wallach, and told him he could not be retained in office if he continued to write, and that he must either give up his office or his employment as a letter-writer. Mr. Wallach told me he would make up his mind and decide in one month. At the expiration of the time fixed, he resigned his office and removed to New York, where he engaged in editing the New York True Sun. I know nothing of any other clerks, heads of bureaus, or other officers, under said administration, except Mr. Burke, who wrote for newspapers while in office. Mr. Burke informed me that he wrote the "Bundelcund" essays for the Union. I never wrote any political articles for the newspapers during my term of service.

2. *By same.* Do you know whether, during the last canvass for the presidency, any of the above-named officers absented themselves from their offices and official duties to make speeches and public addresses against the election of General Taylor?

Answer. I never left my office for other than public business, except upon three occasions, during the canvass for the presidency. I attended a barbecue at Baltimore, on the anniversary of the battle of North Point, and one at Bladensburg. At both of these places political speeches were made. I spoke at Baltimore about twenty minutes, and at Bladensburg about fifteen minutes. I can say truly that at neither of these places, nor elsewhere, did I say anything against General Taylor. I did, however, speak in favor of General Cass. The other time referred to, when I was absent, I went to Cincinnati, Ohio, to meet my family. During this trip I did not attend a political meeting or make a political speech. During the canvass I heard General John M. McCalla, Second Auditor, make two or three political speeches at the Democratic Association in this city. These speeches were made at night. Benjamin F. Brown, a clerk in the Second Auditor's office, informed me that he made a speech at Richmond, Virginia, during the canvass.

3. *By same.* Do you know that Benjamin F. Brown made any other speeches during the canvass.

Answer. I remember now, that upon one occasion I met Mr. Brown at Lancaster, Pa., where I had gone on official business. He called at my room, in company with Colonel Reah Frazier, and asked me to go that night to a political meeting with him, as he intended to make a speech. I declined going; and he informed me in the morning that he had made a speech. As to any other speeches made by him, I know only from the newspapers. These speeches were wrongfully ascribed to me.

4. *By same.* Where is Benjamin F. Brown now?

Answer. I do not know. He has left the city. I saw a card from

him in the newspapers, dated at Detroit, Michigan. I am not intimately acquainted with him, and he is no connexion of mine.

5. *By same.* Is he now in office?

Answer. No, sir: he has been dismissed.

The committee adjourned until Tuesday, at 10 o'clock a. m.

TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 21, 1850.

Committee met, pursuant to adjournment. Present: Mr. Stanly, Mr. Schenck, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hibbard, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Stanton, Mr. Fitch, and Mr. McWillie.

6. *By same.* Were you interrupted in your speech at Bladensburg, and, if so from what cause?

Answer. I was interrupted during the speech by the announcement that a barrel of whiskey and a barrel of cider had come, and that dinner would soon be ready.

7. *By same.* Were you present at a meeting in Washington city at which James Towles was acting as president?

Answer. I cannot answer who was president of the meeting, as I had a lady with me, and was on the outskirts of the crowd. I did not go into the stand. This is the same meeting to which I have previously referred, and at which General McCalla spoke. Mr. Bowdon and Mr. Henley, members of Congress, also spoke at this meeting.

8. *By same.* Were you at any meeting in Washington city at which Lund Washington, jr., a clerk in the State Department, presided, or took part?

Answer. I do not remember.

9. *By same.* Do you know of any public officers engaged in sending documents throughout the country in 1848?

Answer. Yes, I sent a few myself; not a great many. They were franked by the Hon. Mr. Bowdon. I once saw Mr. Thomas, clerk in the Fourth Auditor's office, directing some. He had a letter before him containing some names, to whom he was sending the documents.

10. *By same.* What documents were they?

Answer. Some of those I sent, I believe, were the Life of Cass. The others I do not remember; nor do I know what those were sent by Mr. Thomas. I had no lists of persons to send to, and only sent them when I was written to for them. I do not remember the persons who wrote to me for them.

11. *By same.* Was there more than one Life of Cass?

Answer. There were two editions published.

The 9th, 10th, and 11th questions, and the answers, were objected to by Mr. Hibbard, as not authorized by the resolution under which the committee is acting; and he also objected to the committee's proceeding further in the examination in relation to the franking and sending of public documents.

The question being submitted, Shall the objections be sustained? it was decided in the affirmative, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. McWillie, Schenck, Stanton, Hibbard, Briggs, Fitch, and Williams.

NAY—Mr. Stanly.

12. *By same.* Were you present at a public meeting in Fairfax county,

Virginia, when William Cost Johnson was interrupted by a person holding a clerkship under the general government?

Mr. Fitch objected to the "assumption that William Cost Johnson was interrupted at any public meeting by a clerk holding office under government."

Answer. I was not at any public meeting in Virginia during the canvass, and never heard William Cost Johnson make a speech in my life.

13. *By same.* Did you make, or assist in making, any other public addresses, written or oral, during the canvass, against the election of General Taylor, in connexion with any other person holding office?

Answer. I signed a circular drawn up by Mr. Burke, and will refer to it, and ascertain its character and date, and answer more fully in relation to it at the next meeting of the committee.

The committee then adjourned, to meet to-morrow (Wednesday) morning, at 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 22, 1850.

Committee met, pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. Stanly, Mr. Williams, Mr. Fitch, Mr. Hibbard, Mr. Stanton, Mr. Briggs, Mr. McWillie, and Mr. Haymond.

William J. Brown continued: I signed a circular, dated June 24, 1848, in the following words:

[From the National Intelligencer of Tuesday, October 24, 1848.]

WASHINGTON, June 24, 1848.

SIR: The undersigned were designated by the National Democratic Committee, at the Baltimore Convention, to serve as an executive committee at Washington, to aid, by such means as may be within their reach, the efforts of their friends in other parts of the Union in the pending presidential election.

From information already received in this city, it is certain that the leaders of the federal or whig party will resort to an extensive system of misrepresentation, adapted, in its details, to every section of the Union, which they will render more effective and mischievous by a thorough organization. To counteract these designs and movements, it is incumbent upon the democratic party to be equally as well organized, active, vigilant, and energetic. Our friends should at once make a thorough organization in every State, county, and district in the Union. It should be so complete and perfect as to reach every individual member of the party.

This being done, measures should at once be taken to supply all voters with documents containing important information upon subjects which will be involved in the present canvass. Valuable compilations will be made, setting forth the true issues of the contest; and others will, from time to time, be prepared, as the canvass progresses, to refute the misrepresentations and sophistries of our opponents, and sustain the principles and policy of the democratic party.

These compilations will be printed and furnished at prices sufficient to cover the cost—at the rate of fifty cents per hundred copies of any one

of said tracts not exceeding eight pages—and forwarded, franked, and directed to any part of the Union.

We would, therefore, respectfully suggest the expediency of forming clubs for the purpose of disseminating political intelligence among the people. Money intended for this object should be transmitted, postpaid, to Major B. B. French, treasurer, of this city—which shall faithfully be applied, according to directions.

The whigs have nominated their candidates without the avowal of any principles. It becomes important to detect and expose false issues, intended to operate on different sections of the Union. We should, therefore, be glad to be specially informed of the grounds on which our opponents wage the contest in every part of the country. Should the whigs at the North fraternize with the abolitionists, that fact should be exposed at the South, to prevent them misrepresenting to the people that they are the only safeguards of her peculiar interest. Letters and papers showing the progress of the canvass, and exposing the course of the whigs in different sections of the Union, should be directed to Henry S. Foote, at Washington, one of the undersigned, who is entitled to receive them free; also, names of persons to whom documents should be sent.

Relying on your faithful co-operation in our common cause, we have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servants,

H. S. FOOTE,
EDMUND BURKE,
W. J. BROWN.

The circular is also signed by H. S. Foote and Edmund Burke.

14. *By Mr. Stanly.* What were the “documents” and “valuable compilations” referred to in the foregoing circular?

Answer. Mr. Burke drew up the circular, and I do not know what documents he referred to. Several members of Congress had promised to prepare documents, and I suppose he had reference to them.

15. *By same.* Do you know whether any of the officers named in the resolution of the House were called upon or required to subscribe or pay money for an electioneering fund to be used against General Taylor, and at whose instance this was done?

Answer. I do not know any such instance. I was particular to tell my clerks that they were under no obligation to subscribe or pay money for any such purpose. The reason why I did so was, because I understood it was customary, and I was opposed to it.

16. *By same.* Who was collecting money at that time for an electioneering fund?

Answer. I knew of no public officers collecting money for electioneering purposes, or any other person. Major B. B. French was the treasurer of the Democratic Association; and I knew that he received money through the mails for documents, but never heard of his soliciting money from any one.

17. *By same.* Did you contribute nothing yourself, while you were Second Assistant Postmaster General, to be expended as an electioneering fund, either for the publication or distribution of documents or for any other purposes or objects connected with the presidential or other political elections?

Answer. In the fall of 1847, at the congressional election in Balti-

more, there was an effort, by both whigs and democrats, to send to Baltimore, on the day of the election, all the legal voters that were working in Washington. Some one called upon me, whose name I do not recollect, and I gave him five dollars for the purpose of sending the democratic voters. I should not have given a cent to send whig voters. I never contributed a cent to be used in the presidential canvass against the election of General Taylor.

18. *By same.* Do you know what whigs were engaged in sending voters to Baltimore?

Answer. I do not know personally any person who was engaged in sending whig voters to Baltimore.

19. *By same.* Was James Snyder, a clerk in the Post Office Department, during the fall of 1848, electioneering for Cass in Pennsylvania?

Answer. Mr. Snyder was a clerk in the financial department of the Post Office, and still holds the same office, and was sent by the Postmaster General to Pennsylvania and part of New England to collect balances due from postmasters. What else he did during his absence, I do not know. I never heard that he did anything else than attend to this business. He was under pay while he was gone. Mr. Whittlesey, a whig clerk in the same office, was sent to Ohio at the same time, for the same purpose; but I never heard of his interfering in elections.

20. *By same.* Was James Snyder engaged in collecting money from the clerks of the Post Office Department for electioneering purposes?

Answer. I never heard that he was, and do not know that he engaged in such a thing.

21. *By same.* Was James Shehey absent from his office during the fall of 1848, at or about Alexandria, Virginia, electioneering for General Cass?

Answer. I do not know that he was; but he lived in Alexandria, and went home every night, and returned in the morning. He was a faithful and attentive clerk, and is still retained in office.

22. *By same.* Was Horatio King a clerk in your office, and a correspondent for any paper, during that time?

Answer. I do not know that he was a correspondent of any paper; but he was a clerk in the Post Office Department.

23. *By same.* Were there any transparencies prepared from funds contributed by democratic office-holders?

Answer. I do not know that there were.

24. *By same.* At what place were the documents prepared by the democratic committee folded and directed?

Answer. I believe they were folded at the Capitol, but they were franked and directed at Jackson Hall.

25. *Cross-examined by Mr. Hibbard.* Do you know whether the essay called "Bundelcund" was written during office hours?

Answer. I saw Mr. Burke upon one occasion, in the evening, after office hours, preparing one of the numbers of that essay. It was at his own house. When Mr. Burke told me that he was the author of "Bundelcund," he said he spent his evenings preparing these articles, and they cost him a great deal of trouble.

26. *By same.* Have you any knowledge that Mr. Burke spent any time during office hours in preparing those essays?

Answer. I have not.

27. *By same.* Do you know whether Mr. Wallach or Mr. Laurenson spent any time during office hours in writing their letters for newspapers?

Answer. I do not know that they did. They kept their business up at their desks very promptly and regularly.

The committee then adjourned, to meet to-morrow, Thursday, at 10 o'clock, a. m.

THURSDAY MORNING, MAY 23, 1850.

Committee met, pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. Stanly, Mr. Fitch, Mr. Williams, Mr. Stanton, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Hibbard, and Mr. Schenck.

28. *By Mr. Hibbard.* While you were absent, upon the occasions referred to above, in what manner and by whom were the duties of your office performed?

Answer. My duties were performed, on all occasions when I was away, by my chief clerk, Mr. Saunders, as they are now performed by him in the absence of Mr. Warren. I have been there in Mr. Warren's absence, and seen Mr. Saunders performing his duties.

29. *By Mr. Fitch.* Was Mr. John M. Barclay a clerk during the last administration?

Answer. He was a clerk under the Clerk of the House of Representatives. He was not a clerk in any of the departments.

Mr. Schenck objected to the 29th question and answer, upon the ground that Mr. Barclay, being a clerk in the House of Representatives only, is not embraced in the resolution under which the committee is authorized to act.

The motion being submitted, the objection was sustained, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Briggs, Williams, Hibbard, Stanton, and Schenck.

NAY—Mr. Fitch.

30. *By Mr. Stanly.* Who complained to the Postmaster General of Mr. Wallach's being a correspondent of newspapers?

Answer. I do not know, for he did not tell me.

31. *By same.* Was the complaint against Wallach because he was a correspondent, or because of the offensive character of his articles?

Answer. The Postmaster General did not state to me the character of the complaints, but the Hon. John Wentworth complained to me of the offensive character of Mr. Wallach's letters to him personally.

32. *By same.* Were there any other members of Congress who complained of Wallach's being a correspondent, or of the character of his correspondence?

Answer. No, sir; not that I know of.

33. *By same.* In what paper were those letters offensive to Mr. Wentworth published?

Answer. I think in the Raleigh Standard, and probably in the Ohio Statesman.

34. *By same.* How long after the complaints made did Mr. Wallach retain his office?

Answer. Not very long; he remained only a short time.

35. *By same.* Where did he go when he left the Post Office Department?

Answer. He remained here about a month, and then went to New York.

36. *By same.* Was he not transferred from the Post Office Department done to the Patent Office?

Answer. I understand that he was not; but Mr. Burke gave him some temporary copying by the hundred words, which his wife did. This was for the Patent Office.

37. *By same.* Did not Mr. Wentworth complain that Mr. Wallach was instigated by Mr. Ritchie to write letters to the Ohio Statesman assailing Silas Wright?

Mr. Stanton objected to this question, because the inquiry is not embraced in the authority under which the committee acts, and because Mr. Wentworth is a better witness to prove the nature of his complaints, if testimony on that point is admissible, than Mr. Brown.

The motion being submitted, the objection was not sustained, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Fitch, Hibbard, and Stanton.

NAYS—Messrs. Schenck, Briggs, Williams, and Stanly.

Answer. I never heard of such complaint, and never heard that he wrote any articles assailing Silas Wright, for the Ohio Statesman or for any other paper.

38. *By Mr. Hibbard.* Is the document now exhibited to you, purporting to be "The Protective System, considered in connexion with the present tariff, in a series of twelve essays, originally published in the Washington Union, over the signature of 'Bundelcund,' written by the Hon. Edmund Burke," in the words following, to wit, [here insert it,] the work referred to by you as the "Bundelcund" essay?

Mr. Williams objected to the 38th question, because the document referred to, though competent testimony, ought not to be made part of our journal.

The motion being submitted, the objection was sustained, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Briggs, Williams, Schenck, and Stanly.

NAYS—Messrs. Fitch, Stanton, and Hibbard.

The committee then adjourned, to meet Friday morning, 10 o'clock.

FRIDAY MORNING, MAY 24, 1850.

Committee met, pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. Stanly, Mr. Williams, Mr. McWillie, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Hibbard, Mr. Stanton, Mr. Haymond, and Mr. Schenck.

Mr. Schenck offered the following resolution:

Whereas some dispute has arisen in the committee in regard to the manner of making up the journal of yesterday: therefore,

Resolved, That the pamphlet entitled "Bundelcund," the whole of which was intended to be embodied in the question put by Mr. Hibbard yesterday, shall not be included in and spread out at large upon the journal of this committee, but may be referred to and identified as a document to accompany the proof in this case, as one of the exhibits.

The question being submitted, it was decided in the affirmative, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Stanly, Haymond, Briggs, Williams, and Schenck.

NAYS—Messrs. Stanton, Hibbard, and McWillie.

39. *By Mr. Stanton.* Is the pamphlet now shown you, purporting, from its title page, to be "The Protective System, &c.," and made part

of, and filed as an exhibit with, your deposition, the essays of "Bundelcund," referred to by you in a former part of your testimony?

The foregoing question was objected to by Mr. Stanly.

The motion being submitted, the objection was sustained, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Stanly, Haymond, Briggs, and Williams.

NAYS—Messrs. Stanton, Hibbard, and Schenck.

Mr. Williams submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That, in the opinion of this committee, the essays signed "Bundelcund," referred to in question No. 38, are not part of the testimony taken in this examination, nor are those essays to be reported as part of the journal of the committee.

The resolution was adopted, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Stanly, Briggs, Williams, and Haymond.

NAYS—Messrs. Stanton and Hibbard.

Mr. Hibbard offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the document referred to in question No. 38, signed "Bundelcund," and marked A, shall be filed with the papers of the committee.

The resolution was lost, as follows:

YEAS—Messrs. Stanton and Hibbard.

NAYS—Messrs. Stanly, Haymond, Briggs, and Williams.

And further deponent saith not.

W. J. BROWN.

The committee then adjourned, to meet again on Monday next, at 10 o'clock a. m.

MONDAY MORNING, MAY 27, 1850.

Committee met, pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. Stanly, Mr. Fitch, Mr. Hibbard, Mr. Briggs, and Mr. Stanton.

The witness, W. D. Wallach, having failed to attend, the committee adjourned until Tuesday morning, 10 o'clock.

TUESDAY MORNING, MAY 28, 1850.

Committee met, pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. Stanly, Mr. Fitch, Mr. Stanton, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hibbard, Mr. Briggs, and Mr. McWillie.

William D. Wallach, being duly sworn, was examined, as follows:

1. *Question by Mr. Stanly.* Do you know whether any of the officers named in the resolution of the House were correspondents of newspapers, wrote for, or edited newspapers?

Answer. I was a correspondent of the Richmond Enquirer, Louisiana Courier, Ohio Statesman, Mobile Register and Journal, Raleigh Standard, Columbus (Georgia) Times, Cleveland (Ohio) Times, and Albany Argus. I corresponded with these papers during most of the time I was clerk in the Post Office Department, and received pay for my services, which amounted, during the session of Congress, to from \$30 to \$50 per week—less during the recess. I held the office of clerk from about the 1st of June, 1845, to the 1st of April, 1848, to the best of my recollection.

2. *By same.* Did you not also write for the Washington Union?

Answer. Yes, sir: I did the duties of an assistant editor for almost five months after I first took the office. I was in the Union office when I was appointed clerk.

3. *By same.* What was the cause of your ceasing to write for these newspapers?

Answer. I did not cease to be a correspondent of newspapers while I remained in Washington city.

4. *By same.* Were any complaints made by the Hon. Mr. Wentworth, or any other persons, on account of your being a correspondent of newspapers? and what was the character of those complaints, if any were made?

Mr. Fitch objected to the above question, and the objection was not sustained.

YEAS—Messrs. Fitch, McWillie, Stanton, and Hibbard.

NAYS—Messrs. Briggs, Williams, Schenck, and Stanly.

Mr. Hibbard raised a point of order, and urged that the objection was sustained.

The point of order was overruled, as follows:

FOR SUSTAINING IT—Messrs. Fitch and McWillie.

AGAINST IT—Messrs. Stanly, Stanton, Briggs, Williams, and Schenck.

Answer. To the best of my recollection, Mr. Wentworth complained that I had made public the fact that the resolution limiting members in the amount of stationery they used was passed on account of his conduct. Mr. Wentworth also complained, to the best of my recollection, that I had written that he had caused to be introduced into a general internal improvement bill an appropriation to drain swamp lands on the lakes, on which he had a paper town-site. Mr. Wentworth's complaints effected nothing in the way of getting me out of office. It was also complained that, in one or two articles on the Texas question, I had reflected with too great severity and injustice upon the course of the Hon. Silas Wright in that connexion. These letters were published in the Ohio Statesman. Mr. Cave Johnson, late Postmaster General, said that he had nothing to do with, nor did he care what was the character of, my writing, or upon whom I reflected; but he objected to having persons in office interfering actively in politics. He therefore gave me my alternative of leaving the office or ceasing my connexion with newspapers; and I left the office, and continued my connexion with the press.

5. *By same.* Did you hold any other office or clerkship under the late administration?

Answer. I held no office or regular clerkship except the one above referred to. After I left the Post Office Department, I was employed by the Patent Office Department for two or three months doing extra writing, for which I was paid by the hundred words. In this writing, members of my family assisted me.

6. *By same.* Were there any other persons employed as clerks or officers, as embraced in the resolution of the House, who wrote for, or were correspondents of, newspapers?

Answer. I know of no other person in office regularly connected with the political press. Mr. Laurensen was a correspondent of the press, but not for a party paper.

7. *By same.* Who was the author of the essays signed "Bundlecund?"

Answer. Edmund Burke, then Commissioner of Patents.

8. *By same.* Do you know whether, during the last canvass for the presidency, any of the officers above referred to absented themselves from

their offices and official duties to make speeches and public addresses against the election of General Taylor?

Answer. I do not. On the first of July, 1848, I left Washington to take charge of the political editorial department of the True Sun, published in New York city, and was so absorbed in the discharge of my duties there as to know very little of what was going on here.

9. *By same.* Do you know whether any of the above-named officers, during said canvass, were called upon or required to subscribe or pay money for an electioneering fund against General Taylor, and at whose instance this was done?

Answer. I do not.

10. *By same.* Over what signature did you write for the Ohio Statesman?

Answer. Pike.

11. *By Mr. Stanton.* State if, in consequence of your connexion with the press while in office, your official duties were neglected, and at what times you were employed in the office, and when in your correspondence with the press.

Answer. My official duties, or business, was never behindhand five minutes from the day I entered office until I left it. I was not absent from my post ten hours in all, during office hours, from the day I entered office until I left it, except on one occasion, when I obtained a few days' leave of absence. I was always in my office at least as early as the regulations required, and do not recollect that I ever left it before the hour when the office was officially closed. I have written for the press at times in the office—remaining, however, in the aggregate, doing official writing, five hours, during which I was not required to be there by the rules, where I have written in my private business for one hour of the office time. This reply is to the best of my recollection.

12. *By same.* State what were office hours, and if the greater part of your writing for the press was not done after office hours, and at your own house.

Answer. Office hours were from 9 to 3 o'clock in the winter, and from 8 till 3, and at times 4, if I recollect rightly, in the summer. In the aggregate, nine tenths of my writing for the press was done elsewhere than in the Post Office Department, and during office hours.

The committee then adjourned until Wednesday morning, 10 o'clock.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, MAY 29, 1850.

Committee met, pursuant to adjournment:

Present: Mr. Stanly, Mr. Schenck, Mr. Stanton, Mr. Hibbard, and Mr. Williams.

Mr. Wallach being under examination:

13. *By Mr. Hibbard.* State if you know whether the essays referred to, as written by Mr. Burke, called "Bundelcund," were written during office hours, or at such times as interfered with his official duties.

Answer. While Mr. Burke was preparing those papers, I more than once urged him to prepare them faster. His answer to me, usually, was, that he could not do so without trenching upon his office hours, which he could not do.

14. *By same.* Were you ever present in his room when he was writing them?

Answer. I was at Mr. Burke's room, at his dwelling-house, three or four times, when he was preparing those papers, (it was at night when I was there,) and never saw him preparing the papers at any other time.

15. *By same.* Look at the pamphlet now shown you, marked A, and say whether it contains the essays of "Bundelcund," referred to by you?

Answer. Yes, sir: this pamphlet contains the essays referred to.

16. *By same.* State whether you ever wrote anything for the Union, during office hours, while you were in office.

Answer. Not to my recollection. I went to my duties at the Union office after office hours, and usually attended to them until 12 o'clock at night, and sometimes as late as 3 o'clock in the morning.

The witness states: On yesterday, when asked what complaints had been made by members to the late Postmaster General against my writing for the press, I inadvertently omitted to mention the fact that Senator Westcott complained that I had scored him heavily.

17. *By Mr. Stanton.* Were any complaints, to your knowledge, urged against Mr. Burke on account of his writing the "Bundelcund" essays? and if so, by whom?

Answer. None that I know of.

18. *By same.* Have you read the "Bundelcund" essays? If so, what is the character of them? and are they such essays as the writing of which would be discreditable to the author, or the authorities under which he held his office?

Answer. I have read them. They are a powerful appeal in favor of the better economy of liberal commercial relations with the foreign world. I think the essays are highly creditable to the author and the country. I mean by liberal commercial relations, that they were against the protective system.

19. *By same.* How many of the papers for which you wrote were daily?

Answer. I wrote daily for three papers.

20. *By same.* While you were clerk in the Post Office Department, did you receive pay as assistant editor of the Union?

Answer. I received no pay as assistant editor of the Union, though it was often urged upon me by Mr. Ritchie. I so refused, because I felt responsible, in a great measure, for his move in coming here, having taken an active part in persuading him to come, and knowing that his circumstances were such as to require the strictest economy in his expenditures.

21. *By same.* Did you write different letters for each paper, or did you make one letter answer for all the papers?

Answer. I did not make one letter answer for all, though, at times, I duplicated a letter twice or thrice, by manifold writer, sending to Louisiana, Ohio, and New York the same letter by the same day's mails.

And further deponent saith not.

W. D. WALLACH.

The Hon. R. M. Young, being duly sworn, was then examined, as follows:

1. *By Mr. Stanly.* Did you hold an office under the last administration? and if so, what was it?

Answer. I did. I was Commissioner of the General Land Office.

2. *By Mr. Stanly.* Do you know whether any of the officers named in the House resolution of May 6 were correspondents of newspapers, wrote for, or edited newspapers, while in office?

Answer. Not of my own personal knowledge. I had nothing to do with correspondence of that sort myself, except in a single instance. I wrote an article which Mr. Ritchie took and published as editorial in the Union. It was an article of political character.

3. *By Mr. Stanly.* What was the subject of that article?

Answer. It was a compilation of General Taylor's letters, or extracts from them, with comments on them. The article referred to was published in the Daily Union of August 3, 1848, and is headed "General Zachary Taylor, his professions and principles."

4. *By Mr. Stanly.* Do you know whether, during the last canvass for the presidency, any of the officers above referred to absented themselves from their offices or official duties to make speeches or public addresses, oral or written, against the election of General Taylor?

Answer. I never did myself, in a single instance; nor have I personal knowledge of any other person doing so.

5. *By Mr. Stanly.* Were any of the officers under the late administration called upon or required to subscribe or pay money for an electioneering fund against General Taylor?

Answer. I subscribed and paid, myself, twenty-five dollars; and it was suggested to the democratic clerks, at my instance, that they were expected to subscribe something, and they did subscribe and pay, each, what he pleased, but there was no compulsion. I do not know what was subscribed. I took no note of it, and cannot now recollect. The whig clerks were not expected to subscribe, and did not, except in a single instance, so far as I know. In one case, a democratic clerk did not, but refused. He was a clerk, who has since been turned out by the present administration—Colonel Hungerford, of Virginia. In my own case, I thought it would be rather niggardly for one holding an office of \$3,000 a year not to give anything for such purposes. I understood the money was to be paid to a committee from either Pennsylvania or Maryland. I do not know how the money was appropriated. I understood that the citizens on both sides were contributing for such objects, but do not know of the whig clerks doing so.

6. *By Mr. Stanly.* Who collected the money?

Answer. I cannot recollect. I think it very likely that I directed my pay agent, Mr. Robb, to pay my subscription over to some one; but I do not now remember who it was.

7. *By Mr. Stanly.* Do you know what was the gross amount raised?

Answer. I think that the amount raised in my bureau, the Land Office, was some three hundred or three hundred and twenty-five dollars. I think that was the amount the committee stated they wanted from my office; and I believe what was required was raised.

8. *By Mr. Stanly.* Were the clerks in other offices and departments called on to contribute?

Answer. Not that I know of, except from information of others; I do not know it myself personally.

9. *By Mr. Stanly.* Did you have any conversation or agreement with other heads of bureaus as to the amount proper to be contributed from each bureau?

Answer. I had with two gentlemen, who were heads of bureaus, who mentioned to me what sums were expected to be contributed, but whose names I would prefer not to mention, unless the committee desire it.

10. *By Mr. Stanly.* Who were those gentlemen?

Answer. Mr. McCulloch, late First Comptroller of the Treasury, and Mr. Selden, the United States Treasurer. The particulars of the conversation with these gentlemen I do not now recollect. This answer I give only at the express direction of the committee, and against my own inclination, as these gentlemen may possibly have considered the conversation confidential.

11. *By Mr. Stanly.* Do you know of any of the public officers being engaged in writing the Life of General Cass, or other public addresses or documents?

Answer. Not that I recollect.

12. *By Mr. Hibbard.* Was the article written and furnished by you to the Union, to which you have referred in your answer to question No. 3, prepared in office hours, or at any time so as to interfere with the discharge of your official duties?

Answer. It was not.

13. *By Mr. Stanly.* Did you send any copies of the article you wrote for the Union, with any endorsement, to Illinois or elsewhere?

Answer. I did.

Further this dependant saith not.

RICHARD M. YOUNG.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 5, 1850.

Committee met, pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. Stanly, Mr. Schenck, Mr. Stanton, Mr. McWillie, Mr. Briggs, and Mr. Hibbard.

John Robb appeared, in obedience to a summons, was sworn as a witness, and testified, as follows:

1. *Question by Mr. Stanly.* Do you know what persons holding office under the last administration, as clerks in any of the departments, or as Auditors, heads of bureaus, or Assistant Postmaster General, were correspondents of political newspapers, or wrote for or edited papers, and their salaries or compensation therefor?

Answer. I know nothing, of my own knowledge, except in one instance. A communication was written by the head of a bureau, and published, I believe, in one of the papers of this city, as editorial. That was the article written by R. M. Young, esq., the then Commissioner of the General Land Office, and published in the Union, headed "General Taylor, his professions and principles"—the same referred to in Mr. Young's testimony before this committee.

2. *Question by Mr. Stanly.* State what further you may know on the different subjects embraced in the resolution of the House of Representatives appointing this committee.

Answer. I know nothing, except from hearsay, as to the authorship of "Bundelcund." I have no personal knowledge as to any of the several officers named in that resolution absenting themselves from their duties to make public speeches and addresses against the election of General Taylor. All I know in regard to any one having done so is only derived from hearsay and the newspapers. I know of money having been

paid by some officers under the government—whether for an “election-eering fund,” is a matter altogether of inference or opinion. I was called upon by a gentleman who informed me, substantially, that there was a committee from the Eastern Shore of Maryland then in the city of Baltimore, who were collecting, or endeavoring to collect, money for the purpose of hiring vehicles of conveyance to take voters to the polls on the Eastern Shore of Maryland—such as were infirm from sickness or age, or lived too far to reach the places of election. This was with reference to the presidential election. The gentleman said there was also a committee of the same sort on the whig side, who were engaged in the same object, at Baltimore. This gentleman, of whom I speak, did not himself reside in Baltimore, but in Washington city. Several gentlemen were asked if they would subscribe anything for such a purpose. They said, Yes. They gave what they thought, I suppose, they could afford, or deemed proper to give. I, at that time, being the pay agent, as well as chief clerk, of the General Land Office, was requested to pay it for them. I did pay it for them to that same gentleman, who called upon me about the middle of November, a few days after the election was over, he having advanced the funds previously.

3. *Question by Mr. Stanly.* Who was the gentleman at whose instance this money was paid, and to whom you paid it, and what was the amount you gave him?

Answer. I paid that gentleman three hundred and twenty-five dollars. He was, at the time, an office holder under the administration, but is not now. The conversation between him and myself I regard as having been strictly confidential, and prefer not to disclose his name. The amount of money referred to was that collected of the clerks in the General Land Office—the same as stated by Mr. Young. I will not name him, unless directed by the committee.

4. *Question by Mr. Stanly.* You will please name the particular person, and state what was his office—such being the decision of the committee, in the discharge of their duty.

Answer. It was Major William B. Scott, the late navy agent in Washington.

5. *Question by Mr. Stanly.* Do you know anything about collections of money made for purposes connected with the elections from officers in other departments or bureaus?

Answer. Nothing, in any other office or department, of my own personal knowledge.

6. *Question by Mr. Stanly.* Were the contributions made under any compulsion?

Answer. So far as I know, the payments were made by the clerks voluntarily.

7. *Question by Mr. Haymond.* Was the money you paid for those clerks reserved by you, as pay agent in the General Land Office, out of their salaries?

Answer. It was, as to some of them, at their request. Some of them paid the money to me themselves.

8. *Question by Mr. Stanly.* Who took the subscription-paper around in your office?

Answer. I think there was no subscription-paper. A gentleman's

name was written down, and he was asked if he would pay, and how much.

9. *Question by Mr. Schenck.* Was there not a list of names of the clerks in that office made out, and the amount set opposite to each man's name which it was thought he should give? Was such an assessment made in proportion to their salaries? And was not this done before they were applied to?

Answer. Yes; some names were put down on a piece of paper first, and the amount to be asked from each one. I do not know that this was done in proportion to their salaries. I think it was done, generally, with reference to their means, and perhaps, also, with some view to their supposed liberality or disposition to contribute. Some, I remember, who were receiving salaries higher than others, yet gave no more than those others did. Some came and paid voluntarily, without their names having been put down.

10. *Question by Mr. Stanly.* Were any of the whigs in office called upon to pay?

Answer. Yes; there was one who was asked. I remarked, "He is a whig." He said, "Yes, I am; but I am a great friend of General Cass." And I think he added, at the same time, "And I should be glad to see him elected." He contributed something to the fund.

11. *Question by Mr. Haymond.* Do you know whether the Secretary of the Treasury, the head of that department, knew anything of these collections from the clerks being made?

Answer. I do not know whether he had any such knowledge or not.

12. *Question by Mr. Schenck.* Who put down these names of clerks, and the amounts they were expected to give? or who consulted together in fixing these several amounts?

Answer. I do not know what consultation was had out of the Land Office; but in the Land Office, Judge Young, the Commissioner, and myself, had a conference, and consulted about it. The Commissioner put some names down, and I put others down myself. I think those that I put down the names of were such as came and told me, or of whom others told me, what sums they were willing to give.

13. *By Mr. Stanton.* Did those who contributed pay the amounts respectively set down to them upon the paper referred to, or did they give such amounts as they chose to give, without regard to the assessment?

Answer. In two cases they gave less than the assessment; all the others gave the amount assessed to them.

14. *By same.* What were the several amounts given by the clerks? Speak generally.

Answer. \$15, \$10, and \$5. In one instance a clerk only gave \$2 50; he may have increased it afterwards. As far as I know, all these contributions were given voluntarily.

15. *Question by Mr. Schenck.* Did not Judge Young, the Commissioner in that office, make the appointments and removals of clerks in his own bureau?

Answer. As far as I know, he did, except the temporary clerks, whom Mr. Secretary Walker claimed to appoint himself, under the act of Congress of 1842.

JOHN ROBB.

THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 6, 1850.

Committee met.

Present : Mr. Stanly, Mr. Stanton, Mr. Hibbard, Mr. Briggs, and Mr. Haymond.

A. J. Glossbrenner sworn:

By Mr. Stanly. State what you may know on the different subjects embraced in the resolution of the House of Representatives appointing this committee, now before you.

Answer. I was a clerk in the Department of State during the late administration, Mr. Buchanan being then at the head of that department. I was appointed in December, 1847, and resigned the appointment in February, 1849. During that entire period, I was the editor of the York (Pa.) Gazette, a radical democratic paper. I do not know, except from common rumor, who was the author of "certain essays signed 'Bundelcund.'" I do not know that any person holding office under the late administration was *required* to subscribe or pay money for an electioneering fund against General Taylor; but I do know that, whenever I found a subscription paper for that purpose in circulation, I contributed to the extent my means permitted. I never so contributed, to the best of my recollection, at the instance of the Secretary of State, or of any chief of a department or bureau. While holding the office I have mentioned, I did originate and contribute to a fund, to be used in my own congressional district, and particularly in my own county, to promote the election of the local and State democratic ticket in October, 1848, and to a larger fund, to promote the election of Cass and Butler, in November of the same year. I do not know of any persons holding office under the last administration who absented themselves from their offices and official duties to make speeches and public addresses against the election of General Taylor. I have met such persons at political meetings, in this city, on several evenings, during the campaign of 1848, and, on at least one occasion, heard an address from an officer in one of the departments. The meetings referred to were not held during office hours.

By Mr. Haymond. Were those contributions you speak of being raised for electioneering purposes made with the knowledge of the head of the department, or the heads of any of the bureaus? and did you, or any other person, exact, directly or indirectly, money from any of the clerks, by saying they ought to subscribe or give any amount of money?

Answer. I have advised persons, very frequently, to subscribe, here and elsewhere; but I do not know or recollect of any head of department being cognizant of the subscriptions or contributions.

In answer to inquiry by Mr. Haymond :

Mr. Buchanan did know that I was editor of the York Gazette, while in office.

A. J. GLOSSBRENNER.

Committee adjourned.

SATURDAY MORNING, JUNE 9, 1850.

Committee met, pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. Stanly, Mr. Schenck, Mr. Williams, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Stanton, and Mr. Hibbard.

Edmund Burke examined:

Question by Mr. Stanly. State what you may know in relation to the different subjects embraced in the resolution of the House appointing this committee, and now before you.

Answer. In relation to that portion of the resolution inquiring "what persons holding office under the last administration, as clerks in any of the public offices, Auditors, heads of bureaus, Commissioner of Patents, or Assistant Postmasters General, were correspondents of newspapers, wrote for, or edited newspapers, &c.," so far as the same relates to myself, I decline to answer, on the ground that by the present Executive of the United States such acts are held to be political offences, to be punished by removal; and if that doctrine shall prevail under future Executives, such acts will be deemed a disqualification against holding offices of trust and emolument under the United States. I therefore decline to answer that portion of the inquiry above set forth, for the reason above assigned, and for the additional reason that removals for such cause imply disparagement of character, inasmuch as they imply want of trust and fidelity to the United States in persons holding office under the government of the United States. So far as other persons are concerned, I know nothing, except in relation to William D. Wallach, who was a clerk in the Post Office Department, and a temporary clerk for a few days in the Patent Office, and who, I understood, was a correspondent for one or more newspapers, but I have no personal knowledge of the fact. And whether or not he wrote any political matter for the papers referred to, or wrote it in office hours, I do not know; nor do I remember whether or not he or any one else ever informed me of the character of his letters. I do not know as he wrote any letters while he was employed in the Patent Office. I understood that, when not employed in the office, he was employed in reporting the proceedings of Congress. I do not know what his salary was when he was in the Post Office Department; but, while he was employed in the Patent Office, he was paid ten cents for every hundred words which he copied, and no more, as was every temporary clerk employed in that office. He executed the work which was assigned to him in season, and in an acceptable manner—which was the only thing that I, as the Commissioner of Patents, was interested in, or cared about.

In reply to that portion of the resolution embracing the following words, viz: "And who, in particular, was the author of certain essays signed 'Bundelcund,' and what office he then held," I answer that, if the committee mean the essays signed "Bundelcund," which are in the words and figures following, viz: * * * I say, if the foregoing essays are the essays alluded to by the committee, I have on many occasions, and do now acknowledge that I am the author of them. They were written under the following circumstances: Thomas Ritchie, esq., then and now the editor of the Union newspaper, published in this city, anticipating that the subject of a revision of the tariff would become a subject of discussion before the people and the Congress then next ensuing, namely, the 29th Congress, called upon me, and requested me to prepare a series of articles, or communications, to be published in his newspaper. Knowing well the immense and severe labor which the preparation of such articles, which should faithfully and thoroughly explain and elucidate the subject—which, in my judgment, not only involved the highest questions of political economy, but, in fact, the great problem of free govern-

ment—would require, I begged hard to be excused; but Mr. Ritchie was pressing in his request, and I finally yielded, and consented to prepare the articles desired by him, and did write them, and they were published in the Union newspaper, under the signature of "Bundelcund," in the summer and autumn of 1845. As it may be a matter of interest, or curiosity at least, on the part of the committee and the House of Representatives, whose organ the committee is, to know why I selected the signature which I did, I will briefly relate it: After I had consented to write the articles in question, I was then puzzled to fix upon a signature, or "*nomme de plume*," which was not only appropriate to the subject-matter of the essays, but was also not old and hackneyed, like those of "Washington," "Franklin," "Hamilton," "Honestus," "Pacificus," &c., which had been so often used by political scribblers as to be utterly worn threadbare. Therefore, I desired to get a new and original signature, as well as one which was appropriate; and I fixed upon that of "Bundelcund" for this reason: in the course of my reading and investigation in relation to the tariff, and subjects of finance and political economy, I had occasion to acquaint myself with the efforts of the British government to establish the cultivation of the American varieties of cotton in Hindostan; and "Bundelcund" being one of the provinces of that country in which they tried the experiment and failed, I selected that name, partly because it was appropriate, remotely at least, but more particularly because it was unique and novel. That is the reason why I selected the signature of "Bundelcund."

Those essays were all written out of office hours—setting up late of nights, and getting up early of mornings, while I was collecting the materials and writing them; never permitting their preparation to interfere with my official duties in the office which I then held.

There are other circumstances connected with those essays which it is proper for me to relate. After they had appeared in the Union newspaper, I received many letters, from persons in different parts of the country, desiring that they should be published in pamphlet form; and many members of Congress desired their publication in that form also. I asked Messrs. Ritchie & Heiss what price they would ask for 100 copies, published in pamphlet form. They answered, Five dollars. Deeming that price too high, I then went to John C. Rives, of this city, and inquired of him what would be his price. He said he would print them at a cheaper rate, if he could; but, having so much public work on hand, he could not well do it, and recommended me to the Messrs. Gideon, of this city, sound whigs, and now publishers (or one of them, at least) of the Republic newspaper of this city. I then went to them, and they informed me that, if I would stipulate to take 10,000 copies, they would print the essays in pamphlet form at two dollars per hundred copies. The members of Congress signed for that number of copies, I believe, in one day. I subscribed for 500 copies at the same rate, and paid for them. And I understand many thousands more were subscribed for and printed; and many more were wanted by persons at a distance after the forms were distributed, and therefore could not be supplied.

When I wrote those essays, I was Commissioner of Patents, and received a salary at the rate of \$3,000 per annum.

In relation to the remaining portions of the resolution, I have to say that I do not know, except from hearsay and publications in newspapers, that

any officer of the government of the United States, during the last administration, was absent from his post of duty making "public speeches and addresses against the election of General Taylor." I never heard a speech or address made by such a person. I was never absent for such a purpose, and never made a speech or public address against General Taylor. As to the payment of money to prevent his election by any persons holding offices under the late administration—so far as other persons are concerned, I know nothing, of my own knowledge; so far as I am myself concerned, I decline to answer, for the reasons expressed in my reply to the first part of the interrogation.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 12, 1850.

The committee met.

Present: Mr. Stanly, Mr. Fitch, Mr. Williams, Mr. Stanton, Mr. McWillie, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Schenck, Mr. Haymond, and Mr. Hibbard.

Edmund Burke, a witness, appeared again, and his examination was resumed:

Question by Mr. Schenck. Are the committee to understand that you refuse to answer as to what writing you may have done while you were holding the office of Commissioner of Patents, as a correspondent or editor of any political newspaper, except what you admit as to the authorship of the essays signed "Bundelcund;" and that you also refuse to answer as to any part you may have had yourself in paying or contributing money, while you held said office, to prevent the election of General Taylor, or to be used as an electioneering fund?

Answer. I do refuse to answer, for my reasons as stated before. And I will add, that I admit the authorship of the "Bundelcund" essays only because that had before been published to the world, and my name had appeared as the writer of them on the title-page of the pamphlet in which they were published in collected form.

Mr. Burke was then requested by the committee to withdraw, and retired.

Mr. Schenck offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the essays signed "Bundelcund," sought by Mr. Burke to be incorporated, as the articles written by him, into his answer to the first question asked him, shall not be copied into the journal of the proceedings of the committee, nor received as a legitimate part of said answer.

Which was adopted by the following vote:

YEAS—Messrs. Briggs, Schenck, Haymond, Williams, and Stanly.

NAYS—Messrs. Stanton, Fitch, McWillie, and Hibbard.

Mr. Schenck moved the following resolution:

Resolved, That the refusal of Edmund Burke to answer questions propounded by the committee be reported to the House, and its advice and order asked thereon.

And, on Mr. Schenck's motion, the resolution was for the present laid upon the table.

The committee then adjourned.

THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 13, 1850.

Committee met, pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Mr. Stanly, Mr. Williams, Mr. Fitch, Mr. Stanton, and Mr. Briggs.

Thomas Ritchie, being present, and duly sworn, testified as follows:

1. *By Mr. Stanly.* State what you may know in relation to the different subjects mentioned in the resolution of the House appointing this committee, and now before you.

Answer. As to the correspondents of the Union, the committee must excuse me from answering. I do not conceive myself at liberty to betray the correspondents of my press. As to the correspondents of the other newspapers of the country, I know nothing, of my own knowledge. I have not a single scruple in announcing the author of "Bundelcund," because, he has publicly announced his own name. Mr. Burke wrote those essays specially at my request; and I have every reason to believe that he wrote them out of office hours, and at times which he dedicated to his own inclination or amusement. As to public addresses which were made by any of the office-holders, or any interference they exerted, during the presidential campaign or at any other period, I may say, I attended no meetings of the people out of the District. There were public meetings held in this city, particularly at the call of the Jackson Association, which I frequently attended; and I distinctly recollect several gentlemen also attending, who then held offices under the government, but all of them have been since removed from office, with the exception of one, who is dead. I particularly recollect General McCalla, Mr. Wm. J. Brown, Mr. Wood, of Virginia, and Mr. Lund Washington, who is now no more. Among the speakers were General McCalla and Mr. Wood. I also recollect that B. F. Brown was present, and spoke.

As to the 4th inquiry, respecting the electioneering fund, I recollect only the case of Major Scott, who was navy agent, but who has since been removed from office. He asked of me a subscription for an electioneering fund. I do not know the name of a single other person who subscribed to that fund.

2. *By same.* Do you know what the whole amount of the subscription was?

Answer. I do not.

3. *By same.* Was the author of the communication in the Union of September 12, 1848, an office-holder embraced in the resolution of the House?

Answer. With due respect, the committee must excuse me for refusing to disclose anything in relation to the correspondents of the Union.

4. *By same.* Did B. F. Brown, while in office, write or deliver any public addresses or speeches?

Answer. As to writing for any other paper than the Union, I know nothing. I do not know that he wrote any addresses which were published in handbill or pamphlet form. I have already stated that he spoke at the Jackson Association meetings.

5. *By same.* Did B. F. Brown, or any other office-holder referred to in the resolution, write an address to the people of the United States purporting to embody the incidents in the life of General Cass, and his merits as a candidate for the presidency?

Mr. Fitch objected to the above question, for the reason that it was not authorized by the resolution of the House, and it implied that a biography of General Cass was written as an address to the people of the United States.

The question being submitted, the objection was not sustained:

YEAS—Messrs. Fitch and Hibbard.

NAYS—Messrs. Stanly, Stanton, Schenck, Briggs, and Haymond.

Answer. I do not know, of my personal knowledge. [It was generally understood that he was concerned in the publication of it; and this, as well as I recollect, I derived from public rumor.]

Mr. Hibbard objected to the part of the above answer included in brackets as not competent in answer to the question, being hearsay merely, and moved that it be not received.

Committee adjourned.

MONDAY MORNING, JUNE 17, 1850.

Committee met.

Present: Mr. Stanly, Mr. Fitch, Mr. Hibbard, Mr. Briggs, and Mr. Haymond.

The following letter was laid before the committee:

“JUNE 17, 1850.

“SIR: On reflection, I have come to the conclusion to waive, and hereby waive, the objection which I made to testifying in relation to certain inquiries propounded under the resolution mentioned below, and am now ready to be further examined, if it be the pleasure of the committee.

“I have the honor to be, very respectfully, &c.,

“EDMUND BURKE.

“To the HON. EDWARD STANLY,

“*Chairman of the Committee of the Ho. Reps.*

“*Appointed under the resolution of 6th May, 1850.*”

Committee adjourned till to-morrow morning, 10 o'clock.

FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 22, 1850.

Committee met.

Present: Mr. Stanly, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Hibbard, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Stanton.

C. P. Sengstack, being sworn, deposed as follows:

Question by Mr. Stanly. State what you may know relative to the several subjects referred to in the resolution of the House of Representatives of May 6, 1850, and now before you.

Answer. As to the correspondents of newspapers, and persons writing for newspapers, I have no knowledge—know nothing except from rumor. I know nothing of the author of the essays signed “Bundelcund,” except from rumor. I know nothing of the officers named in the resolution making speeches and public addresses, except Mr. Norris, who held a temporary place under the government. As to the officers named in the resolution being called upon or required to subscribe or pay money for an electioneering fund against General Taylor, I decline to answer, unless I can also state what officers paid money for an electioneering fund in favor of General Taylor.

Question. What office did you hold under the last administration?

Answer. I was warden of the penitentiary.

Committee adjourned.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JUNE 26, 1850.

Committee met.

Present: Mr. Hibbard, Mr. Williams, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Fitch, and Mr. Stanly.

Ordered, That the examination of Mr. Burke be resumed.

Question by Mr. Stanly. Do you know what persons holding office under the last administration, named in the resolution of the House of Representatives, May 6, 1850, were correspondents of newspapers, wrote for, or edited newspapers?

Answer. I know of no person writing for newspapers except myself and William D. Wallach; and I do not know that he wrote for newspapers, except from his own statement, which was to this effect: that he was employed to report congressional proceedings for certain papers, or the substance of them; I do not know for what papers, nor did he ever tell me, to the best of my recollection. I wrote editorial articles and some communications for Mr. Ritchie for the Union. I also wrote three or four letters to the Boston Post, and, also, perhaps six for the New Hampshire Patriot, and I believe two or three for the New Hampshire Argus and Spectator. One of the articles written for the Union was a general defence of Mr. Polk's administration from the charges of the New York Express, on the subject of removals from office. Other articles I wrote in defence of myself officially, as Commissioner of Patents, against attacks against me officially by the New York Express. Another series of editorial articles which I wrote for the Union was a review of the speech of the Hon. Daniel Webster, delivered at Springfield, Massachusetts, and a general defence of the Mexican war, which Mr. Webster assailed in his speech alluded to. I presume I wrote a few other short editorials—I do not remember precisely what they were—for the Union. Among the communications were the "Bundelcund" essays, concerning which I have already testified. Another long and elaborate communication was a review of the theory of the protective policy, as advocated in the Plough, Loom, and Anvil. Another communication which I remember was a respectful article in the Union, addressed to General Taylor, setting forth the circumstances under which he was elected, and the proper policy which he should pursue as President of the United States, in view of those circumstances. Another communication was in relation to the Hon. John P. Hale, in relation to congressional books. And another was written with a view to defeat the appointment of William Gibbs McNeill to the office of brigadier general in the army, for the course he took in the Rhode Island revolution. I might have written other communications, but I do not remember particularly what they were. While I wrote the communications and editorials for the Union and other newspapers, I held the office of Commissioner of Patents; but not one of them, to my recollection, was written during office hours. I will here state, in view of the testimony I have given, that I would not hold any office within the gift of the President of the United States, except upon condition that I should be permitted to enjoy and exercise the rights of a free and independent citizen. I will add, that I never received any compen-

sation for any articles, letters, or communications, I wrote while I held office under Mr. Polk's administration. With regard to the articles reviewing Mr. Webster's speech, I desire to add, that they were written at the especial request of Mr. Polk, then President of the United States. As to the officers named in the resolution absenting themselves to make speeches, I have no knowledge, except from report, as I have before stated; and, although my name was on the circular signed by myself, with General Foote and William J. Brown, of which I was the author, I had really but very little to do with the presidential campaign of 1848. I was absent from Washington, in western New York and other portions of the Union, collecting agricultural and commercial statistics for my annual report, during six or eight weeks, embracing the busiest period of that campaign; and while I was absent, I carefully avoided speaking on the subject of politics, and uniformly abstained from voting, in steamboats and railroad cars, when the opinions of the passengers were taken. All I can say, of my own knowledge, of officers being called on to subscribe or pay money, as referred to in the resolution, is as regards myself: I paid twenty five dollars, to be appropriated for the purposes of the election, on the democratic side. I do not know how much money was raised by the central democratic committee, nor how a dollar of it was appropriated, of my own knowledge. I always understood and heard it was appropriated for the purpose of buying documents to circulate among the people. The money was for Mr. B. B. French, as treasurer of the Democratic Association.

Further this deponent saith not.

EDMUND BURKE.

Committee adjourned till to-morrow morning.

THURSDAY MORNING, JUNE 27, 1850.

Committee met.

Present: Mr. Williams, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Haymond, Mr. Schenck, and Mr. Stanly.

J. T. Clements, being duly sworn, deposed as follows:

1. *Question by Mr. Stanly.* State what you know in relation to the several matters embraced in the resolution of the House now read to you, and authorizing investigations by this committee.

Answer. I do not know that I have any information upon the subjects referred to, except what little I acquired by having charge of the folding-room of the House of Representatives, during the year 1848. I was one of the messengers appointed by the Doorkeeper. A quantity of documents, containing speeches, circulars, and addresses of various characters, were sent, during the presidential campaign of that year, to the folding-room, to be folded, and were afterwards delivered and taken away in the public wagon or cart belonging to the penitentiary of this District, by Charles Fraler, then one of the guards of the penitentiary, and another guard, whose name I do not know, but whom I understood to be a son-in-law of Mr. Sengstack, the warden. There were several wagon-loads of these documents or addresses—I cannot say how many of them in number, but think at least fifty thousand. When these documents first came to me, I refused to receive them at the folding room, or to fold them, as they were not marked with the name or purporting to be sent by any member of the the House of Representatives. The first load was then taken back, but

afterwards returned, in the name of Hon. T. J. Henley, of Indiana; and all the others that came afterwards were sent also in his name.

2. *Question by same.* Was an address to the people, from the executive committee of the 7th ward, in Washington city, a copy of which is now shown to you, signed C. P. Sengstack, chairman of the executive committee of the Cass and Butler club, one of the documents you refer to?

Answer. It was. That was the principal document, or the one of which the greatest number was sent to be folded, and taken to the penitentiary.

3. *Question by same.* Was Congress in session during that time?

Answer. It was not. It was along in the month of September, just prior to the Pennsylvania election, that the heaviest operation in this way was done.

I will add, that at the same time there was a whig committee, as well as a democratic committee, engaged in sending off documents, which were folded at the folding-room, which was under my charge, as before stated. I do not know of any officer named or described in the resolution of inquiry which has been read to me holding an appointment under the administration, or any bureau or department, either whig or democrat, being concerned in this business of sending off documents or addresses, or having them folded, except in the case of the officers at the penitentiary, which I have before spoken of.

Further saith not.

JOHN THOMAS CLEMENTS.

Committee adjourned, to meet to-morrow morning.

FRIDAY MORNING, JUNE 28, 1850.

Committee met, according to adjournment.

Present: Mr. Stanton, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Williams, Mr. Hibbard, and Mr. Stanly.

Benjamin B. French, being duly sworn, deposed as follows:

Question by Mr. Stanly. State what you may know relative to the several matters referred to in the resolution of the House of Representatives of May 6, 1850.

Answer. All I can say, from my present recollection, in relation to any of these officers writing for newspapers, is as regards Mr. Burke, who informed me that he wrote certain articles for the Union. I know nothing of the salary and compensation of any person who wrote for newspapers.

As to the essays signed "Bundelcund," Mr. Burke informed me he was the author.

In relation to these officers making public addresses, I heard General McCalla, Benjamin F. Brown, Lund Washington, jr., Major S. L. Lewis, and Mr. Laughlin, Recorder of the General Land Office, make speeches in favor of the election of General Cass, and against the election of General Taylor, upon several occasions, at evening meetings of the Jackson Democratic Association, but never during regular office hours. All of the above-named gentlemen were then officers of the government.

In relation to the collection of money, &c., I say, I do not know that any officer of government was called upon or required to subscribe or pay money for an electioneering fund against General Taylor, during the canvass which resulted in his election to the presidency.

Question. Were you the treasurer of the general democratic fund?

Answer. I was.

Question. Did you receive any funds from any of the public officers named in the resolution?

Answer. I received money from the Hon. Mr. Burke, and from the clerks of the Patent Office, as I was informed: the amount I cannot state, without reference to my books.

Committee adjourned to Monday morning, 9 o'clock.

MONDAY MORNING, JULY 1, 1850.

Committee met.

Present: Mr. Williams, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Hibbard, Mr. Stanly, and Mr. Schenck.

Benjamin B. French appeared, and his examination was resumed.

Question. What is your answer to the last question propounded to you?

Answer. I wish to correct my answer to the last question by substituting the name of Hon. William J. Brown for that of Hon. Edmund Burke. I have examined my books, and find I received of William J. Brown, then Assistant Postmaster General, fifty dollars, and from the clerks in the Patent Office one hundred and thirty dollars. My impression is, that Mr. Burke informed me he contributed part of the sum from the Patent Office. This is all the money I ever received from any person designated in the resolution. These sums were paid during the presidential canvass in 1848.

Question. Was Benjamin F. Brown the same person who was the nominee of the democratic party for the office of Doorkeeper of the House of Representatives at the beginning of this session?

Answer. He was.

Further this deponent saith not.

B. B. FRENCH.

James Snyder, being duly sworn, deposed as follows:

Question by Mr. Stanly. State what you may know in relation to the several matters embraced in the resolution of the House of Representatives of May 6, 1850, and now before you?

Answer. I cannot call to mind any individual named in the resolution, holding office under the last administration, who corresponded or wrote for any newspaper, for compensation, of my own knowledge. Mr. Wal-lach, in the Post Office Department, was the correspondent of one or two papers. I cannot remember any other person who was a correspondent, either for pay or otherwise.

Question. What office did you hold under the last administration?

Answer. The same I hold now—a clerkship in the financial bureau of the Post Office Department, under the Third Assistant Postmaster General, Mr. Marron.

I think I heard Mr. Burke say he wrote the essays signed "Bundelcund."

As to the officers named in the resolution making speeches against the election of General Taylor, I have to say that I know nothing positively, but from rumor.

As to the officers named in the resolution being called on to subscribe or pay money for an electioneering fund against General Taylor, I have

to say, I only know from what I have heard. I think I do recollect that a gentleman called on me with a paper once.

Question. Who was that gentleman?

Answer. It was either Mr. Flinn or a clerk in the Sixth Auditor's office, from Ohio, not now in office, named Woolcott, or possibly it may have been some other clerk.

Question. Did you call upon none of these officers to subscribe or pay money?

Answer. The person, whoever it was, asked me to get some subscriptions to the paper; he asked me to subscribe; I told him I had a family to support, was poor, and not able to give anything of consequence, without doing injustice to my family. I think I showed the paper to three or four gentlemen, perhaps five or six, at the request of the gentleman who handed the paper to me. The persons to whom I showed the paper subscribed some ten dollars.

Question. For what purpose was this money subscribed?

Answer. I don't know, except from what I understood. It was for sending some persons to do a particular thing, I think: at all events, it was for some purpose connected with the canvass. Since I come to reflect, I am satisfied that these subscriptions were not made for the purpose of sending some person to do a particular thing, but may have been for the purpose of publishing a defence of General Cass, in regard to extra-pay charges. I think I handed the money I collected to D. W. Mahon, a clerk in the Treasury Department.

Further this deponent saith not.

JAMES SNYDER.

Committee adjourned till Wednesday morning.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 1850.

Committee met.

Present: Mr. Williams, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Schenck, Mr. McWillie, Mr. Haymond, and Mr. Stanly.

Mr. Haymond submitted the following resolution:

Resolved, That the refusal of Thomas Ritchie and C. P. Sengstack to answer questions propounded to them by the committee be reported to the House, and its advice and order asked thereon.

YEAS—Messrs. Williams, Briggs, Schenck, Haymond, and Stanly.

NAY—Mr. McWillie.

Committee adjourned.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JULY 24, 1850.

Committee met.

Present: Mr. Stanton, Mr. Williams, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Haymond, and Mr. Stanly.

S. R. Hobbie, being sworn, deposed as follows:

Question by Mr. Stanly. State what you may know in relation to the several matters referred to in the resolution of the House of Representatives of May 6, 1850, and now before you.

Answer. I know of no persons, of my own knowledge, referred to in the resolution, who were correspondents of newspapers, wrote for, or edited newspapers. I know nothing, of my own knowledge, of any persons named in the resolution absenting themselves to make speeches and

addresses against the election of General Taylor. I was called upon or requested to subscribe or pay money, but I declined to do so, and did not subscribe. I was called upon by Mr. James Towles to subscribe. I do not know at whose instance Mr. Towles came.

Further this deponent saith not.

S. R. HOBBIE.

FRIDAY MORNING, JULY 26, 1850.

Committee met.

Present: Mr. Hibbard, Mr. Briggs, Mr. Haymond, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Stanly.

Eugene McDonnell, being summoned as a witness, appeared, and was sworn, and deposed as follows:

Question by Mr. Stanly. State what you may know relative to the several matters referred to in the resolution of the House of May 6, 1850, and now before you.

Answer. As to the persons referred to in the resolution writing for newspapers, I know nothing, of my own knowledge.

I know nothing, of my own knowledge, of any of those persons leaving their offices to make speeches against the election of General Taylor.

I was called upon by a certain clerk to contribute funds, while the Pennsylvania election was going on. This person presented a paper to me to subscribe, and I hesitated; and, upon his intimating that I held an office, and was expected to subscribe, I did so.

I was called upon by another person during the canvass, and I subscribed at his instance.

Question by Mr. Haymond. Were the persons who called on you to subscribe officers of the government?

Answer. They were. The amount I subscribed the first time was five dollars; the second time, one dollar. One of the persons who called on me was the head of a bureau, and the other a clerk. The head of the bureau called on me first.

Question. Over what bureau did this person preside?

Answer. I do not wish to give his name, as he is no longer in office.

The question being put, Shall the witness answer the question, by giving the names of the officers calling on him?

YEAS—Messrs. Briggs, Haymond, Williams, and Stanly.

NAY—Mr. Hibbard.

So the committee directed the question should be answered.

Answer. The head of the bureau was William J. Brown, and the clerk was James Snyder. I do not know for what particular purpose the five dollars paid to William J. Brown was intended—whether political or otherwise. I supposed it was political.

And further the deponent saith not.

EUGENE McDONNELL.

MONDAY MORNING, JULY 29, 1850.

Committee met.

Present: Mr. Briggs, Mr. Williams, Mr. Stanly, Mr. Stanton, and Mr. Haymond.

James H. Marr, being duly sworn, deposed as follows:

Question by Mr. Stanly. State what you may know in relation to the several matters referred to in the resolution of the House of Representatives of May 6, 1850, and now before you.

Answer. I know of but one of the officers named in the resolution who wrote for newspapers—I have understood that Mr. Burke wrote the essays signed “Bundelcund”—with the exception of Mr. W. D. Wallach, who also wrote for newspapers.

I have no personal knowledge of any of the above-named officers making speeches against the election of General Taylor.

I was called upon in June, 1848, by some person, whose name I did not know, representing himself as a member of the Democratic Association, to pay money for printing, as I understood, the Life of Cass; and, in accordance with his solicitation and direction, I handed over five dollars to the then Second Assistant Postmaster General, Mr. William J. Brown. Upon another occasion I was called upon by Mr. Snyder for money, as I supposed, for political purposes, and declined contributing.

Further this deponent saith not.

JAMES H. MARR.

Committee adjourned till Wednesday.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, JULY 31, 1850.

Committee met.

Present: Mr. Briggs, Mr. Haymond, Mr. Williams, Mr. Stanton, and Mr. Stanly.

James F. Haliday, having been summoned, and duly sworn, deposed as follows:

Question by Mr. Stanly. State what you may know in relation to the several matters referred to in the resolution of the House of May 6, 1850, and now before you.

Answer. I have no knowledge of any of the persons named in the resolution writing for or editing newspapers. I know nothing, of my own knowledge, of the authorship of the essays signed “Bundelcund.” I have no knowledge of any of these officers making speeches and public addresses against the election of General Taylor. I have no positive knowledge that any of these officers were called upon to subscribe money.

Question. Did any of these officers named in the resolution make any public addresses, biographical or otherwise.

Answer. Benjamin F. Brown was a clerk in one of the departments, and brought to the Globe office the manuscript of a Life of Cass, and I have every reason to believe he was the author.

Question. Why do you believe he was the author? Was the manuscript in his handwriting, or did he correct the proof-sheets?

Answer. He superintended the publication; and I heard him say he wrote it. He corrected the proof-sheets, and General Cass made some alterations in the historical parts.

Question. Did you know General Cass’s handwriting?

Answer. I was familiar with his handwriting.

Question. How many editions of the Life of Cass were published?

Answer. There were three editions, I think—one in March, and then alterations made after his nomination. One alteration was, by omitting a portion of the pamphlet, and inserting a portion of his speech on the

French revolution. The speech on the French revolution was made after the first edition was published; and a portion of the first edition was taken out to make room for the extract on the French revolution, in order not to increase the size of the pamphlet. I am superintendent of the Globe printing office.

And further this deponent saith not.

JAMES F. HALIDAY.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, August 7, 1850.

Committee met.

Present: Mr. Haymond, Mr. Williams, Mr. Fitch, Mr. Stanly, and Mr. Stanton.

William Flinn appeared, and, being duly sworn, deposed as follows:

Question by Mr. Stanly. State what you may know in relation to the several matters referred to in the resolution of the House of Representatives of May 6, and now before you.

Answer. I know of no heads of bureaus, or any of the other officers named in the resolution, who wrote for newspapers, with the exception of General McCalla: he and I, at one time, wrote a short article for the Union; but whether it was published or not, I do not recollect.

I know nothing of the authorship of the essays signed "Bundelcund."

I do not know of any of the officers named in the resolution who absented themselves to make speeches against the election of General Taylor.

In answer to that part of the question relating to the collection of money, I say, upon consultation with Dr. Collins, then First Auditor, I collected money—I cannot specify the amount. I collected about fifty dollars from citizens of this city—democratic citizens. I collected from public officers, including my own contribution, a sum not exceeding one hundred and fifty dollars. I had an office in the Second Comptroller's office. Governor Parris was, and is, the Second Comptroller.

Question. How much of the amount which you collected was subscribed by clerks in the office of the Second Comptroller?

Answer. It has been so long since, I cannot recollect. Governor Parris contributed nothing to me.

Question. For whom did you collect this money, and to whom was it paid?

Answer. I think I paid part of it to the Democratic Association—to the executive committee; and part of it was sent to the Schuylkill district, Pennsylvania, to counteract the whig fund sent there from Philadelphia; and part of it was to pay for documents.

Question by Mr. Fitch. Were you understood as saying that part of these funds were contributed by whigs?

Answer. Several whig office-holders contributed.

Question. Was the same course pursued by whig clerks? Did they contribute to a whig fund for electioneering purposes?

Answer. I do not know, of my own knowledge.

Question. Do you know, of your own knowledge, that funds were sent from Philadelphia to the Schuylkill district?

Answer. I do not know, of my own knowledge; but I had the information from respectable authority.

WILLIAM FLINN.