

Answer. Yes, sir.

Question. But notwithstanding that, the terms finally imposed were to the South so distasteful, you have assumed such an attitude, viewing the State government as a result of the reconstruction by the Federal power, that when a riot is going on in the State now you do not feel disposed or called upon to stop it, even if you could do so.

Answer. No, sir; I would not. I have felt that way. I think, however, since Governor Scott has taken his present attitude, that I would do it; but heretofore I would not have raised my arm. Through 1865, '66, '67, '68, and '69 it was universally known that Governor Bouham and myself used our influence in Edgefield to prevent this thing; but when I saw such a determined purpose exhibited by the authorities of the State to ignore everything like justice to myself, I said then, and I say now, "I would not raise my hand to stop it until the State government assumed a different attitude." If it would say to me, "I call upon you, General Butler, as a citizen, to aid us in putting down violence," I would answer, "Very well; allow me, now, to make suggestions, and treat them with respect and I will aid you." I believe that is the sentiment of our people; but as long as Governor Scott thinks he will run the State government according to his own notions, without consulting that class of people in the State, he must do it as he can, and be responsible for order. In every other State where I see violence, as in New York, Pennsylvania, and Illinois, as at the coal riots in Pennsylvania, the governor calls out the militia, turns out himself in person, and suppresses it; but Governor Scott has never done that.

This being the feeling entertained and expressed by gentlemen holding the views and position of General Butler, the effect of such utterances upon those who look up to and acknowledge them as their leaders cannot be a matter of doubt. Upon this point we quote the testimony of General Wade Hampton, (pp. 1226, 1227:)

By the CHAIRMAN:

Question. Have you heard any instance of any one who has had any connection with these alleged outrages which exist, say that they are caused by the maladministration of the State government?

Answer. I have never heard any one who acknowledged at all that he had any connection with any of these outrages. I have always expressed my opinion very decidedly against them, and I have never known directly or indirectly any participants in any of them at all.

Question. So many gentlemen have given us, as the reason for these outrages, the maladministration of the State government, that I have been anxious to trace the connection between the two, if we could find reasonable ground for tracing it. The allegation of a great many gentlemen is that these outrages are committed, certainly by lawless men, by men of very little character; that they are not countenanced by and certainly not committed by men of respectability and standing in society. If that theory be true, is it at all probable that the lawless men would undertake to correct the errors of the State government themselves? Would they not rather sympathize with extortion and lawlessness?

Answer. No, sir; I think that the solution would be very easy; in one case, a man who can appreciate all this ill-conduct and maladministration of the State government, and may see the evil of what would flow from any violence, may denounce these things very much, and his denunciation of them may lead a man with less discretion and foresight to resort to violent means in order to remedy them. I think that is the solution of it.

It is only necessary to read the denunciations of those who are supposed to appreciate the evils of the State government, and the acts of those "of less discretion and foresight," who resort to violent means, as both are contained in the testimony, to learn how nearly correct this opinion is as to the solution of the state of affairs in South Carolina. With the intelligence which enables one class to appreciate evils, and to know that denunciation in a particular vein will lead another class to violence, the country will probably not hesitate long in determining which class should be held most rigidly responsible for the violence thus willfully incited.

GEORGIA, ALABAMA, AND MISSISSIPPI.

These States are grouped together for these reasons: General testimony relating to them was taken in the city of Washington, and after-