Republican State Executive Committee—1894.

1—A. B. Bowman, Johnson City,
2—J. F. Baker, Huntsville,
3—Newell Sanders, Chattanooga,
4—B. W. Burford, Lebanon,
5—Sydney Houston, Wartrace,
6—J. C. Napier, Nashville,
7—H. F. Farris, Columbia,
8—James Jeffreys, Camden,
9—Rob't H. McNeely, Kenton,
10—J. W. Brown, Memphis.

State at Large.

John W. Overall, Liberty,
A. W. Wills, Nashville,
T. H. Baker, Huntingdon,
W. L. Trent, Knoxville,
John B. Holloway, Morristown,
E. E. Bell, Dresden.

# Tennessee
# Republican State Executive Committee.

Headquarters, Room 7, Maxwell House, Nashville.

Newell Sanders, Chairman, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Lee Brock, Secretary, Nashville, Tenn.

Hon. H. CLAY EVANS, Candidate for Governor.

Chattanooga, Tenn., Feb. 22nd, '951894.

Judge Albion W. Tourgee,

Mayville, N. Y.

My Dear Sir:-

I received your letter of 12th inst. and I am pleased to note the interest you manifest in this fight. I am still in it, but I have no hopes of being seated in the future; but I am giving Democracy such a fight here and exposing their jobs and schemes and rascalities in so many ways, that it will have its effect in future. The fact is, Judge, we have no republican form of government in the South. Bourbon democracy has kept up the prejudices of the people until they are ready to commit any crime almost, in order to keep rebel democracy in power, and from your experience in the South, you know that what they call the ruling class among the people are the class of trained office-seekers. they are leeches, they live off the people, the public. Nine-tenths of them have no ability to make a living. They create new offices, and in that way pension the old played out, worn out fossilized partisans by giving them good salaries. I some times get discouraged over the situation, and think with all the natural advantages we have here in Tennessee, it seems to me that we might organize to build up and develop these natural resources. You know rebel bourbon democracy is against progress, advancement and development. The consequence is that capital

CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2013

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is kept away, and even times when it comes, it is induced to invest in a way that it is nearly robbed and driven out.

You got your sufficiency early, and it seems to me now when I see good people sending out committees to induce capital to come South to invest that they little know what they have to contend with in certain localities. I have seen so many people that intest their money with great hopes and in a few years they are legislated against and taxed out of existance. You know what the republican has to contend with in the South. In this little oasis in the desert (East Tennessee) we are well able to hold our own. But in the agricultural, cotton and tobacco, growing sections of the South, it looks as though the dry rot had set in, and many of the energetic, liberty loving, progressive younger men pull out and leave for the north and west. You know they would not do this if we had honest good government.

I sent you a copy of the Nashville Banner containing the charges of the hold-over Governor and my answer, Of course, I answer under protest, and simply fight his charges by making similar charges against democratic counties. However, I want you to read the charges that I make against Fayette, Haywood, Lauderdale and Madison counties. These are what we call "dark counties", the colored man prevails there, and they count his vote to meet an emergency. The emergency last fall was

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to count me out, and in these counties they counted four to five thousan of my votes from me and on to the democratic candidate. But they did not count enough.

The legislature adjourned last week for forty-five days for the purpose of investigating. You know what this means; nevertheless we are going to make them fight all along the line and while, of course, I they will count me out in the end, I am going to satisfy the people of Tennessee that I was honestly elected, and I am going to take great ~~XXXX~~ trouble in defending the good name of the good people of the republican counties that had these charges preferred against them; but the scheme of the committee is to rule out our charges against democratic counties that paid no attention to the election laws (poll tax receipt qualification) in these strong democratic counties, and throw out some strong republican counties in order to give them a majority. Of course I understand that the verdict has already been made up.

Very truly yours,

H. Clay Evans

I want you to note — that in all the charges against the Republicans that there is not a single charge of fraud or illegal registration — simply making the fight on the technicality of failure to present receipt for payment poll tax,