

We fully indorse the following from the *Journal* of last evening:

That Governor Packard was elected no one can doubt without casting a shadow upon President Hayes' title to the Presidency. There is no escape from this position. Mr. Evarts' argument on the Louisiana case before the commission of fifteen applies as well to the State as to the national Executive.

The vital point in the letter is the citation from the decision of the Supreme Court of the United States. It is exactly to the point, and from its logic there is no escape. The doctrine attributed to Stanley Matthews by Congressman Ellis, as quoted, is simply atrocious. That starvation policy would be an infamous disgrace to the administration. We cannot speak of it with any patience. It is utterly beneath serious discussion.

The *Journal* goes on to say, however, that there is a flaw in Governor Packard's argument, in this—that he ignores the Legislature which is now in session, and which, being in session, is alone empowered by the Constitution to apply for Federal interference. The *Journal* thus continues:

The Constitution says that the United States shall protect each State against domestic violence, but it must be "on application of the Legislature." The rest of the clause, "or of the Executive (when the Legislature cannot be convened)," does not apply to Louisiana at the present time, and, so far as it concerns the case in hand, it is as if that supplemental clause had been omitted entirely.

The case is one open to doubt, to be sure; but can the Legislature of Louisiana be convened at this time? If it can, why isn't it? Plainly that body cannot be convened, because no pronounced quorum of regularly elected members is to be obtained. They are divided; they seek different places of meeting, though at one time Governor Packard claims there was a full and undisputed quorum in his Legislature, which passed a resolution calling upon the government for aid. If for any reason, however, the Legislature cannot be convened, then the Governor is authorized to call upon the Federal Government to protect the State against domestic violence. Under these circumstances Governor Packard made his application. A settlement of the question of who is Governor, therefore, would seem to be

all that was necessary to determine the value-

tion of individual groups.