

A HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

only evidence provided by the Constitution of the fact on which the House acquired jurisdiction.

No judgment, certification, or act of any other official body was interposed as a condition. The House is a witness of the opening of the certificates; it is an actor in the counting of the votes by its own tellers and in its presence. "And if no person have" a "majority" of "the electors appointed, then from the persons having the highest numbers, not exceeding three, in the list of those voted for as President, the House of Representatives shall choose immediately by ballot the President." Such is the imperative command of the Constitution. And when the House has acted in such a case, there is no review of its action, nor any appeal from its decision.

The Senate has a similar jurisdiction, on the failure of a choice of Vice-President by the electoral colleges, to elect the Vice-President. It has the same right, duty, and official necessity to know the result of the votes.

THE END OF VOLUME IX



ULYSSES S. GRANT, ABOUT 1866

(From the original Brady negative, now in possession of Frederick H. Meserve, New York City)

DOCUMENTARY EDITION

A HISTORY OF
THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

BY

WOODROW WILSON, PH.D., LITT.D., LL.D.

PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

ENLARGED BY THE ADDITION OF ORIGINAL SOURCES AND
LEADING DOCUMENTS OF AMERICAN HISTORY INCLUDING
NARRATIVES OF EARLY EXPLORERS, GRANTS, CHARTERS,
CONCESSIONS, TREATIES, REVOLUTIONARY DOCUMENTS,
STATE PAPERS, PROCLAMATIONS AND ENACTMENTS

ILLUSTRATED WITH CONTEMPORARY VIEWS,
PORTRAITS, FACSIMILES AND MAPS SELECTED
FROM RARE BOOKS AND PRINTS

IN TEN VOLUMES
VOLUME IX



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A HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

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