

THE KU-KLUX KLAN.

OFFICIAL REPORT TO THE LEGISLATURE OF
TENNESSEE—A HIDEOUS PICTURE.

The Committee that was appointed by the Tennessee Legislature to investigate recent Rebel Democratic outrages upon Union citizens, has made a report which is so full of horrors as to make one's blood run cold. The summary up of the report is as follows:

The outrages, which have been perpetrated in many of the southern States, and in the past few years, in the States of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas, have been of so numerous and of such an aggravated character, as almost to baffle investigation. In these countries a reign of terror exists, which is so absolute that the best of citizens are unable or unwilling to give expression to their opinions. The terror is inspired by the organization known as the Ku-Klux-Klan, which has been organized for the purpose of executing its provisions, and of punishing those who fail to bring the guilty perpetrators of these outrages to justice.

are generally made under cover of the night, and undertaken under masks or disguise, without reader identification, identification is difficult, if not impossible. Added to this is the fact that the cells within their operational areas are not visible to the observer, which makes it difficult to identify the individuals who are in the cells. It is the fact that the cells are not visible to the observer which makes it difficult to identify the individuals who are in the cells. It is the fact that the cells are not visible to the observer which makes it difficult to identify the individuals who are in the cells.

Your committee believe that during the past six weeks there has been no such massacre, to say nothing of other outrages, would average one per day, or one for every twenty-four hours; that in the great majority of cases they have been perpetrated by the Klan referred to, and

new, if any, have been brought to punishment. A number of counties in the State are entirely at the mercy of this organization, and roving bands of marauders nightly drive out every man, white or black, who does not submit to their arbitrary dictation. To add to the general lawlessness of these communities, bad men of every description take advantage of the circumstances surrounding them, and perpetrate acts of violence from personal or pecuniary motives, under the plea of political necessity. *Guards and lawless men* enter to driving their *gangs and rascals* enter to driving their

of their share of the crops they cultivated and the wages they have justly earned by their labor. Other outrages of similar character are daily committed, and the officers of the law are unable or unwilling to prevent or redress them. Your committee are convinced from the evidence before them, that it is a matter of such magnitude that will require the most correct and judicious action, an imperative necessity. The testimony they have taken is but a small part of the evidence which might be laid before your honorable body, showing the absolute necessity which exists for legislative action for the prevention and punishment of acts of

Your Committee believes that the Governor should be invested with full power to call out such a military force as may be required to secure obedience to the laws, and

of the calling out of such a force shall be necessary, then the responsibility will rest upon those who violate the laws and refuse obedience to the constituted authorities of the State. It is the sworn duty of the Government to protect and defend the people against all enemies, foreign and domestic; to ensure the domestic peace; to suppress any rebellion or insurrection; to place all means that may be necessary should be placed at his disposal. Much as we may regret that any necessity should exist for calling in the aid of a military force, yet when all other means fail to secure the end, aim, and object of all good government, we have then no choice left us in the matter. We, therefore, recommend the passage of the bill which has already

A NUMBER OF CASES IN POINT.

In Lincoln County the Ku-Klux Klan took Senator Wm. Wyatt from his house in the night, and inflicted all sorts of indignities upon him. They beat him over the head with their pistols, cutting a frightful gash, and saturating his shirt with blood. They threw him unscathed, Senator, a white Christian gentleman, and 65 years of age; his only offense being that he is a Union man and a member of the state Legislature.

In Payette County the only teacher of colored children has been assaulted and driven away by the Klan.

Spencer Griffin of Sumter County, a respectable agriculturist, was whipped 160 lashes; he told that the judge never asked him a question, but that the jury was told that he would have to do what they were told; this was the way they served them the first time; the second time they came shodding and hanging, August 21, 1868.

Steven Meddow of Marshall County, 162 years old, a member of the church 50 years; a Republican; 16th of July a party of Ku-Klux called at his house and asked if he would vote for the Radical ticket; he said he and his son voted for the Radical ticket they would hang them; that they had voted the Radical ticket before, and now must vote the

conservative ticket or they would hang them they had a pistol pointed at Mr. Meddow all the time; on the following Saturday night a man and his wife were brutally whipped; another man and his son were choked until nearly dead; all this was in Marshall County, in July.

The Rev. N. O. Hoffman, of Shelbyville, Tenn., says: "Have never seen any of the Klan, but that it exists in our county no one doubts. Several have been hanged by this secret organization. Mr. Dunlap and another colored man, who was badly whipped, on the night of the 10th of July, were taken to the jail and were left in it all day."

I believe the object of the Klan is to whip unarm-
ed negroes, scare timid white men, and break up elections.

and interfere with the State Government, and steal and plunder the goods of the people.

"I, J. P. Lewis, a school teacher, Marshall County, Ky., myself and other colored men met a party of 12 whites, and they drew their pistols on us; sworn would kill us, but finally let us go and ordered us to meet in future to take off our hats and kneel when master was driven from my house, and do as they said could stay at home and live; I saw _____ not believe in Lewis State, and drew upon _____ on whipping him."

The wife of Lewis _____ well known a citizen of Hickman.

2. Tom Kelley (colored), Maury County, was hanged on the 14th by the Ku-Klux.
3. Alpa Bailey (colored), Maury County, was hanged on the 14th by the Ku-Klux.
4. Tom Jordan (colored) was taken from the jail on the night of the 14th inst., and murdered. He was a citizen of Maury County.
5. Several murders were committed near Johnsonville the first of the month; names of the negroes not known.

6. Tom Kelly, taken from his house, in Maury County on the night of the 15th. It is believed he was murdered, as he has not been seen since.

Wm. Wyatt, 60 years of age, school teacher. Have lived in Lincoln County nearly 60 years; about 40 or 50 came to me in the early part of April, all in disguise; 8 or 10 dismounted and came into the yard; one of the men said for me were just returning from a fishing party; they then (Ku-Klux) fired on the boys, who ran away; they then left; and I heard of several negroes being abused by

men; also heard of two being hung by them; the sheriff's house was visited, and the door knocked down and the house entered; the men were not at home; he has since ascertained, on the first Monday in March, that the name of Dauphin was shot and killed by them; the two negroes also killed; all in Fayetteville; a citizen was shot severely for voting a Union ticket, but afterward recovered; the civil officers are afraid to make arrests; on Saturday the 18th, a company of Ku-Klux Klan came to my house; about midnight eight or ten came in, and after alarming the ladies in the house, told them they were looking

"I came out and told them I was being held back from coming out or they would bring me out; then, then came my bed, and despite the screams of my wife and family, I was dragged from my bed to the front of the house; while yet in my house, I was struck over the head with a pistol, and cut so the blood flowed fearfully; after sitting down, one of them said, "Negro equality?" I replied, "Very good." They all went away, and I lay there, it and as I could not have left, with your names lifted up to the most high God, swearing that you would obey all the promulgations and laws of this Government; I took hold of a

to get some water to wash off the blood, when they and the freed-slaves; several citizens have left the town of Springfield on account of their Union proclivities. Mr. A. Kelley, a colored man, who says that he resided about 15 miles west of Mount Pleasant, that he is a farmer, and about 28 years old; he was a Union soldier during the war, and was honorably discharged at the close; he has lived about two years where he now does, is a voter, and voted at the Spring election; at that election threats were freely made against those voting the Union ticket, and one of the men, who had a pistol, presented it at the polls, and told him, that if he voted the Union ticket, he would shoot him down.

did not vote as the other wished he should not vote at all; on Tuesday night last he was assailed in his house by a mob of 14 armed men, who broke down the door, and forcibly entered the house; they called for Kelley, but he escaped through the window, leaving his wife and children in the hands of the mob; they then threatened to kill his wife, and broke into the trunk and plundered it of \$100 in money, and tore up his soldier's army discharge and certificate of registration; they went out and turned cattle into his fields, partially destroying his crops; they also broke up his shot gun; he left his home

came to Nashville, and is afraid to return for fear of being killed; in regard to the November election he has no objection to the party being elected, but he wishes to vote they would not let any one else vote; and he believes such is their deliberate design; the party at his house on Tuesday night swore that no d—d Union soldier Abolitionist should live in Maury County; [witness believes he knows some of the party that were at his house, but he heard them speak certain names while they were drinking and he does not know who they were.] While he was running away he does not believe that he saw any man, white or black, will be allowed to vote any day.

The following is a transcript of a letter which was addressed to Mr. William S. Halley, teacher of a colored school:

WIDEN RECDS, UNTHRIFFED RETRAIT, KLAN OF VENGEANCE, ^{BRANITV.} ^{BRANITV.}

WIDEN AWAY!!! Ere another moon waxes, unless thou art gone from place thy foul presence desecrates thy unallotted soil will be revealed in the hell thy acts here has made hot for thee. William, act heartily and bravely thy right career, for verily the Police will be on thy neck on digitation. You and your friends will sleep an unwaking sleep if you do not.

Have you eat!!! The Sacred Serpent has been the latest time!!!