

THE DEMOCRAT.

PUBLISHED TRI-WEEKLY.

Official Journal of the City of Alexandria.

Henry L. Blossat, Business Manager

DEMOCRATIC TICKET:

For Governor:
SAMUEL D. McENERY.

For Lieut.-Gov.:
CLAY KNOBLOCK.

For Atty. Genl.:
M. J. CUNNINGHAM.

For Treasurer:
E. A. BURKE.

For Secretary of State:
OSCAR ARROYO.

For Auditor:
O. B. STEELE.

For Superintendent Public Education
WARREN EASTON.

District and Parish Ticket

For State Senator:
DR. E. E. SMART.

For District Judges:
HON. W. F. BLACKMAN,
HON. THOS. OVERTON.

For District Attorney:
JOHN C. WICKLIFFE.

For Representatives:
R. P. HUNTER, S. MEEKER.

For Sheriff:
DAVID C. PAUL.

For Clerk:
GEO. O. WATTS.

For Coroner:
DR. J. CASSON.

For Magistrates, Alexandria Ward:
W. C. McGimsey, John P. Grogan.

For Constable:
Geo. F. Smith.

JUSTICE OR JUDGE LYNCH.

Cincinnati has given the first metropolitan protest against the growing increase in crime, and the utter failure of the criminal courts to protect society. Mob law in a great city is a thing to be feared and discontenanced unless absolutely demanded by the general welfare.—When it does come it is like a conflagration that may sweep away the stately palace as well as the unsightly shame. But there are times when society to protect itself must resort to first principles. When the forms of law and civil polity have ceased to conserve the general interests and government as it goes means destruction of the interests it was organized to protect, then the law of self-preservation dictates a rectification by violence in the name of and by the people, in the shape of revolution, and even mob rule, which is simply unorganized revolution.

Our telegrams relate the action of the people of Cincinnati yesterday. That is an old, wealthy and prosperous city, in one of the richest and most prosperous States of the Union. But crime has so increased, the system of criminal judicature has become so imbecile, that public indignation reached the point of a popular outbreak in which thousands of citizens attempt to take the law into their own hands, and combat with the constituted guardians of the peace for the possession of criminals in the custody of the State. That the people of Cincinnati have not been slow to wrath will appear from the following record which was published in the *Enquirer* of that city of the 9th of March:

Time was when Cincinnati needed but twenty-five policemen to guard its moral safety. That was in the fifties, not far from 1860, and now, with but little increase in territory, a police force of three hundred men and five patrol wagons, each equivalent to twenty additional officers, its streets reek with crime. Not a thoroughfare in its limits but has been stained with human blood. In the decade yet to close over eight hundred arrests have been made of men who, with pistols, knives or other deadly weapons, have, with more or less success, attempted the lives of fellow-creatures. The six annual reports of the Superintendent of Police exhibit some startling figures. In certain classes of crime the aggregate was as follows:

Malicious shooting..... 12
Malicious cutting..... 29
Cutting with intent to wound.. 47
Assault with intent to kill....162
Shooting with intent to kill....234
Cutting with intent to kill....319
Murder and manslaughter..... 92
Carrying concealed weapons...948
Total arrests for all causes..56,784

And how has this wholesale onslaught on society been met? In what way has the Biblical injunction of an "eye for an eye, a tooth," been followed? The reply can be given in as many words as may be counted on one hand—four men have been hanged, or one in every fifty. Laxity of laws give the Queen City of the West its crimson record. Pre-eminence in art, science and industry avail nothing where murder is rampant and the lives of citizens are unsafe even in broad daylight. A certain amount of social disorganization was to have immediately following the war, but according to all precedent it should have lasted for any great length of time. In the case of Cincinnati, instead of mending it grew worse until last summer, when the culmination, it is to be hoped, was reached by the commission of nine murders, one each in as many successive days.

'Squire Sedam, who knew less of law than any man appointed to the office before or since, was one of the best magistrates Cincinnati ever had. His rulings invariably were made in accordance with the justice of the cause, and without regard to written, printed or quoted authorities. To a quibbling lawyer, who said, "You can't do that. The law"—"Damn the law!" roared the 'Squire. "I'm the law and constitution in this bailiwick." Many times cases were appealed from him to the upper courts, and in almost every instance his judgments were affirmed, proof positive that a leaning toward common sense, or justice which is the same thing, will always be sustained.

The County Jail has to-day nearly forty murderers within its walls, while outside the inclosure are scores of others: Some are under bail and some are entirely freed.

It is getting as bad here in New Orleans, and is likely to get worse with the political outlook, and the candidates for some of the offices most closely connected with the administration of justice. New Orleans may also have to resort to public violence to protect her law-abiding people.—[New Orleans Picayune.

MR. GOUGH ON SILK HATS.—"It would be no violation of the commandment," said John B. Gough, "if a man were to fall down and worship the silk hat, for it is not made in the likeness of anything in heaven, or on earth, or in the waters which are under the earth." Besides it beats the head and causes the hair to fall off. Parker's Hair Balsam will stop that and restore the original color to gray or faded hair. Not oily, not a dye, beneficial, deliciously perfumed. A perfect hair dressing. 50c. All druggists.

—HIGH heels are no longer worn on evening shoes, but are still worn on day boots.

THE CINCINNATI RIOT.

The Cincinnati riot is certainly the most extraordinary of its kind that has ever occurred in this country. It is almost impossible to understand it—this outbreak in a city usually so quiet and orderly, and whose inhabitants have such a reputation for being peaceable and well-behaved. Since Friday night the Paris of America has been the centre of a riot of unusual violence, defying all the powers of the State to quell and resulting in serious damage to property.

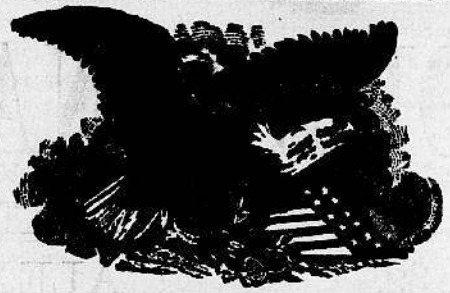
There is much to explain this popular outbreak. For months past Cincinnati has been the centre of an unusual number of crimes of violence, particularly murders of the most aggravating kind. It has been asserted that these criminals were not punished as they deserved. Verdicts of manslaughter, or even of "not guilty," were rendered. In fine, there seemed to be no way of punishing crime. The people, originally indignant over this condition of affairs, became more and more angry as they saw these criminals escaping justice on various legal grounds and technicalities.

For some months past, the popular feeling has grown more intense on this point. The papers joined in it heartily, siding strongly with the people, and insisting that some means should be adopted to secure righteous verdicts, and the punish-murderers. One of these papers published a few days ago, a list of the murderers in confinement in the Cincinnati jail—a very long list it was too—with an account of their crimes, sufficient to arouse the popular passions on this subject.

At the very moment when the feeling was warmest came the Berner verdict, about as outrageous as any ever rendered. There was no doubt of Berner's guilt—he himself confessed it. The crime he committed was murder, deliberate, planned long in advance and carried out for purposes of robbery.—This spark caused the conflagration, even now raging at Cincinnati. There was a meeting which finally dissolved into a mob. The story of the riot is told in our telegraphic columns. The original cause has long since been lost sight of. Berner is safe in the penitentiary, but the mob still continues hammering away at the jail. The whole affair is most unfortunate in every respect. It looks very much as if the riot might have been stopped very early in the day but for the unfortunate precipitancy of the militia in firing upon the mob. The sheriff claims that he had succeeded in driving the rioters from the jail without the loss of life, and that all would have gone well but for this bloodshed. Blood always incites a mob, and the violence it has shown since is largely attributable to this. It is more intent on vengeance now than in punishing criminals, and it is highly probable that the elements which now constitute it represent different classes from the very respectable citizens who inaugurated this movement against crime, a movement which has degenerated into mob violence. There must be some sympathy felt for the people of Cincinnati, who have been patient for years under verdicts like that in the Berner case, until patience almost ceased to be a virtue. But they have gone about righting their wrongs most unfortunately and most unwisely. A dozen good citizens have sacrificed their lives, but the murderer and criminal, Berner, still survives.—Besides the loss of life and property which this mob entails, it must affect Cincinnati unfavorably in other respects. There has been no such riot in any American city for years; indeed, there has been nothing like it for half a century.—[N. O. Times-Democrat.

—THE last issue of the *Natchitoches Vindicator* was printed on Saturday last, the entire stock and material having been sold to the *Review* of that place. The old paper was once a power in its section, and did much for the true cause of the people of Louisiana.

TOWN ADVERTISEMENTS.



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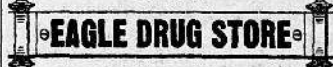
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