THE DAILY EAGLE.

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CARRYING CONCEALED WEAPONS.

The fearful prevalence of crime throughout our country is a matter worthy of consideration. During the war, when even the pulpit was desecrated to the pandering of murderous passions, it was to be expected that murders would be frequent, and human life be considered as of little worth. For some time after the close of the war the increase in the number of murders was startling, but those saintly followers of the God of Peace who had encouraged the war from first to last, ascribed this murderous spirit to the demoralization produced by the conflict, and prophesied that as soon as our armies were disbanded and our soldiers had returned to their usual peaceful avocations, this fierce craving for bloodshed would cease, and our country would return to its former peaceful condition.

Such has not been the case, however.—Every newspaper we take up contains an account of one or more shooting or stabbing affrays, the number of which seems to be increasing, instead of diminishing. Even boys of tender years use the pistol or knife upon the slightest provocation, and sometimes without any provocation whatever, and women, forgetting their angelic mission on earth, resort to the same deadly weapons to avenge real or fancied injuries.

Whatever may be the cause of this murderous spirit among our people, it is the duty of every good man and woman to assist in its suppression, and, if possible, its total eradication. The first step in this important reform is the prevention of the too common practice of carrying concealed deadly weapons—a practice which is in reality tacitly encouraged by a majority of our people. Were the truth known, peaceful citizens would be startled by the number of armed men who move daily and nightly in their midst—and this, too, in defiance of a strict law in regard to the carrying of weapons.

Writers of the present day speak with assumed horror of the barbarity of our forefathers, who wore swords, and settled their little disputes by a trial of skill with their delicate rapiers, sometimes killing, but more frequently only wounding each other, while the quarrels of the laboring classes were settled with nature's weapons, fists or feet, or in more deadly earnest, with clubs and stones. In these sword combats, however, no innocent and peaceful by-standers were likely to be injured; and man to man, when each understood the use of his weapon and all depended upon skill and practice, there was little or no advantage on account of weight, size, or brutal strength.

Now, the case is vastly different. Every ruffian who has reason to fear punishment for his numberless infringements of the public peace, carries about him the lives of six or seven men, in the shape of a revolver, a weapon from which there is no safety for the victim in speed, strength or skill—a weapon which, by a movement of the hand, will send an unprepared soul, without warning, into the awful presence of its Creator.

This general arming of dangerous and disreputable characters, unchecked by an enforcement of the law provided for such cases, necessitates a like proceeding on the part of those respectable citizens who are obliged to mingle with them in the ordinary avocations of life; and hence it is that a peaceful man is in more danger in the streets of our cities at the present time, than he would have been in London two hundred years ago. If a street row occurs in our country at present, the inoffensive and unprepared spectators are in as much danger from the flying bullets as the combatants themselves, and no person, of whatever age or sex, is safe within the long range of the small but powerful revolvers, which have become, in many places, as common articles of personal property as pocket-knives or breast-pins were in former days.

Many persons may doubt that the practice of carrying arms is so prevalent; but let them make the necessary inquiries, and they will learn that nearly all the fashionable pantaloons now made have extra pockets on the hip, for the express purpose of carrying concealed weapons.

On occasions of great political excitement, such as the late Presidential campaign, it is to be expected that many men will at times carry arms for self-protection—for it is as impossible for men to avoid quarreling over political questions as it is to prevent a man from trying to cheat in a horse trade—but at a time like the present, when political animosities have died out, and all parties seem contented to "accept the situation," it is time for the press and the peaceable citizens of the [illegible] country, to insist upon a reform in [illegible]ar.

We w[illegible] counsel a law prohibiting the manufacture or sale of deadly weapons, or their use by travelers, policemen, or other persons who may at any time be unavoidably thrown into contact with desperate characters who regard no laws, human or divine. We only ask that the present practice of carrying concealed deadly weapons be frowned upon and discouraged by all good citizens, that the law prohibiting the carrying of concealed weapons be made more stringent, and that it be rigidly enforced in all cases. Of what use is the present law, when the chances are that the magistrate who makes out the commitment sending an unfortunate loafer to prison for being found with a worn-out and useless old pistol in his pocket, has concealed somewhere on his person a splendid Deringer or seven-shooter of the latest style? Let rich and poor be punished alike, and let the peaceful citizen know that he can pass along the streets by day or night with no weapon necessary for defence except a stout stick, or his hands and feet, which would be all-sufficient in ordinary cases, were the law strictly and impartially enforced, and the practice of carrying arms condemned and rendered obnoxious by the potent voice of popular opinion.

We think that every householder should possess a fire-arm of some kind, and that he should learn how to load and how to use it effectively, in case of an attack by robbers or other lawless persons. We like to see young men proficient in the use of fire-arms, especially in the use of the rifle. The dread of American marksmen is felt by every foreign nation which ever thinks of engaging in a conflict with the United States; for in our foreign wars American sharpshooters have always made themselves felt by their foes. Had our soldiers been as proficient in the use of fire-arms as were their ancestors, the war of the rebellion would have been much sooner ended.

We like to see rifle clubs formed, and we feel proud of our American marksmen, of native and foreign birth, when we read of or see extraordinary exhibitions of skill in marksmanship. But rifles, muskets and shot-guns are not the weapons with which murders are generally committed. Such deeds are done with the easily carried and easily concealed pistol, knife, "billy," or some other weapon of the kind, with which the victim may be assaulted unawares, and which, on account of its small size, he cannot seize and wrest from his assailant. Such weapons we would prevent the indiscriminate use of by all persons engaged in ordinary occupations; and we call upon our brethren of the press, and upon all law-abiding people, male and female, everywhere, to assist us, by precept and example, in putting a stop to the fashionable, but murderous custom of carrying concealed deadly weapons.

STEAM PLOWS.

Steam plows are in successful operation in Egypt, the soil of that country being peculiarly adapted to their use, on account of its soft and level surface. We see no reason why the same kind of steam plows cannot be used in this country, especially on the Western prairies. Even in Pennsylvania there are level tracts of country where a steam plow might be advantageously used. It could be owned by an individual or a stock company, and taken from farm to farm as required, like a threshing machine. In Egypt, plows driven by engines of fifteen horse-power, turned up the soil at the rate of two-and-a-half acres per hour, and were followed by rakes, forming three ridges about two-and-a-half feet apart, on the top of which the cotton was planted. The work was continued at night, by relief gangs of men, who labored by the light of lamps with reflectors. The same system of plowing has been introduced into Asia Minor, and large fields near Smyrna are under cultivation by the aid of steam.

Who will make the experiment, and introduce the first steam plow into Pennsylvania?

THE FATHER ABRAHAM has been enlarged and greatly improved. It is to be a permanent institution, and we wish it success in everything but politics—its political complexion being such that a crow would look pale in comparison therewith. It is still edited by Messrs. Rauch & Cochran. Capt. Rauch removed from Reading to Lancaster some weeks since.

SUFFRAGE.—At the recent Woman's Suffrage Convention in Boston, Mass., Senator Wilson stated that, under the fourteenth article (the amendment) of the Constitution of the United States, he would have no hesitation in voting for an act of Congress to give the colored men in every State the right to vote. He added, however, that as many persons did not place this construction upon the fourteenth article, there would have to be another amendment submitted. In his opinion, the Constitution could be so amended, that the right of suffrage, in six or eight months, will be secured to the colored men all over the land.

THE DEMOCRATIC COLUMN!

OREGON,
GEORGIA,
KENTUCKY,
DELAWARE,
NEW YORK,
LOUISIANA,
MARYLAND,
NEW JERSEY.

The above is the Democratic Column.—Look at it. It is grand and noble, containing the Empire States of the North and the South. It is nearly three times larger in States and nearly four times in Electoral Votes than in 1864. If the lawful voters in many States had not been disfranchised by Congress and in other ways, the column would still be much larger. But behold it as it is! It looms up, and by 1872, other States will have wheeled into line, and the old Democratic party, having elected a Democratic Congress and a Democratic President, will again take charge of the helm of Government. Courage then, Democrats.—We are making positive headway, and time will at last set all things even.

"Truth crushed to Earth *shall rise again*,
The Eternal years of God are hers;
Whilst Error, wounded, writhes in pain,
And dies amid her worshippers."

—Norristown Register.

The Working People.

The Cigar Makers' Unions of New York city held a mass meeting on Tuesday evening last, to take action in reference to the resolution passed by the Cigar Manufacturers' Association, forbidding the employment of members of the Unions after November 27th. About 1500 persons were present, although it is stated that the Cigar Makers' Unions number 2800 men, employed in the city of New York and the vicinity. The history of the progress of this difference between the manufacturers and the journeymen is as follows: About two weeks ago a committee of hands waited upon the firm employing them, and asked an increase of 15 per cent. on their wages. The firm agreed to pay this advance, provided the other employers acceded to the same rates. A few days afterwards a committee of the manufacturers proposed to increase the wages $1 per thousand until Jan. 1st, 1869, and from that date until May 1st, an additional dollar, provided the state of the trade would justify such a course. This proposition the cigar makers accepted, upon the condition that none but members of the Union should be employed. The manufacturers then passed the resolution forbidding the employment of members of the Unions after November 27th. Hence, a strike by the cigar makers belonging to Unions. At the mass meeting it was stated, that the manufacturers' association, numbering 28 members, employed 550 of the Union men, every one of whom had left. Of these 195 are not at work, 117 have been provided with travelling tickets for other cities, and 57 have gone to work on the co-operative plan. The meeting unanimously agreed to work on the manufacturers' terms, provided the obnoxious resolution to employ no Union men was rescinded. The coopers in New York report that most of the shops have agreed to pay the increased rates.

TELEGRAPHIC SUMMARY

SATURDAY, Nov. 28.—

Last Tuesday night, Sergeant Cornelius O'Brien was assaulted with a bludgeon by some person unknown, at West Point Military Academy. He died on Thursday from the effects of his injuries.

Fifteen hundred Fenian soldiers, in green jackets, light blue pants and dark blue caps, and armed with muskets, participated in the Fenian parade in Philadelphia on Thanksgiving day.

The safe of the Minchill and Schuylkill Railroad Company, at Seventh and Market streets, Philadelphia, was blown open by burglars early yesterday morning, but as the safe contained nothing but papers, nothing of value was taken. One burglar was captured. He gave the name of James Hope.

Two prisoners, one convicted of swindling and the other of attempting to kill, were pardoned out of the Massachusetts State prison, on Thanksgiving day, in accordance with an old custom. They had served over half their terms.

The St. Stephen's Bank, of New Brunswick, it is announced, will resume business in a few days. The defaulting cashier, Scovil, has escaped from custody, and $30,000 is offered for his capture.

Sandwich Island advices state that the leader in the recent uprising of followers of a "prophet" has been captured. The volcano of Kilauea is again active. Commodore John Patty, a well known navigator, died at Honolulu, on the 10th inst.

The Alabama Legislature has adopted several sections of the bill to punish "Ku-Kluxism." The bill declares it no crime to shoot a person masked after dark, and imposes a penalty of one to two years' imprisonment for appearing in a mask.

In excavating for the foundations of the dome of the new State-house, at Springfield, Illinois, the workmen struck a bed of coal eighteen inches in thickness, at a depth of about fifteen or eighteen feet below the surface.

John M. Pugh, Probate Judge of Franklin county, Ohio, has been held in $5000 bail to answer the charge of issuing fraudulent naturalization papers.

Sir John Young, the new Governor General of Canada, arrived in Ottawa yesterday.

James Grant has been held in $1000 at Richmond, to answer the shooting of H. R. Pollard.

James S. Palmer, auctioneer, of Pittsburg, committed suicide yesterday.

Elisha B. Fiero, husband of the woman reported to have been killed in bed by a burglar, at West Davenport, N. Y., has been held to answer for her murder.

The cotton compressing establishment of O'Shaughnessy & Co., in Nashville, was burned yesterday. Loss $30,000.

The schooner Charles S. Carstairs, from Philadelphia for New York, is ashore at Long Beach. Her crew are safe.

The convicts confined in the Provincial Penitentiary at Kingston, Canada, attempted to put into execution an extensive and deep laid plot to effect their escape Thursday night. One was killed by the guard and the others secured.

The Cuban revolution continues, and merchants in Havana are *raising* a subscription for the pay and equipment of three months' volunteers, that they may enter immediately in active service against the rebels. Rumors are rife that several cargoes of arms for the revolutionists have been landed, but the Government there has received no official information of the facts. Negroes are much lower in price than heretofore.

A CURIOUS MARRIAGE.—Some twenty years ago a wealthy gentleman from New York arrived at St. Joseph, Missouri, and after a short sojourn left for the West. He was about sixty, and an Englishman by birth, who had come to the city when young, fired with energy and industry, but with scanty means. After years of hard labor, he gained a large fortune in the mercantile and stock business. While in St. Joseph he became acquainted with a young girl of about seventeen years, of French descent, then employed as a waiter in one of the principal hotels. The girl was penniless, and possessed of but ordinary education. She was the owner, however, of an exceedingly handsome face and great musical talent. The gentleman, on departing for the West, left with her a snug sum of money, to be devoted to the cultivation of her taste for music and her general education. The merchant passed two years in the West, in Montana, and returned several weeks ago. He found the young lady in Platte Town officiating as chambermaid in a boarding house. Being without a helpmate and possessed of ample means to support a wife, he proposed, was accepted, and the two left for St. Louis, and last week they were in that city enjoying their honeymoon.