INDIANA.

Murder of the Democratic Sheriff in Shelbyville.

KILLED WHILE PRESERVING THE PEACE.

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REPUBLICANS CLOSING THE CAMPAIGN.

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Inflow of Convicts, Murderers, Sneak Thieves, Burglars, Gamblers and Bunco Men.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 10, 1880.

I have been at great pains to get the facts concerning the political riot in Shelbyville yesterday, which resulted in the death of Sheriff McCorkle and has set the State by the ears. I will premise the story by recording that Senator Dorsey informs me that, according to John C. New, McCorkle was a bulldozer of the most pronounced type. Senator Voorhees, when I told him of McCorkle's death, said:—

"Poor fellow. Is he dead? He was gentleness and courtesy itself, manly, tender and kind. He was attentive to the sick and mindful of the poor. I knew him well and esteemed highly."

Senator McDonald said:—"If the republicans say McCorkle was an outlaw they lie. He was a noble fellow, square and above board. The attempt to prove him otherwise will fail."

Governor Hendricks also spoke of McCorkle in affectionate regard.

FACTS IN THE CASE.

The facts in the case are few. Saturday was the day set apart for the grand republican demonstration, and at an early hour the town was filled. People from thirty miles about gathered to hear De La Matyr in the morning and General Ben Harrison, a very popular orator, in the afternoon. The demonstration was large and enthusiastic, and great feeling was manifested by men in and men out of the procession. A large number of democrats were on hand, and it was plain to be seen that it was their intention to create trouble. They paraded the streets, yelling "Hurrah for Hancock!" and tried in every manner to insult the republicans and cause a fight, while the republicans of the same stripe were quite as eager for a row. In fact, the affrays should not be charged to either party, but rather to the roughs of each.

THE ROW BEGINS.

By noon they became boisterous, after indulging in a liberal amount of bad whiskey, and began to thirst for blood. Gilbert De La Matyr spoke to a fair sized crowd of greenbackers at one o'clock, but a mob of drunken fellows disturbed the meeting to such an extent that the speaker was compelled to stop. This was on the public square. Soon after a fight took place on Broadway between a party of republicans and democrats. The democrats had been hurling epithets at the republicans and finally claimed to have the wrong party of men. They refused to be bulldozed. A general fight ensued and the republicans came out best. A notorious bully named Andrew Ensminger, while in the act of stabbing with a knife a man who was down, received a stunning blow on the head, cutting a severe gash and settling the bulldozer for the time being. The general sentiment was that it was a deserved blow to a cowardly bully. A democrat of respectable character standing near remarked that the lick was not received any too soon. It would be impossible to give a description of the rows that took place during the afternoon, as they followed each other in rapid succession. The democrats fought among themselves. During the afternoon a party of democratic ruffians boldly paraded the streets, swearing that no ——— republican should halloo for Garfield. The bullies were checked in their threats, however, and soon stopped. It seemed as if the republicans had concluded not to be bulldozed any longer, and the insults were one by one resented.

MURDER OF THE SHERIFF.

The result of the outrageous proceeding has been of a very serious character. At about four o'clock a row took place in Hendricks's saloon between a party of young republicans and democrats. A party of men, headed by Sheriff Albert McCorkle, who had been called in to quell the disturbance, went into the saloon, and, after a few knock downs, the fight was stopped without any material damage. McCorkle then took Ed Kennedy, a young republican who was in the fracas, by the arm and walked down the street. He told Kennedy to go home and he promised to do so. At this time a crowd rushed up and another general fight took place, during which two shots were fired, one of which struck Sheriff McCorkle in the right breast, the ball passing through the upper portion of his lung and glancing into his shoulder. The ball was a thirty-two calibre, and was fired by young Kennedy. A man who was an eye witness to the occurrence said that he saw McCorkle fire the first shot. After he was shot the Sheriff was carried to the residence of R. D. Platz, his wound being regarded as fatal. There he lingered until this morning, when he died. McCorkle was one of the proprietors of the *Daily Democrat* of Shelbyville, and was serving his second term as County Sheriff. He did not usually take part in political fights, but was hot headed and had been urging the democrats on in their work of creating riots. Kennedy has not been arrested.

FOUNDATION OF THE TROUBLE.

The foundation of the entire disgraceful proceeding of to-day is about as follows:—There is a split in the democratic party over the nomination for County Sheriff. The candidate is one James L. Brown, and he is known as the ring candidate. He was nominated against the wishes of the majority of the party, defeating a number of democrats who have done quite the amount of work for the party that he has. He purchased his nomination, it is said, and has not denied that he gave to Messrs. Ray & McCorkle $1,000 to secure his nomination. He was almost entirely unknown until the day of the Convention. In consequence of this, many have worked openly against him in favor of Jefferson Barger, the republican candidate, who is a popular man and for a number of years has been the marshal. In order to drive the bolters into the traces it was set up to have a fight take place between democrats and republicans, in order to create bitter party feeling. This had all been planned several days ago by Brown's friends, hoping to have influence on the election Tuesday. Another plot was concocted to have Mr. Barger get into a free fight while attempting to make an arrest, and then put him out of the way. Had he taken any part in an affray in which McCorkle was murdered there is no question but what he would have been killed. Luckily he was warned in time. The schemes have resulted disastrously. Andrew Ensminger, Howard Lee, Robert Titus, Wesley Parrish, Joseph Patterson and other bull-dozers are hunted up and look badly in consequence of the part they took in the riot.

FEELING OVER THE EVENT.

That the announcement of McCorkle's death should have thrown a gloom over Shelbyville and all the region hereabouts was to be expected. Dark looks and muttered threats, passionate declamation and furious predictions of vengeance are met there on every hand. In this city the excitement is equally intense. The late Sheriff was known by all the leading men here, and I find republicans as ready to denounce as the democrats are to praise him.

THE MURDERED SHERIFF.

In regard to him the following testimony from Governor Hendricks and Senator Voorhees, with whom I have been in conversation for the past hour, may be regarded as conclusive. Governor Hendricks resides at Shelbyville. He has been his home for the past forty years. He first entered public life from there, and to-morrow, as invariably before, on the eve of a general State election, he goes down there to address his old neighbors and friends. Senator Voorhees at home in Shelbyville, as he is everywhere in Indiana. He has tried several causes there as advocate, and, like Governor Hendricks, was well acquainted with Sheriff McCorkle, of whom he speaks in terms of personal affectionate regard.

STATEMENTS OF SENATOR VOORHEES AND MR. HENDRICKS.

Senator Voorhees said in response to a question whether it was true that McCorkle was a wild sort of a man:—

"Nothing could be further from the truth. He was as big-hearted as he was big in figure, and as amiable and tender as a woman. Why, he was noted for his kind acts toward others, particularly for his attentions to the sick and unfortunate."

Governor HENDRICKS—"That was a good, amiable trait in his character. He possessed qualities in many respects most charming. He could hardly have been more than thirty years old, yet he had endeared himself to his neighbors and to the community in which he lived. As Sheriff of the county he performed all his official duties promptly, and he was a perfectly sober man."

Senator VOORHEES—I don't believe he had drank a pint of liquor in his whole life.

Governor HENDRICKS—He was a man of fine physique; had an admirable temper, and had a reputation for amiability that no man can truthfully asperse.

Senator VOORHEES—True. The man is a liar who can be brought to accuse him of a quarrelsome disposition or a riotous act.

Governor HENDRICKS—It appears that one of the same family or kinsfolks, a member of which shot McCorkle yesterday, came very near killing a candidate for county treasurer at the last April election. So far as Sheriff McCorkle was concerned in this later affair you may set it down upon my testimony——

Senator VOORHEES—And upon mine——

Governor HENDRICKS—That the sheriff entered that saloon in the discharge of his duty and that his plain duty demanded whatever course he took there and thereafter. He was there as an officer of the law, not as a rioter or an individual inciting violence. Whoever says to the contrary lies.

I asked Governor Hendricks whether he had received any private despatch which he deemed