

ON LYNCHING AND PUNISHMENT.

Some Southerners think the Criminal Should Have a State Standard That's Much in Line with a Law to Give a State Standard Some Protection Against Shutting Down Out of Curiosities.

I am getting better this week. May be a farmer's life is agreeing with me; yet I don't feel much like a farmer. For I don't feel much like getting trees and chickens. Really I am at peace all around. From the Farmer's standpoint I was much pleased of the proceedings in Judge Payne's court in Cedarville last week in which the negro charged with the awful crime of rape, tried by a jury of white men, was acquitted. I know many guilty negroes have been mobbed. A few can excuse; but they are in no condition of being tried as criminals. A mob can put the sheriff and county a name but it cannot justify any judge and jury and such. It was a shame to have such a poor negro preacher, his guilt only indicated by the statement of Sam Ross. If the crowd is obliged to mob or lynch a criminal, wait until the court tries him, wait until his guilt is proven, and then lynch him if you will; but don't Lynch an innocent man. That jury in Judge Payne's court, as well as the judges themselves, acquitted themselves magnificently when they cleared this negro for want of sufficient testimony. This world will stand up to an innocent man. The Drayton case shows that Humanity is willing for the guilty to be punished, but humanity has always reviled at innocent suffering penalty for alleged guilt. Let us try a criminal, gentleman, before a specially constituted court; let's leave the sheriff to execute him; or, if you are going to take the execution out of the hands of the sheriff, don't take the responsibility of conviction for crimes out of the hands of the courts of our country. I wonder how "Yankee Doodie" will howl over this case in Cedarville? Wonder if they have yet learned that signs up in Connecticut for the crime of rape? The last statement said that there was a howling mob around the jail.

We are having some little excitement in Carterville over the violation of our long ordinances. One of our citizens pleaded guilty to the violation of the ordinance and was sentenced to pay a fifty-dollar fine and break rocks on the streets for thirty days; but the sentence for breaking rocks was suspended in account of his wife. I understand there is another one up now. It is not against a "he" or a "she." I think they have got an "it" up this time. "It" boasted that it was going to violate the law and get its liquor wherever it wanted to, and it was going to stand for liberty, and it was a champion of personal liberty. According to the lay of the land now, it seems to be that it will have to break rocks, though I think it and its lawyer have decided that the law is unconstitutional. Speaking seriously on this question, with no reference to it, this ordinance, passed by the mayor and aldermen of the city of Carterville, is no joke. The railroad, express company, or individual that violates this law must meet that violation clear up to the supreme court of the United States, or suffer the penalty adjudged by a lower court. If I know anything, I know Carterville and I know her people. I know the good citizens of Carterville have long felt aggrieved by this constant shipping in of jugs and demijohns of whiskey and barrels of bottle beer. This is a community that voted itself dry; this is a community that says no man can furnish liquor to another, or sell it to another; that is a community that, by choice of a majority of the people, want no liquor; and, if we will not let the citizens of Carterville furnish it nor sell it, one to another, we will have something to say about how other people furnish it or sell it to our people. I believe that this community has the right to regulate its own police measures. I know of a city ordinance which levies a tax of \$2000 on the sale of cigarettes. The city of Tennessee levies a tax of \$2000 on tobacco on the butchers shop. The difference between a state and a town is that there is a little more of a state than a town; and a town has the right to do anything under the constitution of the state that the legislature of the state has a right to do for the state. The mayor and council of a town can do for the town anything that the legislature can do for the state. The legislature is as much bound to keep within the lines of the constitution as the mayor and aldermen of any city. Who doubts the ability, honesty and constitutionality of a progressive community along the lines of our city ordinances against the shipping in of liquor? If we do not propose to tell liquor consumers among ourselves, that, in the name of common sense, it is time to go under the law and constitution by which a community can be protected from the deplorable old liquor dealers on the outside who would ship it in spite of God or man if the purchaser will ship the money to them? I have no respect for a liquor dealer. I have but contempt for the dirty, lowly devil that drinks it, whether he wears broadcloth and pants his hair in the middle, or whether he goes around coatless with the ends of his breeches looking like a rag of the United States. The difference between a liquor drinker and a liquor dealer is the difference between a soldier and a spy. The publicans with whom he hangs out are as bad as the liquor dealers on the inside, the liquor dealer craves on any drunkard's belly.

We may have some exciting times over these ordinances, but we don't seem to be concerned with. We will enforce the law until we are enjoined by some successive court to the supreme court of the United States. I affirm that no decent citizen of Carterville desires to violate the ordinance. I affirm that no merchant shall be permitted to defy the law. We are too honest, too determined to keep one Georgia town dry. I don't suppose that there is a town in the world where liquor is so intensely hated and so ardently loved as in our town. A man in Carterville who doesn't love liquor hates it mortally. But I'd rather be a chain-smoker than to be a white man not patriotic and disloyal. His joy with the whisky song in Carterville I know them: they are a dirty, lowly, fat, gaudily sporting. They don't let my dog run with them. The devil is going to get about a no end of Carterville, but thank God, he won't get much when he finds them.

—
Sam M. Jones.

TESTIMONY OF A CLEVER HIGHWAYMAN.

Heated Was So Mocking to One Man
He Became Instantly Wicked.
Detroit Free Press.

"I wouldn't be here," said the crook who was bound over the road, "if temptation hadn't been placed in my way."

"I've heard that before," gruffly remarked the officer who had the crook in custody.

"That's what they all say," growled the officer, as he examined the hand cuffs to see if they were secure.

"I have been given a good education, and it was only a question of time when I would rise to a more responsible position," said the crook without noticing the interruption.

"That's what they all say," growled the officer.

"I started out in life with good prospects," sighed the crook.

"They all do," grunted the officer.

"My father's influences enabled me to secure a good position with a responsible and prominent financial firm," continued the crook, paying attention to the snore in the officer's voice.

"I have been given a good education, and it was only a question of time when I would rise to a more responsible position," said the crook without noticing the interruption.

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