

We sincerely deplore such lawless proceedings as were enacted in this place, in the popular execution of the two diggers Thursday night. To allow self-convicted murderers, and diggers at that, to lie in jail till March next, awaiting the slow proceedings of a trial according to the forms of law, was asking a great deal from any community—more particularly, one situated as we are in regard to Indians. Still we regret such deeds of violence. They have a baneful effect upon the morals of our own people, and are seized upon by those at a distance, ignorant of our situation or the circumstances of the case, and represented greatly to our prejudice.

We have no doubt that many of those who could witness, without any emotions, a Corn or Casey dangling from the beams of a warehouse, will be shocked and horrified at what has just been done here.— They were then afflicted with gamblers and bullies, and justified any means to rid themselves of such evils, and could not see why any one else would not agree with them.— But when they are out of danger and other sections are suffering from greater evils—the people being murdered and property destroyed by a worthless race of diggers—it is altogether a different case. It was their ox that was being gored once, now—it is their neighbor's.

This makes all the difference, and we cannot expect that others will be sufficiently charitable to overlook any of our faults, however much they may justify their own. But what is to be done? Men every where will protect their lives and property, and punish the murderer and robber. If they cannot accomplish this legally, they will arrive at the same end by an irregular course. Yet it will not do to justify law-breaking. The safety of the community and State depends upon the faithful execution of the laws, and a steady conformity to the forms that have been prescribed for the punishment of offenders.

