

LYNCHING IN LOS ANGELES.

Execution by a Mob, of Lachenaia, Murderer of Jacob Bell.

For some time past the escape of criminals by legal process has become so common, and the perpetration of murders on our streets so frequent, that the people were driven to the conclusion that the great criminals could not be punished by the law—were, in fact, above law. This growing feeling culminated in the murder of Mr. Jacob Bell, a highly esteemed citizen of Los Angeles, by an individual named Lachenaia, and preparatory arrangements must have been maturing since the night of the murder, for yesterday forenoon, about 11 o'clock, an armed and organized body of men marched through the streets and to the jail.

This Lachenaia was a notoriously bad character who had killed three men and is supposed to have compassed the death of others, his own wife among the number.

The particulars of the execution are as follows:

Early yesterday morning notice was given the authorities that if Lachenaia were brought out of jail for his examination on the charge of murdering Mr. Bell, a Vigilance Committee, which rumor stated had been organized with special reference to his punishment, would take him from the hands of the officers and hang him. It was thought best to defer his examination, and take measures for his protection. A posse was summoned by the Sheriff for this purpose, only two of whom obeyed the summons and appeared at the jail. They were J. H. Smith of the Los Angeles bar and Gen. J. M. Baldwin of the National Guard. By half-past 10 o'clock in the morning an immense crowd assembled on Spring street, in the neighborhood of the jail in which the prisoner was confined. At the same hour the Vigilance Committee, numbering about 200 armed men, assembled at Teutonia Hall on Los Angeles street, formed in procession four abreast, marched silently and in good order down Los Angeles street, and up Market to Spring, and down Spring to the jail; in front of which they formed, facing the building, at the front entrance of which stood Under-Sheriff Wiley and the jailer, Frank Carpenter; a few deputies and the little posse were stationed at the inner door of the entrance to the jail yard, which on this side is fenced in with adobe buildings, used as a dwelling for the jailer, council room, etc.

An armed committee then approached Mr. Wiley and demanded the key of the jail and the prisoner Lachenaia. Mr. Wiley refused the demand and endeavored to prevent the entrance of the committee, who pushed by him and commenced battering on the outer door which opens upon the jail yard, in the center of which is the jail proper, a strong brick building provided with the usual iron doors, bolts, bars, etc. In the meantime another party proceeded to the side of the yard fronting on Jail street, which is protected by a high plank fence, in which is a gate; this was soon broken open and the crowd generally entered the yard, the committee entering at the main entrance and again forming in the yard. The jail doors were found locked and barred, and an attempt was made to force the keys from the jailer, who refused to give them up, and declared that he "would die" before yielding up his trust to a mob. Filled in the attempt to obtain possession of the keys, sledge hammers were sent for, and in strong hands rung the death knell of the murderer upon the iron door on the north side of the jail. After half an hour's work upon the door, during which another unsuccessful attempt was made to get the keys from the jailer and the Sheriff, the fastenings gave way.

The prisoner was found in one of the upper cells, a rope was placed about his neck, and surrounded by a detachment of the committee, he walked out of the building and faced the crowd, without a tremor of the muscles of the face, or the slightest exhibition of fear. He was led out of the yard closely guarded, and followed by a crowd, to an old corral on Temple street, over the gates of which are cross-pieces, at the height of ten or twelve feet from the ground. A dry-goods box was placed under the transverse beam of the western gate. Father Birmingham, of the Catholic Church, administered the last consolations of religion, and gave absolution to Michael Lachenaia, who, at fifteen minutes to 12 o'clock, was launched into eternity.

After taking leave of the Rev. Father, Lachenaia mounted the box, and the rope was fastened to the beam overhead. He spoke in Spanish to the nearest him protesting against the crime they were committing. His last words were: "I am guiltless of murder; if I had not killed Mr. Bell, whom I liked and esteemed, he would have killed me." The box was removed from under him, and he fell from vigorous life and health into the arms of death.

At a quarter to one o'clock, after hanging exactly one hour, the body was cut down, and, after an inquest had been held upon it, was delivered to his friends for interment.

After the outbreak of the morning had passed away, the city, for the remainder of the day, was unusually quiet and orderly; making the afternoon a marked contrast to the forenoon, which long before the appearance of the Vigilance Committee, throbbed in excited anticipation of their coming.

Telegraph Hill yesterday, on the occasion of the hanging of Lachenaia, was covered with a dense crowd of men, and we regret to say it, women and children, who assembled to witness the execution and gratify a morbid and depraved appetite for the horrible. Los Angeles Star, Dec. 18th.

THE ABSURDITY OF TIGHT LACING.—There would be no tight lacing if girls could be made to understand the simple fact—that men dread the thought of marrying a woman who is subject to fits of irritable temper, to head aches and other ailments we need not mention, all of which everybody knows are the direct and inevitable product of compression of the waist. Men like to see a small waist, certainly, but there is a very great difference be-

tween the waist which is well formed and in proportion to the rest of the figure, and a waist which is obviously artificially compressed, to the destruction of that easy and graceful carriage which is one of the chief charms of a woman's appearance. An unnaturally compressed waist is far more certain of detection than a mass of false hair or a faint dusting of violet powder. The rawest youth who enters a ball room, can pick out the women who have straightened themselves artificially. If the young lady who, to obtain the appearance of a dragon-fly, has been subjecting herself to considerable physical pain, and who has been laying up for herself a pretty store of ailments, which only want time to pronounce themselves, could only see the stars of scarcely disguised contempt, and understand the scornful pity, which greet the result of her labor, we should have a change of fashion—and it is only a fashion. Through all changes women remain true to only one fashion. Whether her clothing is as long as that of a Grecian virgin, or whether she builds around the lower half of her figure a rotund and capacious structure of steel, she is for ever faithful to the tradition of a small waist, and she will weaken her circulation, she will make her hands red, she will incur headache, she will crack her voice, and she will ruin her digestion, all to produce a malformation which wise men regard with pity and fools with derision.—Ex

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Children's Cribs, Meat Safes, Desks,

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Can manufacture all kinds of
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A Full Stock of Shoe Findings, Stage and Concord Horse Collars.

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