

connection with that celebrated case. Without his assiduous and corrupting influence we believe the verdict would have been radically different and, as a natural consequence, the tragic occurrences of the 14th of March last, never would have been recorded. McCrystal's voluntary statement to the grand jury, partly in the shape of a confession reveals some points and causes us to think that he would have told more but for the power and influence of O'Malley and his associates. McCrystal and Cooney were the trusted accomplices and figure throughout the whole affair with a prominence showing the high appreciation in which their services were had.

WARD POLITICIANS REFERRED TO.

We cannot fail to refer to the intimate relations existing between a class of ward politicians and the prime mover in all these infamous doings. We have it most directly confirmed that the person holding the position of inspector of weights and measures was often at the agency and was seen coming to the court house in company with a salesman the day he was accepted as a juror.

There is confirmed evidence that the influence of O'Malley with the night-watchman and inspector of the electric light plant was so great that he caused them to manipulate the light at the corner of Girod street and Basin the night the jury was taken to the scene of the assassination to correspond with its alleged actions the night of the murder. His influence also accounts for alterations in the book of records at the electric plant.

From the beginning of the investigation there is continuous evidence of the pernicious combination of what is known as

O'MALLEY'S DETECTIVE AGENCY.

It advertises that one of the ablest criminal lawyers at the bar is the attorney for the agency. We know for an absolute fact that a bank account is kept and checks drawn in the names of O'Malley and Adams, the interested parties being S. C. O'Malley and Lionel Adams. Such a combination between a detective and a prominent criminal lawyer is unheard of before in the civilized world, and when we contemplate its possibilities for evil we stand aghast.

The report then goes over O'Malley's record, from the time he served a term in Cleveland for larceny, detailing the indictments found against him in New Orleans, convictions for minor offenses in the criminal courts, etc., and says:

So pernicious to the administration of justice were his doings that while Judge Roman presided in the criminal court he ordered O'Malley excluded from the room. This was during the time the detective's present associate, Lionel Adams, was district attorney, and it is a significant fact that two indictments against O'Malley for tampering with witnesses were not brought to trial, but were nolle prosequi by the district attorney prior to the expiration of his term.

THE INSIDE VIEW

that we were enabled to get of the workings of this detective agency through Detective Collins, abundantly corroborated from many sources, convinces us that it had at its command a board of perjurers, blackmailers,

suborners and jury-tampers, and that it has for some time been an element of discord in the community and a stumbling-block to the administration of justice, which should be eradicated. That its career of crime has not been cut short is a matter of wonder and is, no doubt, due to the fact that O'Malley and his coworkers were banded together for self-preservation.

THE MAFIA.

The extended range of our researches has developed the existence of the secret organization styled "Mafia." The evidence comes from several sources, fully competent in themselves to attest its truth, while the fact is supported by a long record of blood-curdling crimes, it being almost impossible to discover the perpetrators or secure witnesses. The officers of the Mafia and many of its members are now known. Among them are men born in this city of Italian origin, using their power for the basest purposes. Be it said to their eternal disgrace that a large number of the society is composed of Italians and Sicilians who left their native land in most cases under assumed names to avoid conviction and punishment for crimes. Others were escaped convicts and bandits outlawed in their own land, seeking the city of New Orleans for the congenial companionship of their own class. These men knew the swift retribution of law in Italy, for hundreds had been shot down at sight by the military in the mountains of Sicily without a second thought.

Today there is recorded in the office of the Italian consul in this city the names of some

1100 ITALIANS AND SICILIANS

landed here during several years past, showing the official records of their criminality in Italy and Sicily. Hundreds of them are among us today. We doubt not that the Italian Government would be rather rid of them than be charged with their custody and punishment. It cannot be questioned that their secret organizations, whose teachings are hostile to the fundamental principles of the government of the United States, must be a continual menace to the good order of society and the material welfare of the people. Law is the safeguard of society; its just execution expresses the will of the people in condemnation of crime; but when this lofty principle is condemned by the practice of assassination for revenge and spite, and concealment under the most binding oaths, rendering powerless the efforts of the law to reach the chief actors and secure witnesses, it becomes the duty of the people in the exercise of their sovereign rights to issue their decree of condemnation.

That verdict has been rendered; the power of the Mafia is broken; it must be destroyed as an element of danger, a creation of sepius Dagoes in this community.

THE SUSPICIOUS JURORS.

The report goes on to severely reflect upon the action of some of the jurymen in the trial. Some of the jurors testified in most emphatic terms that if it had not been for the persistent and well-directed efforts of three jurymen, conspicuous from the first, the verdict would have been materially different. It is certain that the special effort of

the counsel for the defense was to select for service such men as were well under O'Malley's influence. What can be thought when three jurors were accepted with only some unimportant questions, or the clerk told to swear them without question? This is a proceeding almost unheard of, but it has its meaning as well as other instances.

The grand jury goes on at great length to talk on

THE IMMIGRATION QUESTION,

setting forth the evils of the present methods, instancing the recent introduction of Italian immigrants without any examination whatever, and whose names even were not on the passenger list of the ship. It declares that a crisis is reached and, on the magnitude of the issue, it becomes the duty of the next Congress to quickly enact such vigorous laws that complete protection shall be afforded.

The grand jury says it has at no time lost sight of the necessity of a thorough investigation of the whole affair. They examined a large number of witnesses, embracing those who were present at the memorable meeting on Canal street in the vicinity of the prison, etc.

THE LYNCHING.

It is shown in the evidence, says the report, that the gathering on Saturday, March 14th, embraced several thousand of the first, best and even the most law-abiding citizens of the city. We found a general sentiment among the witnesses, and also in our intercourse with the people, that the verdict rendered by the jury was contrary to the law and evidence, and was secured mainly through designing and unscrupulous agents employed for the special purpose of defeating the ends of justice. At that meeting a determination was shown that the people would not submit to the surrender of their rights into the hands of midnight assassins and their powerful allies. The assassination of Hennessy was deemed necessary to prevent the exposure and punishment of criminals whose guilt was being fast established by his diligent pursuit. The condition of affairs in the community as to a certain class of violators of law had reached such a state that the law itself was well nigh powerless to deal with them; so far-reaching were their power and influence. The public meeting on Canal street was general and spontaneous in character, as truly indicating an uprising of the masses. We doubt if any power at the command of the authorities would have sufficed to block its intentions. From the evidence before the United States, from official sources, eleven persons were killed in an attack on the prisons. We find that eight of them were beyond question American citizens, and another had "declared his intention," which act carries with it renunciation of allegiance to his native country. The magnitude of the affair at the prison makes it a difficult task to fix the guilt upon any number of participants; in fact, the act seemed to involve the entire people of the parish and the city of New Orleans, so profuse was their sympathy and so extended their connection with the affair.

In view of these considerations a thorough examination of the subject has failed to disclose the necessary facts to justify this grand jury in presenting indictments.