

Resistance to the Draft.

THE RIOT IN NEW YORK.

RESISTANCE TO THE DRAFT--RIOTING AND BLOODSHED.

A DAY OF INFAMY AND DISGRACE.

We publish the following graphic and impressive account of the riotous proceedings in New York on Monday as they are recorded in the *New York Times*:

The initiation of the draft on Saturday in the Ninth Congressional District was characterized by so much order and good feeling as to well nigh dispel the forebodings of tumult and violence which many entertained in connection with the enforcement of the conscription in this city. Very few then were prepared for the riotous demonstrations which yesterday, from ten in the morning until late at night, prevailed almost unchecked in our streets.

The authorities had counted upon more or less resistance to this measure of the Government after the draft was completed, and the conscripts were required to take their place in the ranks, and at that time they would have been fully prepared to meet it; but no one anticipated resistance at so early a stage in the execution of the law, and, consequently, both the city and national authorities were totally unprepared to meet it. The abettors of the riot knew this, and in it they saw their opportunity. We say abettors of the riot, for it is abundantly manifest that the whole affair was concocted on Sunday last by a few wire pullers, who, after they saw the ball fairly in motion yesterday morning, prudently kept in the back ground. Proof of this is found in the fact that as early as 9 o'clock some laborers employed by two or three railroad companies and in the iron foundries on the eastern side of the city, formed in procession in the Twenty-second Ward and visited the different workshops in the upper wards, where large numbers were employed, and compelled them, by threats in some instances, to cease their work.

As the crowd augmented their shouts and disorderly demonstrations became more formidable. The number of men who thus started out in their career of violence and blood did not probably at first exceed three score. Scarcely had two dozen names been called when a crowd, numbering perhaps five hundred, suddenly made an irruption in front of the building, (corner of Third avenue and Forty-sixth street) attacking it with clubs, stones, brickbats and other missiles. The upper part of the building was occupied by families, who were terrified beyond measure at the smashing of the windows, doors and furniture. Following these missiles the mob rushed furiously into the office on the first floor, where the draft was going on, seizing the books, papers, records, lists, &c., all of which they destroyed except those contained in a large iron safe. The drafting officers were set upon with stones and clubs, and, with the reporters for the press and others, had to make a hasty exit through the rear. They did not escape scatheless, however, as one of the enrolling officers was struck a savage blow with a stone, which will probably result fatally, and several others were injured.

From the above it will be seen that the drawing by Provost Marshal Jenkins did not commence punctually at 9 o'clock, as was intended. Intimations had been received that a riot was probable, and Acting Assistant Provost Marshal General Nugent was applied to for a force which would be sufficient to preserve the peace. At 10 o'clock, however, no other response had been made to this application than the arrival of a dozen policemen, and Provost Marshal Jenkins decided to resume the drawing. The wheel was placed prominently upon the table, the blindfolded man stood beside it, the man whose duty it was to turn the wheel was ready, and Mr. Jenkins announced that the draft, which was begun on Saturday, would be concluded. At this time there were about two hundred persons present, and, during the twenty minutes before the riot was inaugurated, they freely made use of excited and threatening language. These ruffians did not hesitate at all about joining the main body of the rioters as soon as they arranged themselves before the building, and their exit was the signal for the attack, which commenced with a volley of stones. When the office had been cleared of the officers and other persons, many of the more excited of the rioters rushed in and played instant havoc with the machinery, and demolished the furniture and papers. The books, lists, records, and blanks were dragged into the street, torn into fragments, and scattered everywhere with loud imprecations and savage yells. The men seemed to be excited beyond expression, and in their futile efforts to wrench open the iron safe, which contained the names of the drafted, gave themselves wholly to devilish rage and fury.

The destruction of the material in the office was hardly accomplished, when smoke was discovered to be issuing from the rear of the room, and this evidence of the building being on fire was received with vociferous shouts and other indications of delight. As the flames gradually increased, the passions of the mob grew deeper, and their yelling and brandishing of clubs, and threatening of everybody connected with the enforcement of the draft was more emphatic. Some of the crowd supposed that the enrolling officers had secreted themselves in the upper part of the building, and notwithstanding the fact that women and children were known to occupy the upper floors, the cowardly wretches threw stones and other missiles into the windows.

Fearing that these poor people would either be burned to death or maimed by these projectiles, Deputy Provost Marshal Edward S. Vanderpoel bravely stepped to the front and assuring the rioters that they had utterly destroyed all the drafting paraphernalia, requested them to withdraw, or to do something to prevent the destruction of the helpless women and children. Suspecting from his uniform that he was one of the drafting officers, one of the rioters seized him and struck him. Mr. Vanderpoel merely shook off his assailant, and in a pacific manner renewed his request, when the act of the first rioter attracted the attention of the remainder, and a number of them surrounded him. They struck him with their hands and with stones, and, seeing he could not resist them, he withdrew to the place where the police were posted. The rioters followed him with great clubs, and the men, who were desperate, beat him upon the body and head. His head was so badly bruised that blood flowed profusely, when he was thrown down and kicked. He afterward escaped by the aid of the police and one or two of his friends; but the rioters followed him, striking him with clubs. He is so badly injured that there is but little probability of his recovery.

Meantime the fire spread from the enrolling office to the adjoining buildings, and the entire block was consumed.