

On the fifth page of to-day's paper, an account will be found of the murder of Michael Finnin, of this city, at Aberdeen, Mississippi. This makes two brothers murdered within little over a year, with the same weapon—double-barrelled shot guns. The wife, mother, brother and sister, of Mr. F. reside in this city, and are highly respected. In their affliction they have the sympathy of the entire community. The New Orleans *Delta* has the following additional particulars of the tragic affair:

"Michael Finnin, a citizen of Texas, was killed by Col. M. J. Bunch in Aberdeen, Mississippi, on the 13th instant, in an upstairs passage near the door of the law office of the latter. Finnin was shot through the face with one barrel of a double-barrelled shot gun, and through the abdomen with the other barrel. A pistol heavily charged was picked up near the body of the deceased. After the fatal occurrence, Col. Bunch went down the stairs, and out upon the pavement, and remarked that if there was a peace officer present he would surrender to him; and the Deputy Sheriff being present, he immediately placed himself in his custody."

"The extent of crime in this country has become most alarming, and it seems almost impossible to procure the punishment the laws declare penalty, for the commission of *any* crime. The foulest murders are but homicides, and even if the state of facts is so clear that the degree of manslaughter is reached by a jury, the prisoner is sure (if he has money) of a recommendation to mercy. Over 1200 sacrifices of human life, (murder is too harsh a term here,) in the city of San Francisco alone, within four years, and only one solitary execution, and that a Mexican, whose guilt was very doubtful and who had no *money*."

How well the above paragraph from a late California paper applies to the state of affairs in Texas. We scarcely open a paper from any part of the State that does not contain an account of a murder or some other breach of the laws of the country. In the present number, we have a murder in Caldwell county, another in Washington, and another at Mosell's Ferry on the Brazos in Milam county. Everywhere men seem bent upon violence, and for the most trivial offence take vengeance into their own hands and defy the laws of God and man, by imbruing their hands in the blood of their fellow man. The calendar of crime in Texas during the past year presents a frightful picture to the mind of every friend of peace and justice. And what has been done to arrest this lamentable state of things? Have the courts and juries of the country done *their* duty in the premises?—Have any of these violators of law, these murderers been tried, convicted and punished? Some few have been sent to the Penitentiary for short terms, but in no case has any one been convicted of murder in the first degree and hung as they deserved to be. Judge Buckley, says the *Houston Telegraph*, made the remark, not long since, that during the three years he has been on the bench over ninety persons have been tried before him for murder, and not one of whom has been convicted of murder in the first degree? The fault is with the juries of the country, arising from the sickly sentimentality that whimpers over the "cruelty" of putting to death a culprit who, according to all laws human and divine, has forfeited his life—a monster unfit to associate with his fellow-men. Until this foolish and mischievous sentiment is banished from the breasts of jurors, the murderer has a fair field in Texas; he can ride rough-shod over peaceable citizens at his pleasure, and shed as much blood as he pleases, without the fear of punishment.

Mike Fannin Killed.

We copy from the Holly Springs (Miss.) *Banner*, the following account of the death of Mike Fannin, who resided for some years in Austin, merely remarking that the statement of his being a brother of Fannin, who was massacred at Goliad, is a mistake.

A gentleman who came passenger on the stage yesterday from Aberdeen, reports a most horrible affair which occurred there on Saturday last. The circumstances related are as follows: Col. M. J. Bunch and a Mr. Finnin, who was a sportsman, but still regarded as a clever man amongst gentlemen, had been engaged at cards. Fannin had won everything Bunch had, his money, horse and buggy and negro boy. Bunch asked some time to raise money to redeem his lost property, and at the expiration of the time, Fannin called for a settlement, when Bunch told him he would pay him all he owed him at four o'clock next day. In the mean time, Bunch borrowed a shot-gun, saying he was going birding. The next day Fannin was on his way to Burch's office when some of the citizens advised him not to go there, that there would be a difficulty. He replied that he and Bunch were friendly, and walked on to B's. office. He found the door locked, and after knocking for admittance some time, concluded to leave and started down the steps from B's. office, which is in the second story of some building opposite Herndon's Tavern. Fannin had got nearly down the step when Bunch came out and hailed him.

Fannin turned his face, when Bunch fired with the double-barreled gun he had borrowed, hitting F. with five buckshot in the face. Fannin fell immediately. Bunch fired again, hitting Fannin in the abdomen with several shot. He then ran down the steps and beat Fannin with the gun until it was broken to pieces. The above are the circumstances substantially, as related. If the facts as stated above are true, it is one of the most cold blooded murders ever committed in the annals of Mississippi. Fannin is said to have served as an officer in the Texan revolution, and also in the late Mexican war; and was a brother of the celebrated Fannin who fell at the Fannin Massacre. Col. Bunch had been arrested and was still in Aberdeen.