

TEN MEN LYNCHED.

VIGILANTS IN MONTANA TRYING TO PUT AN
END TO A REIGN OF TERROR.

ST. PAUL, Feb. 5.—The *Butte Inter-Mountain*, a paper published in Western Montana, has an account of the lynching of 10 men by vigilants, which, although it must have occurred more than a week ago, has not been heard of by telegraph. The lynching occurred at Weeksville, a new railroad point near Missoula. The *Inter-Mountain* says: "Less than three days ago, it will be remembered, 'Billy the Kid,' well known in Butte, was captured, shot all to pieces, and thrown into the river, but last Sunday was the bloodiest red-letter day ever known at the terminus. For many weeks past a spirit of lawlessness, robbery, and murder has reigned supreme at that point. Good citizens were terrorized, and the rules of the robbers were so potent that it became unsafe for any man with a dollar in his pocket to appear on the street even in broad daylight, while under cover of the darkness a carnival of crime was conducted by the thugs and cut-throats, who so greatly outnumbered the good citizens that any attempt to arrest and punish the criminals was attended with almost certain death to those who might otherwise have been willing to aid in the enforcement of law and in visiting upon the head of the guilty the proper penalties for its infraction. Dire alarm took possession of the business community, and it finally became evident that unless all good men were willing to sacrifice their property and leave it was necessary to terminate the existing reign of terror. The courts were paralyzed and their edicts were defied. Urged to desperation by the extremities of the situation, a vigilance committee was organized with great secrecy, and the accessions were soon sufficiently numerous to render its members bold enough to announce their purpose of suppressing the high-handed outrages almost hourly coming to light. Once organized, no time was lost in carrying out the object of the association. On last Sunday night four desperadoes, known as 'Ohio Dan,' 'Blondy,' Ed Enright, and another man, were arrested. The first three were hanged without ceremony, and the fourth was converted into a lead depository.

"At the 'Y,' another camp two miles west of Weeksville, a similar scene was enacted. Three men, names unknown, being hanged on the same tree and at the same time. When the coach left Weeksville, so a lady passenger stated to Mr. Hart, the bodies of two men were still dangling in the air from a limb of a tree, giving the early morning scene a ghastly aspect. It was also reported to her that the three victims at the 'Y' were similarly suspended, having been thus left by the avenging vigilantes so that there should be no possibility of a return to life.

"The hanging of these seven men has in all likelihood exerted a salutary effect in improving the morals of the town, and if the protective society hanged only those who deserved the death penalty the fact that the courts were inoperative will largely justify their conduct. On another authority it is learned that last Monday witnessed the hanging of three more men whose high crimes had become known, and who were considered too wicked to be allowed to afflict the earth any longer with their presence."

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