

Insurrection in Kentucky

It is a great while since there has been any extensive disturbance of the peace in a Southern State that it was not sought for political reasons to derive from the "color line," and also a great while since anybody's life has been threatened on either side of Mason and Dixon's line without an appeal to Washington for troops. This morning's news from Kentucky will, therefore, appear as a refreshing novelty. It is pleasant to find that the American people still have spirit enough to get up an insurrection on other than monotonous political issues, and yet more agreeable to know that the Governor of a State believes it possible to confront domestic foes with domestic force. The war now actually on foot in Kentucky is one of a kind that rages in every community of people where semi-savage inhabitants of a remote mountain district are in collision with an advancing civilization. It is the analogue of our anti-rent war and of the whisky rebellion, and of those extensive collisions with highwaymen and counterfeiters that have been so common in the annals of all the Western States. In Kentucky this sort of irregular vitality was stamped out at one time. But the war between North and South, and the lessened energy of State authority as to domestic difficulties incident to it, have perhaps furnished the occasion for a growth of a new generation of fellows who must be taught by energetic examples the propriety of restraining their personal impulses.—*New York Herald*

The body of insurgents lately suppressed in Eastern Kentucky, known as the Underwood gang, was not a new organization growing out of the ill-conditioned society of that section, but rather the remnant of a horde of outlaws and evil doers who prospered in their wickedness during the late war, and were pestiferous and annoying for several years after its close. It was the principal men of the gang that were destroyed between 1863 and 1871—several of them having met violent deaths, and others being driven out of the country. During the latter part of the war they operated openly in armed squads, attacking towns and even cities, robbing stores, and committing all kinds of outrages. In the summer of 1864, a small body of this gang—numbering less than twenty—entered the city of Maysville, a place of over 6 000 inhabitants, and, by riding the streets, firing their pistols, and yelling like savages, so paralyzed the people that no resistance was offered. They pillaged a number of stores, and, with their horses, loaded with plunder returned to the mountains, and were not pursued. After the close of the war they confined their depredations to horse-stealing and small robberies, but in many cases were pursued and several of the gang shot.—*Frankfort Yeoman*.

It is now regarded that the disturbances in that section are practically at an end and the troops will be recalled without delay. The power of the civil authorities is fully conserved. The troops acted under orders of the sheriff and the Underwood gang is now effectually suppressed.