

"Evening Bulletin," was attacked in Montgomery Street, while on his way home, by James P. Casey, and shot through his left breast with a pistol ball. Mr. King lingered until the 20th, when he died. Casey had served out a term of imprisonment in Sing Sing, and made the statement of the fact in the "Bulletin" the occasion and excuse for killing the editor. This execrable act was followed by an excitement such as had never before existed in the city.

A desperate effort was immediately made by the crowd to seize Casey. "Hang the murderer!" "Hang him! hang him!" sounded from all sides. But the police had succeeded in conveying him to the jail. The Mayor called out the military companies, some of whom were stationed in and on the jail; a citizens' posse was summoned and assembled in front, and, with arms, guarded the building. Many of the enraged citizens were for attacking the jail at once. But cooler counsels prevailed, and a surer method was subsequently adopted for obtaining possession of the prisoner. The nucleus of a Vigilance Committee was formed that night, and its numbers increased rapidly. On Sunday, the 19th, the Committee appeared in the streets in great force, armed and formed into companies and battalions. They took possession of all the avenues leading to the County Jail, and the points which commanded it; arranged a strong force in front, along Broadway; placed a cannon directly opposite the jail door, and made a demand upon the Sheriff for Casey, who was confined within. After some delay, the deputies of the Committee were allowed to enter the jail and take possession of Casey, who was conducted to a hack in the street, and strongly guarded, was taken to the head-quarters of the Vigilance Committee, in Sacramento Street. Subsequently, Charles Cora, who had been indicted for the murder of General Richardson, United States Marshal, was also taken from the jail, and, in like manner, removed to the Committee Rooms. The whole scene was a very quiet, yet very exciting, determined and fearful one.

On the twenty-second, the funeral of Mr. King took place. The people of the city which had been draped in mourning, immediately upon the announcement of his death, attended in great numbers. While the funeral ceremonies were being performed in the church, Casey and Cora, who had previously been tried by the Vigilance Committee and sentenced to be executed, were hung from the windows of the Committee Rooms, in presence of a vast multitude. An immense procession followed the remains of Mr. King to his final resting place in Lone Mountain Cemetery. Subsequently the Committee arrested many other persons against whom charges of crimes and misdemeanors had been made. From twenty-five to thirty of these were either sent away, or ordered to leave by the Committee. The charge against many of them was that they had been engaged in ballot-box stuffing, and other election frauds. Generally they were men for whom personally but little sympathy could be felt. There were those, however, who opposed the Committee's action and existence as a dangerous exercise of power unauthorized, unconstitutional and illegal, and as subversive of all the guaranties of republican government, and who argued that the arrests, trials and punishments inflicted by the Committee upon the humblest, or most guilty, being illegal, were acts against the rights of all, dangerous as a precedent, and in themselves crimes against the public, and treason against the government of State and Nation. On the other hand, the Committee and their sympathizers replied that, they were the people, the public; that the people