

which might be mentioned is that of the late Mr. Justice Sanborn. We remember well the dissatisfaction expressed at his appointment to the Court of Appeal, but this soon disappeared, and Mr. Justice Sanborn ere long had earned an enviable reputation which he maintained up to the time of his decease.

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The great evil of endless appeals and rehearings in criminal cases, which seem to be a matter of course in some portions of the United States, has been vigorously exposed by Mr. Justice Parker in charging a Federal Grand Jury in Arkansas. This judge, who, it is said, has himself sentenced over one hundred and fifty persons to death, asserted that the number of those who have been murdered in the United States in the last five years is six times larger than the Continental army at the close of the Revolution, and that the number of the murdered last year is greater than the standing army at the outbreak of the civil war. In the absence of precise figures, we do not know how far this may be an exaggeration, but the judge went on to say that the issue before the country was whether or not life was to be adequately protected. He thought the people should demand of the courts that they discountenance intrigue and hair-splitting distinctions in favor of criminals. The appellate court, he added, existed mainly to stab the trial judge in the back and enable the criminal to go free. In the same journal in which this synopsis of Judge Parker's address appeared, we read of the execution of a murderer who was found guilty so long ago as July 13, 1894, and sentenced to be executed Aug. 21, 1894. The day the execution actually occurred was the fifth day fixed for it. Such cases, if not common, are certainly not unprecedented.