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TORONTO, THURSDAY, MAY 8, 1884.

WARNING.

Agents of other papers are through the country representing themselves as agents of THE MAIL and offering to take subscriptions at less than advertised rates. Any agent offering to cut on rate should be avoided, as he is almost certain to be a fraud. THE MAIL will not accept subscriptions from these parties at any price.

IMPATIENT CRITICISM.

AMERICAN writers are certainly not disposed to ignore the faults and failings of the English, much less to excuse them. Nothing appears to give them more pleasure than to get JOHN BULL on the hip, to expose his weakness, and to exhibit him in the least attractive light before the world. But if now and again he turns the tables upon them, and makes it apparent that it is a game at which more than one can play, they find fault. When has there been an exhibition of lawlessness and violence within the bounds of the United Kingdom which has not called forth a storm of unfavourable criticism in the whole of the continent? But now that English journalists have ventured to suggest that there might be some connection between the Cincinnati riot and a system of government which, in the great centres of population, practically gives the balance of political power to the lowest and vilest elements of the community, the suggestion is attributed to an evil genius and the fancied interest which England has in decrying the American system of government.

Even so respectable a journal as the Chicago Inter-Ocean takes this view of the criticism of the English press, and quotes the following from the London Daily News in support of it:

"The whole affair, together with the comments of the American newspapers on it, bears witness to the popular belief in the charge which America has so often made against their own institutions. Not only novelists like the authors of 'Democracy' and 'The Bread-winners' complain that the public estate is rotten, that politicians are venal, that even judges may be bought and sold, that bribery has become a finer art than it was in the hands of Walpole. Statists may suspect of trying to win celebrity or notoriety by exaggerating the abuses they describe. But serious authors in grave reviews repeat the accusations which are urged against by reckless mortals of the Western press. Then comes an affair like the Cincinnati riot to prove that the populace believe in the most monstrous and widespread venality. Believing this, why do they not check the mischief by the political power, which is all in their own hands?"

To this the *Inter-Ocean* replies that "the picture of political parties or of 'society' in such a book as 'Democracy' must be counted simply as the spleen of a caricaturist of low malignity, and the 'caricatures' of 'The Bread-winners' as exhibitions of wantonness of a higher order." But it will be seen that the *Daily News* refers to other evidence besides novels and satirists. It refers to the fact that "serious authors in grave reviews repeat the accusations which are urged against by reckless mortals of the Western press." To these authorities, as our Chicago contemporary well knows, the testimony of the most reputable journalists in the United States might have been added. Mr. MURRAY HAYWARD's appalling description of the state of things in Cincinnati which was the immediate occasion of the outbreak has already been referred to in THE MAIL. No one either in this country or in England would presume to paint the state of things in that city in as dark colours as that gentleman did, who was on the spot, who had the very best means of knowing whereof he affirmed, and whose character as a first-class journalist lent special weight to his utterances.

If the state of things in Cincinnati could be regarded as exceptional, it might very well be allowed to pass without particular comment; but if the same causes which produced the riots in that city are at work everywhere throughout the country, unpleasant as the task may be, it is clearly the duty of every American who is interested in the future well-being of his country to use his influence in order to have it probed to the bottom. On this point we quote the concluding paragraph of an editorial which appeared in the New York *Christian Union* of the 3rd inst. The *Union* says:

"The outbreak is local, the evils which produced it are national. The Century for April reports some signs of decay, but in 1883, 1884, 1885, 1886, 1887, 1888, 1889, 1890, 1891, 1892, 1893, 1894, 1895, 1896, 1897, 1898, 1899, 1900, 1901, 1902, 1903, 1904, 1905, 1906, 1907, 1908, 1909, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1913, 1914, 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922, 1923, 1924, 1925, 1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, 1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1941, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1956, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, 1989, 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 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