Board of Pardons.

No. 85+86

Protests and Affidavits

Filed this 12th day of July 1897

E. V. Hadley

Clerk.

[June 10, 1897]

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR THE PARDON OF COLEMAN YOUNGER.

State of Minnesota,)
County of Rice. )ss.

F.J.Wilcox,being first duly sworn,doth depose and say:that he is a resident of Northfield,Minnesota,and has been a resident of said city for more than twenty-one years last past,that at the time of the attempted robbery of the First National Bank in said city on September 7th,1876,he was a clerk in said bank and was in said bank during all the time of said attempted robbery and was an eye witness of everything which took place in said bank at that time,that three men entered the bank at that time and one of them struck J.L.Heywood,who was an employee of said bank,on the head with a large revolver,that the blow was a very severe one and caused Heywood to drop to the floor and partially stunned him,that he was then seized by the robbers and dragged to the vault door which they attempted to make him open,that they were unsuccessful in this attempt,that they were shortly after called to by one of their number outside the bank to come out,that thay then let go of Heywood and started to leave the bank,that after they let go of Heywood,he staggered a few steps about the room,but made no attempt whatever to secure any weapon of any kind or in any way to prevent the escape of said robbers or any of them,that he had not recovered from the blow which one of the robbers had struck him on the head with a revolver and was hardly able to stand without support. Deponent further states that the last robber to leave the bank leaped upon the cashier's desk as he was leaving,and while he stood there,turned and shot Heywood as

Heywood was staggering about the room in an effort to prevent himself from falling, that the shot so fired killed Hey wood, that the robber who did the firing did not order Heywood to stop or give him any other order whatever at that time, nor did either of the other robbers give him or any one else any order as they were leaving the bank or about to leave it, that Heywood never spoke after he was struck on the head with the revolver and was from that time until he was shot in a dazed and partially unconscious condition and wholly unable to make any active resistance, and that when he was shot he was simply staggering about the room in an effort to prevent himself from falling to the floor, and further deponent saith not

F. J. Wilson

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of June, 1897.

D. R. Dawley

Notary Public, Rice County, Minnesota.

NOTARIAL SEAL RICE CO. MINN.

Heywood was staggering about the room in an effort to prevent himself from falling when the shot so fired killed Hey wood,that the robber who did the firing did not order Heywood to stop or give him any other order or any one else

whatever at that time,nor did either of the other robbers give him any order at the time leaving the bank or about to leave it,that Heywood never spoke after he was struck on the head with the revolver and was from that time until he was shot in a dazed and partially unconscious condition and wholly unable to make any active resistance,and that when he was shot he was simply staggering about the room in an effort to prevent himself from falling to the floor,and further deponent saith not

C.M.Nelson

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 10th day of June,1897.

H. Deeley

Notary Public,Rice County,Minnesota.

Board of Pardons.
No 85+86
Application of Fred Jones
Filed this 12th day of July 1897
Chas. L. Pierce
Clerk

Board of Pardons.
No's 85 & 86
Protest of D. B. Thurston
Filed this 10th day of July 1897
Roland H. Hartley
Clerk.

Kansas City Mo - July 7 - 97
333 Ord st

To The Governor of Minnesota

Dear Sir - The writer lived in your state at Blue Earth city for 15 years & helped watch the roads to prevent the escape of the Northfield Bank Robbers & Murderers & earnestly protests against the pardoning of the Younger Bros

I can refer to Hon J. B. Wakefield - J. A. Kiester - S. P. Child & others - also Red. P. Brown - & see of state

Only yesterday I saw displayed in a store window on a principal street 1 square from the Post Office large pictures of "Bill Chadwell - Killed at Northfield"
"Charles Pitts " " " "
"Clel Miller " " " "
"Frank James Wounded at " " "

"Bob Mitten Young died in Prison"
& last of all
"Cole Younger in Prison"
"Jim " " "
& great crowd of admiring friends
stood around to comment on prospective
pardon - If these bold, bad men are
set at liberty you can depend on
their being lionized & shown about
the country to the demoralizing of
hundreds of young men & boys who
will be encouraged to imitate them
- They should by all means be kept
shut in till death -
- To set them free is to encourage
people to lynch the most criminals
who may be caught, & without the
forms of Law - people now have
little enough respect for Law
& will have less, if these robbers are set free
- Very Respectfully
D.B. Thurston

- Kindly send this to the Board of Pardons
but for purely personal reasons
I wish to remain unknown - It will be
safer for me -

[July 7, 1897]



STATE OF MINNESOTA)
County of Rice. ) D. J. Whiting being first duly sworn deposes and says that he now is and for more than twenty-one years last past has been a practicing dentist residing and practicing in the city of Northfield, Rice county, Minnesota.

That on the 7th day of September, 1876, he was present in said city and in his office, which then was and still is located in the second story of the building in which the First National Bank was then located; that some time in the forenoon of that day he noticed two strange men sitting on a box on the street, conversing in such manner that his attention was drawn to them, one apparently describing something to the other and illustrating the same with marks upon the box on which they sat, and that later he recognized these two men as two participating in the raid upon the said First National Bank

That subsequently thereto and before the raid he noticed two other strange men riding across the public square, whom he afterwards recognized as being of the party making the attack on the bank that day.

That when the attack on the bank was made he was in his office and being attracted by the firing of guns and revolvers on the street, he went to the door in the second story, at the head of a flight of outside stairs, and there had a full view of all that was transpiring in the street below.

That he noticed one man in particular in the street, who appeared to be in command and was giving orders to the other men, which man he afterwards recognized and knew as Cole Younger; that several of the raiding party were riding up and down the street and ordering every person whom they saw to get in out of sight, accompanying their orders with the most blasphemous profanity and foul obscenity, and firing of their revolvers all the time.

That he saw ~~the~~ a man ~~who gave the alarm at the bank door~~, running down the sidewalk, with bullets raining about him, and the robbers commanding him to get in out of sight; that he was where he could see and hear everything that was going on in the street below; that he did not hear the leader, Cole Younger, tell any one not to shoot the man, nor not to shoot any other man, and he believes that if any such words had been spoken at the time he would certainly have heard them.

That at about that time one of the robbers discovered him and with oaths and obscene epithets ordered him to get in, firing at him, the bullet striking the wall of the building near him; that he then retired out of sight for a moment or two, but soon resumed his position in the door, from which he was driven a second time by shots.

That then he went to a window and

That at that time the fight was becoming hot, not so many shots were being fired, but there was a more evident purpose to shoot to kill; that Cole Younger was still in the street directing the affair, while Robert Younger and another whom he believes to have been James Younger were attacking A. R. Manning, a citizen who had appeared at the corner of the building armed with a gun; that Manning was partially sheltering himself behind the foot of the stairs and the corner of the building, while Robert Younger was using the stairway as a shelter, and the other man, whom he believes was James Younger, was sheltering himself behind his horse, having dismounted. That he saw Robert Younger and the other man shoot at Mr. Manning a number of times, taking the most careful and deliberate aim, and shooting with the evident intention of killing him if they could do so; that while the duel was still going on he heard Cole Younger shout to his men to "Charge up on him," meaning Manning, and later he shouted to Bob Younger to "Shoot through the stairs," which Bob Younger then

did a number of times; that at about that time Cole Younger appeared to discovery him(this affiant) and shouted to his men to "Shoot that man up in the window;" ~~that shots were immediately fired at him, one striking the wall just at the edge of the door in which he was standing.~~ had This affiant then retired to his office and the robbers fled soon thereafter.

D. J. Whiting

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 7th day of July, 1897.

R. J. Drake
Notary Public, Rice Co.,
Minn.

Affidavit of
D. J. Whiting

Board of Pardons.
No. 85+86

Filed this 12th day of July 1897
Roland H. Hartley
Clerk.

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
County of Rice. )

John Morton being first duly sworn deposes and says that he now is and on the 7th day of September, 1876, was in the jewelry business in the city of Northfield, Rice county, Minnesota; that he was present in his store on the date last mentioned when the attack was made on the First National Bank by the Youngers and others; that his store was situated on the same street with the bank, on the same side of the street, about five doors above the bank. That during the latter part of the fight in the street this affiant stood in a nook beside the door of his store and plainly saw all that transpired in the street in front of him.

That he saw the Swede come up to the corner of the block, and saw one of the robbers go toward him, commanding him to "Get back, you s-n of a b---h," that the robber then whirled his pistol around and fired at the Swede, who was hit and fell and afterward died from the wound, as this affiant was informed and believed. That soon after this shooting the same robber who shot the Swede, and whom this affiant had closely watched all the time ~~rode~~ went to the body of the dead robber, took off his pistols and some other things and rode away with the others.

That after the capture of the robbers and while they were confined in the jail at Faribault this affiant visited the jail and saw the robbers therein, and that he then recognized Cole Younger as the robber whom he had seen shoot the Swede at the time of the robbery.

John Morton

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 8th day of July, 1897.

R J Drake
Notary Public, Rice county, Minn.

Affidavit
John Wheaton

Board of Pardons.
No. 85 + 86

Filed this 12th day of July, 1897
Roland V. Harley
Clerk.

STATE OF MINNESOTA, )
County of Rice. )

P. S. Dougherty being first duly sworn deposes and says that on the 7th day of September, 1876, he was in the city of Northfield, Rice county, Minnesota, and witnessed the attack made that day by a band of robbers on the First National Bank;

That during the said attack this affiant stood partially sheltered behind a flight of stairs on the outside of a building on the corner of Division street and Fourth street, where he had a clear view of all that happened in the street in front of the bank;

That he particularly noticed the man in the street who appeared to be in command of the attack and to have charge of affairs in front of the bank; that he distinctly heard this man call to those in the bank to come out, that the game was up, or words to that effect.

That it was this same man who so called to those in the bank, and who appeared to have charge of affairs in front of the bank who fired the fatal shot that killed the Swede, who had come on to the street from a basement saloon at the corner south of the bank. This affiant distiendly saw the man described shrow his pistol over his head, bring it down to a level with the Swede and fire, the Swede ~~immediately~~ apparently falling; ~~to the ground~~; that he afterwards saw the Swede, and was in his room and saw the wound in his head, and he knows that the said Swede died, and that the Doctor in charge gave the wound as the cause of his death.

P. S. Dougherty.

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 8th day of July, 1897.

R. J. Drake
Notary Public, Rice Co., Minn.

Affidavit

P. S. Dougherty.

Board of Pardons.

No. 85+86

Filed this 12th day of July 1897

Roland H. Stanley

Clerk.

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
County of Rice. )

W. H. Riddell being first duly sworn deposes and says that he now is and on the 7th day of September, 1876, he was a resident of the city of Northfield, Rice county, Minnesota; that on the date last mentioned he was engaged in business in said city, his store being almost directly opposite the First National Bank, on Division street.

That a customer in his store called his attention to the fact that something unusual was transpiring at the bank, before any kind of an alarm had been given; that he went out of his store and started to go across the street to the bank, to see what was going on; that he saw one of the robbers standing in front of the bank, leaning against a hitching post, by the door of the court house being shut, and saw Mr. Allen approaching the bank on the sidewalk, across the street from this affiant; that when Mr. Allen drew near the bank the robber who was standing by the post turned and grabbed Allen by the shoulders, whirled him around, and commanded him to "get" ~~back out of there,~~ "You ~~G-d d--n~~ s--- of a b----h." That this affiant then realized that an attempt was really being made to rob the bank, and he yelled "Robbers at the bank," which was the first alarm of any kind that had been given.

That there was no attempt made to shoot Allen by the robber who had stopped him and turned him around, that there were no commands given him to stop after he had been started back away from the bank, and that there were no commands given by any one not to shoot him, but to let him go; this affiant heard nothing of that kind, and feels sure that from his nearness to the actors he would have heard such words had any such words been uttered, as he could plainly hear the remarks that the robber did address to Allen.

That the man in front of the bank did not jump on to his horse nor shoot his pistol into the air when this affiant gave the alarm, but that another man, further up Division street, whom affiant had not before noticed, came galloping his horse toward this affiant and commanding him to "Get in there, you G-d d--n s-- of a b---h," at the same time shooting his pistol into the air several times, these shots being the first that hadbeen fired by any person during the affair up to that time.

W H Riddell

Subscribed and sworn to before me, this 8th day of July, 1897.

R J Drake
Notary Public, Rice Co., Minn.

Affidavit

W. H. Riddell

Board of Pardons.

No. 85 + 86

Filed this 12th day of July 1897

Roland P. Darling

Clerk.

State of Minnesota
District Court Second District
Judges Chambers

St. Paul, Minn. July 8 1897

Hon Chas M Start
St Paul

My Dear Judge

It would perhaps be improper for me to take any part in opposing the movement for the release of the Youngers. But it is not improper for me to assure you personally that large numbers of people in this community are strongly opposed to the pardon of these men notwithstanding the strange unanimity with with the newspapers here have attempted to influence public opinion. The best part of the community will sustain you I am sure if you decline to set these red-handed murderers loose upon society. The pardon of these men would be an invitation to the public to take the law into their own hands in such cases.

Pardon the liberty I have taken but I feel so intensely on this question that I could not refrain from saying this much

Yours Sincerely
H A Bill

Board of Editors.

No. 85 + 86

Protest of Judge

H. R. Brill

Filed this 10th day of July 1897

Roland V. Hartley

Clerk.

ANSON L. KEYES.
LAWYER.

Faribault, Minn. July 9 1897.

Roland H. Hartley.
Clerk Board of Pardons.

Dear Sir:-

Notice of applications for pardon of Younger Bros. duly received.

I wish respectfully to say to the Board of Pardons that my recommendations in these cases are against the exercise of clemency.

I have very heartily joined with a few representative citizens of Faribault in a remonstrance to be presented to the Board for its consideration in these case.

Yours very truly.
Anson L. Keyes.
Co. Atty.

Board of Pardons.

No. 85486

Protest of County Attorney

Filed this 12th day of July, 1890

Roland H. Hartley

Clerk.

4951.

# The Swedish American National Bank

N. O. WERNER, President.
C. S. HULBERT, Vice President.
E. A. KEMPE, 2nd Vice President.
F. A. SMITH, Cashier.
E. L. MATTSON, Asst Cashier.

Minneapolis, Minn. July 9th, 1897. 189

To the Honorable Board of Pardons,

St. Paul, Minn.

Gentlemen:-

I respectfully beg to protest against the movement for pardon of the Younger Brothers now confined at Stillwater, believing that should your honorable body grant the request, your action would tend to place crime at a premium, to the extreme satisfaction of all criminals.

Very respectfully,

F. A. Smith

Board of Pardons.

No. 85486

Protest of E. A. Smith

Filed this 10th day of July 1897

Roland H. Hartley

Clerk.

JOHN McKINLEY,
DULUTH, MINN.

July 9 th 97

Hon. Atty General Childs
Capital Bldg St Paul Minn.

Dear Sir

As you are a member of the state prison board of pardons. Please pardon me if I give my views and the views of many of the residents of our county with reference to a matter about to be submitted to you in the near future. And that I understand is a proposition to pardon the younger bros now serving a life sentence in the Stillwater prison. The sentiment here is universally in favor of leaving those most notorious of criminals where they are. Thoughtfull men feel that it is only an incentive for people to resort to harsher methods and not permit the law to have its course if such noted outlaws are permitted to escape the full sentence

JOHN McKINLEY,
DULUTH, MINN.

given them. It will prompt people to resort to lynch law should such characters be permitted to escape full punishment as they are sentenced. To the law abiding citizens and people who believe in sustaining law and order it would look as unjust to permit the release of these noted criminals. I simply suggest my views to you to give you some idea of how the matter is generally regarded in this community. I am led to believe that the Board will regard the matter as do the average good citizens of the State. And trust your findings will be that they continue to serve out their sentence. This letter is only written with a desire to do my part to maintain that which is dear to us all, Liberty without the danger of meeting and suffering at the hands of such people. Yours Very Respt

John McKinley

Board of Pardons.

No. 55 + 86

Protest of John McKinley

Filed this 12th day of July 1897

Roland H. Hartley

Clk.

John Kinley

State of Minnesota
District Court Second District
Judges Chambers

St. Paul, Minn. July 9 1897

Hon Chas. M. Start,
Of the Board of Pardons
City.

My dear Judge, I desire to enter my earnest protest against pardoning the Younger Bros. To do so is to measurably justify resort to mob law and afford ample excuse for its excesses. If they go out from prison walls free men I could not sit in judgment on the avenging relation of their victims who should shoot them down in their tracks.

This is but one of many weighty considerations why their application should be promptly denied. Then invading ruffians got less than they deserved by way of punishment. If repentant now let them submit for the good of an outraged state whose requisition for their equally criminal associates was denied by the state from whence they came & which is now raising heaven & earth to secure their release.

Yours sincerely
Chas. E. Otis.

Board of Pardons

No. 85+86

Protest of Judge

Chas. E. Ellis

Filed this 10th day of July 1897

Roland H. Darling

Clk.

ESTABLISHED 1855.

NICOLS & DEAN
DEALERS IN
IRON STEEL
AND HEAVY HARDWARE.

St. Paul, Minn. July 9th., 1897.

Hon. C. M. Start,

Board of Pardons, Capitol, St.Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

If the law, in its wisdom, prescribes life imprisonment as a punishment for certain crimes, it should not be set aside, excepting for the most weighty and convincing reasons. Respect for law can be cultivated and established only by its certain execution. If its execution is uncertain and fickle, people will be more and more encouraged to visit punishment upon offenders, by the summary process of judge Lynch.

The Younger Brothers' offence was most heinous in every aspect. They came from a distant state, famous for its turbulent characters, and doubtless expected to terrify and ride rough shod over our peaceful people, in their raid upon life and property. An unexpected construction of the law, then in force, saved their lives, when captured. They should not be pardoned, but the law should be vindicated to its fullest extent.

Very respectfully,

Wm. B. Dean

J. Ross Nicols

July 9th.,1897.

Hon. [illegible] Start,

Board of Pardons, Capitol, St.Paul, Minn.

Dear Sir:

If the law in its wisdom prescribes life imprisonment as a punishment for certain crimes, it should not be set aside, excepting for the most weighty and convincing reasons. Respect for law can be cultivated and established only by its certain execution. If its execution is uncertain and fickle, people will be more and more encouraged to visit punishment upon offenders, by the summary process of lynch.

The Younger Brothers' offence was most heinous in every respect. They came from a distant state, famous for its turbulent characters, and doubtless expected to terrify and ride rough shod over our peaceful people in their raid upon life and property. An unexpected construction of the law then in force, saved their lives, when captured. They should not be pardoned, but the law should be vindicated to its fullest extent.

Very respectfully,

[illegible]

Board of Pardons
No. 85+86
Petition of K. B. Dean and J. Rees Kincaid
Filed this 16th day of July, 1897
Leland F. Crosby
Clerk

The Midway News

BY ED. A. PARADIS.

MERRIAM PARK, ST. PAUL, MINN. July 10, 1897.

Hon. Henry W. Childs,

St. Paul.

My Dear Friend:

I have already expressed to you somewhat my views on the subject of pardoning the Youngers, but I don't think you will object to consider any man's views, no matter how humble. My language may appear presumptious; if it does I hope you will overlook that. It is simply because I do not want to make myself conspicuous by appearing before your board that I thus address its members privately and personally. Having given expression to my views I feel that I have performed my duty.

I am respectfully and sincerely yours,

Ed. A. Paradis

Received

The Midway News.

By ED. A. PARADIS.

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*Published Weekly.*

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SATURDAY. JULY 10, 1897.

## *RAIDING AGAINST THE UNION AND AGAINST LAW.*

After twenty-one years of opportunity for study on the subject, unbroken by solitary confinement; twenty-one years of meditation and planning under life sentence, Cole Younger has finally flashed a statement upon the public. Like all the raids which it has been the evil bend of this wonderful man's mind to plan, it comes with a grand sally, and, as he himself declares all his memorable raids against civilization have been planned, the first evident intention is to mislead public opinion. None know better than he the power of half a dozen audacious, cold-blooded, desperate assailants against ever so many taken in complete surprise. Such have ever been his tactics; such are his tactics now. The lay of the land having finally been found satisfactory, prepared partly by the creation of a board of pardon for the purpose of eliminating personal responsibility, he suddenly dashes upon the public sentiment of Minnesota with the daily press of the Twin Cities at his back, every man mounted on the high horse of influence, and armed to the teeth, firing vollies of words in their attempt to ride rough-shod over every sentiment of loyalty and every principle of true government. The daily press of the Twin Cities suddenly has been mobilized and possibly subsidized into this new form of "Missouri Compromise," and, by making a bold dash, expect to simply carry Minnesota right off of her feet. The Younger gang misjudged our people when they made their raid on Northfield. We hope they are doomed to another disappointment. According to his own statement, after twenty-one years of preparation, Cole Young unguardedly explains what a sly and audacious raider he naturally is. He gives us an insight into his innate cunning in deceiving and taking innocent victims by surprise, and displays that natural treachery, which many people mistake for valor or heroism, of the serpent that risks its own life in attempting your own. According to his own statement, voluntarily made after patiently waiting twenty-one years to spring it, Cole Younger himself admits that his criminal career dates from, took root in, and grew out of the life-and-death wounds of the Republic. Endowed with faculties which if turned to good would have made him one of the most useful and one of the most honored of citizens, surrounded by opportunities which, properly employed, would easily have made him a true hero, he turned against the Union, against law, against government, against society, against mankind in general, and from a man he voluntarily turned into an outlaw, a raider, a robber, a self-confessed murderer, a fiend of the most despicable character. Around the Youngers' first achievements in lawlessness and criminality cluster, like poisonous asphyxiated snakes in the nation's flower beds, all the memories and sentiments of disloyalty to the Union so prolific in Southern Missouri at the time of the country's greatest peril, and to now permit the tenderness of our hearts to be touched by the apparent harmlessness of these vipers is but to expose ourselves to new lines of attack of which we are quite as innocent as was the poor but faithful Heywood of the approach of his murderers. To now release the Youngers is not only to set two criminals at liberty, but it is to revivify this whole viperous brood of memories and sentiments of disloyalty, made a thousandfold more poisonous by the accumulations of twenty-one years of venom in a northern prison, and re-establish a hatchery for the incubation, development, cultivation of treacherous and disloyal spirits. If the might of right has not the strength and courage to assert itself it is only a question of time when the low, cunning hypocrasy, treachery and audacity of evil must predominate. We must not permit ourselves to be hoodwinked and fooled by semi-dormant enemies of the nation, accompanied by soft sentimentalists, headed by a hoard of subsidized and heartless raiders upon public sentiment, into making this awful mistake. It is not for the sake of personal punishment upon the Youngers that we keep them in prison—they can never sufficiently atone to the offended law—it is simply to vindicate the honor of a form of government which it has been their life's mission to destroy, and to reaffirm the fact that its laws must be respected. Maybe the daily press can be subsidized to play appologists in so diabolical a cause; maybe certain members of the clergy can be fascinated as the bird is charmed by the serpent, but we believe the country press will rouse up to true manhood, with loyalty and honor, and repulse this raid as so many similar raids have heretofore been repulsed in the famous North Star state, the Northfield raid not excepted. In the hands of David M. Clough, Charles M. Start and Henry W. Childs has the law been entrusted for safe keeping. Upon their heads and upon the heads of their descendants forever rests this awful responsibility. In the one balance lies the liberties of the two greatest criminals against the law of the land that this country has yet produced; in the other is the peace of the nation. If the board of pardons liberates the Youngers it takes upon itself, each man for himself, the full responsibility for the deeds which these men may commit hereafter. We cannot believe that they will do it.

The Midway News

BY ED. A. PARADIS.

MERRIAM PARK, ST. PAUL, MINN.

July 10, 1897.

To His Excellency,

Hon. D. M. Clough,

Governor of Minnesota.

My Dear Sir:

The sense of duty impels me to at least partially convey to you my sentiments on the subject of pardoning the Youngers. It is my honest belief that in a little while you will see a tremendious reaction of public opinion on this subject. This whole move appears like an organized raid. But you will see a reaction. It will take at least a few weeks for public sentiment to express itself. If your board of pardons acts hastily in this matter I believe that it will make the most awful mistake possible.

Please pardon me for this intrusion, but I feel that it is my duty to at least partially express myself.

I am very respectfully yours,

Ed. A. Paradis

Board of Pardons.

No. 85+86

Protests of E. E. A. Paradis

Filed this 12th day of July 1897

Roland H. Harding

Clerk.

# The Midway News.

By ED. A. PARADIS.

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After twenty-one years of opportunity for study on the subject, unbroken by solitary confinement; twenty-one years of meditation and planning under life sentence, Cole Younger has finally flashed a statement upon the public. Like all the raids which it has been the evil bend of this wonderful man's mind to plan, it comes with a grand sally, and, as he himself declares all his memorable raids against civilization have been planned, the first evident intention is to mislead public opinion. None know better than he the power of half a dozen audacious, cold-blooded, desperate assailants against ever so many taken in complete surprise. Such have ever been his tactics; such are his tactics now. The lay of the land having finally been found satisfactory, prepared partly by the creation of a board of pardon for the purpose of eliminating personal responsibility, he suddenly dashes upon the public sentiment of Minnesota with the daily press of the Twin Cities at his back, every man mounted on the high horse of influence, and armed to the teeth, firing vollies of words in their attempt to ride rough-shod over every sentiment of loyalty and every principle of true government. The daily press of the Twin Cities suddenly has been mobilized and possibly subsidized into this new form of "Missouri Compromise," and, by making a bold dash, expect to simply carry Minnesota right off of her feet. The Younger gang misjudged our people when they made their raid on Northfield. We hope they are doomed to another disappointment. According to his own statement, after twenty-one years of preparation, Cole Young unguardedly explains what a sly and audacious raider he naturally is. He gives us an insight into his innate cunning in deceiving and taking innocent victims by surprise, and displays that natural treachery, which many people mistake for valor or heroism, of the serpent that risks its own life in attempting your own. According to his own statement, voluntarily made after patiently waiting twenty-one years to spring it, Cole Younger himself admits that his criminal career dates from, took root in, and grew out of the life-and-death wounds of the Republic. Endowed with faculties which if turned to good would have made him one of the most useful and one of the most honored of citizens, surrounded by opportunities which, properly employed, would easily have made him a true hero, he turned against the Union, against law, against government, against society, against mankind in general, and from a man he voluntarily turned into an outlaw, a raider, a robber, a self-confessed murderer, a fiend of the most despicable character. Around the Youngers' first achievements in lawlessness and criminality cluster, like poisonous asphyxiated snakes in the nation's flower beds, all the memories and sentiments of disloyalty to the Union so prolific in Southern Missouri at the time of the country's greatest peril, and to now permit the tenderness of our hearts to be touched by the apparent harmlessness of these vipers is but to expose ourselves to new lines of attack of which we are quite as innocent as was the poor but faithful Heywood of the approach of his murderers. To now release the Youngers is not only to set two criminals at liberty, but it is to revivify this whole viperous brood of memories and sentiments of disloyalty, made a thousand-fold more poisonous by the accumulations of twenty-one years of venom in a northern prison, and re-establish a hatchery for the incubation, development, cultivation of treacherous and disloyal spirits. If the might of right has not the strength and courage to assert itself it is only a question of time when the low, cunning hypocrasy, treachery and audacity of evil must predominate. We must not permit ourselves to be hoodwinked and fooled by semi-dormant enemies of the nation, accompanied by soft sentimentalists, headed by a hoard of subsidized and heartless raiders upon public sentiment, into making this awful mistake. It is not for the sake of personal punishment upon the Youngers that we keep them in prison—they can never sufficiently atone to the offended law—it is simply to vindicate the honor of a form of government which it has been their life's mission to destroy, and to reaffirm the fact that its laws must be respected. Maybe the daily press can be subsidized to play appologists in so diabolical a cause; maybe certain members of the clergy can be fascinated as the bird is charmed by the serpent, but we believe the country press will rouse up to true manhood, with loyalty and honor, and repulse this raid as so many similar raids have heretofore been repulsed in the famous North Star state, the Northfield raid not excepted. In the hands of David M. Clough, Charles M. Start and Henry W. Childs has the law been entrusted for safe keeping. Upon their heads and upon the heads of their descendants forever rests this awful responsibility. In the one balance lies the liberties of the two greatest criminals against the law of the land that this country has yet produced; in the other is the peace of the nation. If the board of pardons liberates the Youngers it takes upon itself, each man for himself, the full responsibility for the deeds which these men may commit hereafter. We cannot believe that they will do it.