

**THE FACTS  
CONCERNING THE EIGHT  
CONDEMNED LEADERS**

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The facts concerning the eight condemned leaders by Leon Lewis

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**LEON LEWIS**

**THE FACTS  
CONCERNING THE EIGHT  
CONDEMNED LEADERS**



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# THE FACTS CONCERNING THE EIGHT CONDEMNED LEADERS.

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Author of "The Water Ghoul," "Daredeath Dick," "The Cowboy Couriers," "The Rancher's Four Millions," "Doctor Paul, Detective," "The Sons of Thunder," etc., etc., in the **Ranger Weekly**, of New York; of "The Young Explorers," "The Boy King," "The Mountain of Gold," "The Boy Baronet's Millions," "The Mad Crusade," "The Boy Miners," "The Flying Islands," "The King of Golconda," "The Boy Pilot," "The Ice Boat," "A Boy and Girl's Battle," etc., etc., in the **Boy's World**, of London, England; of "Red Knife," "The Boy Magician," "The Broken House," "The Girl Hermit," "Life in Salt Lake City," "Eddy's Search," "The Club Foot Bear," "Mark Heber's Look," "The Plot against Hawley," "The Fire Spreaders," "An Extraordinary History," "A Girl Missing," "The Turtle Hunter," "The Golden Idol," "A Lost Fortune," "The Prairie Inn," "The Isis Mystery," "Gowton's Vengeance," "The Serf Lovers," "The Haunted Throne," "The Ransom Bearer," "The Lost Overlanders," "Warming a Serpent," "The Centurion's Mission," "Miss Wyard's Ebony," "The Lord of Strathmore," "The Deputy's Double," "The Three Survivors," "A Russian Hero," "The Sponge Gatherers," "The Wagon Train," "The Silver Digger," "The Road Diver," "The Roof Spoker," "The Diamond Seeker," etc., etc., in the **New York Ledger**; of "The Silver Ship," "Syria, the Jewess," "The Water Wolf," "The Witch Finder," "The Flower of Suda," etc., etc., in the **New York Weekly**; of "The Maid of Mona," "A Life at Stake," "The House of Secrets," "The Sword-Maker of Toledo," etc., etc., in the **London Reader**, of London, England; and of other works too numerous to mention.

"Hang me, too, for I think it is more honorable to die suddenly than to be killed by inches. I have a family and children; and if they know their father is dead, they will bury him. They can go to the grave, and kneel down by the side of it; but they can't go to the penitentiary and see their father who was convicted for a crime that he hasn't had anything to do with."

OSCAR NEBBE.

"I know a certain man who is on the way to becoming a murderer, an assassin, and that man is Crinnell—the State's Attorney Crinnell—because he brought men on the witness stand who he knew would swear falsely."

ADOLPH FISCHER.

"Let the public sit in judgment on the would-be assassins."

AUGUST SPIES.

"To term the proceedings during the trial justice would be a error."

MICHEL SCHWAB.

"Crinnell and his associates have committed perjury."

LOUIS LINGG.

"I know nothing of the conspiracy which the State's Attorney pretends to have discovered."

GEORGE ENGEL.

"We have been tried by a jury that has found us guilty. You will be tried by a jury now that will find you guilty."

SAMUEL FIELDEN.

"Being unable to discover the guilty man, the machinery is set to work to convict even innocent ones in his stead."

A. R. PARSONS.

GREENPORT,

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## PRELIMINARY REMARKS.

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Two or three weeks since, feeling the necessity of taking action in this matter, I wrote and published *The Ides of November*, which has been so well received by the Press and Public.

That hasty sketch, however, did not at all respond to my desire to publish A CLEAR AND CONCISE STATEMENT OF THE FACTS concerning the hideous and horrible Crime which has been contrived in Chicago, and I have accordingly returned to the charge in these pages.

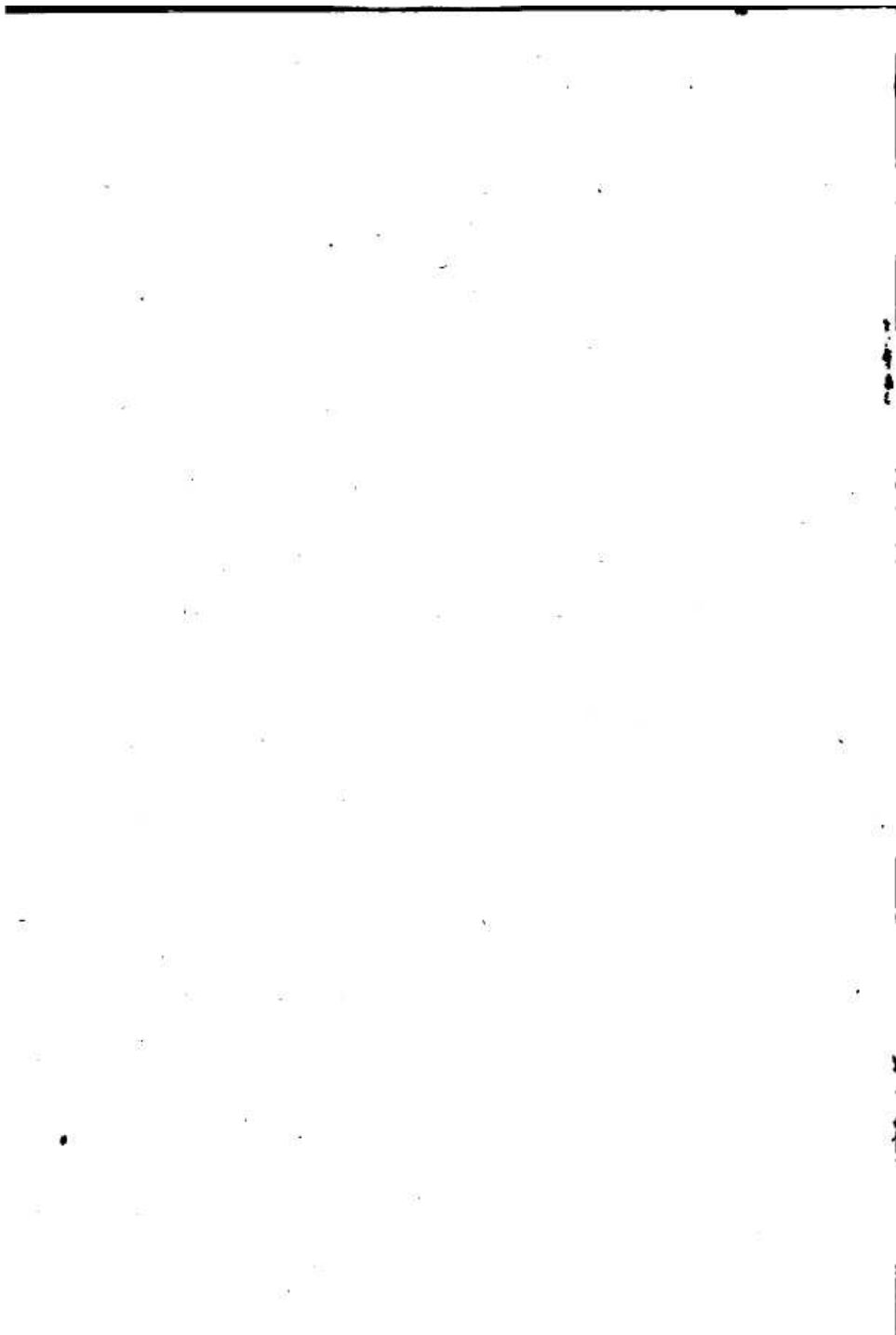
Realizing, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that I am voicing the FINAL VERDICT OF HISTORY in this solemn Protest against the awful JUDICIAL MASSACRE planned by Gary and Grinnell and their aiders and abettors, I have taken care not to admit a line here which is not an ABSOLUTE FACT or an UNANSWERABLE PIECE OF LOGIC.

I invoke the aid of all good men and women everywhere in scattering these pages, in the hope and belief that they may contribute essentially towards sparing our beloved country—still beloved, with all her terrible prostitutions and debasements—the unutterable shame and disgrace of this fiendish “CONTRIVED MURDER!”

LEON LEWIS.

GREENPORT, N. Y., Oct. 16, 1887.





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# THE FACTS

## CONCERNING

### THE EIGHT CONDEMNED LEADERS.

#### 1.—They are Innocent.

The first great objection to the judicial murder of the accused is the fact that they are **INNOCENT** of any offense against the laws of the State of Illinois.

All they have done is this:

As pioneers of a just and rational social organization, they have recognized and severely criticised, from their platforms and in their newspapers, a portion of the evils and corruptions of our so-called "civilization," especially the enslaved condition of the workingman, and they have sought to arouse the People and Press to the absolute necessity of toiling in concert to bring about a change for the better.

They have recognized and announced that the actual situation of the workingman is the result of violence, injustice, robbery, abuse, and corruption, as existent in all our social, judicial, governmental, and administrative organizations and institutions; that the current dominations, whether of religion, law, or government, are infamously, absurdly, and stupidly false, partisan, inadequate, and effete; that the existing state of affairs is unworthy, unjust, inhuman, unnatural, idiotic, atrocious and brutal; and that we are on the eve of a mighty change for the better.

They have recognized and announced that this necessary and inevitable evolution is not likely to be accomplished without bloodshed and violence, for the reason that the champions and supporters, who are also the beneficiaries, of the reigning **religious Mummery and Superstition, judicial Prostitution and Depravity, and political Jobbery and Expediency**, are ready and eager to murder, with or without pretense of law, anybody and everybody who ventures to denounce or oppose their ignoble cruelties, lusts, rapacities, debasements, extortions, assassinations, blasphemies, robberies, illegalities, stupidities, and oppressions.

They have taken some measures towards organizing workingmen in this sense, and have advised an **ARMED DEFENSIBILITY** as the first essential condition of escaping the bullets of hireling assassins and the noose of the hangman.

It is for these and cognate propositions, as spoken and written, and to some extent acted upon, that these men have been illegally and murderously condemned.

*There is absolutely nothing else that can be alleged against them!*

These men are AT WAR, as every REAL man OUGHT TO BE, with our actual social and industrial ideas and institutions, and that's the whole head and front of their offense.

"We claim that upon a fair consideration of the evidence adduced in this record, under the rules of law properly applicable thereto, these defendants, these plaintiffs in error, ARE SHOWN TO BE INNOCENT of the crime of which they stand charged, and of the commission of which they have been convicted."—Capt W. P. BLACK, *Oral Argument before the Supreme Court of Illinois.*

## 2.—They were Entitled to an Impartial Jury.

(I.)

The Constitution of the United States guarantees to every accused person the right of trial by an IMPARTIAL JURY.

Let us quote the exact words of the great Magna Charta of our rights and liberties:

"In all criminal prosecutions the accused SHALL ENJOY THE RIGHT to a speedy and public trial by an IMPARTIAL JURY."

(II.)

The Constitution of Illinois of 1848, article 8, section 9, in the last clause, provides:

"In prosecutions by indictment or information, the accused HATH A RIGHT to a speedy public trial by an IMPARTIAL JURY."

The Constitution of Illinois of 1848, article 13, section 9, provides:

"In all criminal prosecutions the accused HATH A RIGHT to \* \* a speedy public trial by an IMPARTIAL JURY."

The Constitution of Illinois of 1870, article 2, section 9, provides:

"In all criminal prosecutions the accused SHALL HAVE THE RIGHT to \* \* a speedy public trial by an IMPARTIAL JURY."

There is not a shadow of a doubt, therefore, that the accused were entitled to be tried by an IMPARTIAL JURY.

The fact is so self-evident from both the federal and state constitutions that there is no necessity of advancing a single word beyond the terms of these basic documents.

"The great value of a trial by jury," said Chief Justice MARSHALL, of the Supreme Court of the United States, in the trial of Aaron Burr, "certainly consists in its fairness and impartiality. Those who most prize the institution, prize it because it furnishes a tribunal which may be expected to be *uninfluenced by any bias of the mind.* I have always conceived, and still conceive, an IMPARTIAL JURY, as required by the common law, and as secured by the constitution, *must be composed of men, who will fairly hear the testimony which may be offered to them, and bring in their verdict according to that testimony, and according to the law arising on it.* THIS IS NOT TO BE EXPECTED, certainly the law does not expect it, WHEN THE JURORS, before they hear the testimony, HAVE DELIBERATELY FORMED AND DELIVERED AN OPINION that the person whom they are to try is guilty or innocent of the charge alleged against him. *The Jury should enter upon the trial with minds open to those impressions which the testimony and law of the case OUGHT TO MAKE, NOT WITH THOSE PRE-CONCEIVED OPINIONS WHICH WILL RESIST THOSE IMPRESSIONS.* All the provisions of the law are calculated to obtain this end."

## 3.—The Jury was Illegal.

In defiance and in contumacy of these sacred guarantees and provisions of both the federal and state constitutions, the jury which tried the accused, instead of being IMPARTIAL, WAS NOTORIOUSLY, CONFESSEDLY and INFAMOUSLY PARTIAL, PREJUDICED, ILLEGAL and INCOMPETENT.

The following is the status of the great majority of these jurors, as briefly set forth in Lum's *History of the Great Trial*: