

## MURDER OF THE PRESIDENT—ITS CAUSES AND LESSONS.

Some weeks having passed since our Chief Magistrate was brutally murdered, and the nation's mind, having become somewhat calmed, it is well—it becomes proper, to look carefully after the causes of the terrible tragedy, for the purpose of their removal. If those causes yet exist, under similar or favorable circumstances, they will produce the same or similar effects as certainly as water will seek its level or fire burn.

It was natural the public mind should be deeply moved by the assassination and others attempted, and should relieve itself by resolutions, speeches and other demonstrations; hence their multiplicity and variety. Hence even Copperheads have in a measure fallen in with the general wail.

Before, as is the judgment, we regard his death, and the plotted assassinations, as the legitimate—the natural result of causes existing among us for the last four years. They yet exist. They are among us—in our midst, "They throng the air and darken heaven;" we refer to the spirit of the Copperhead party. This it was that did the deed, and it might have been expected—the spirit of that party would not have worked out its legitimate results had it done less. Similar results may be expected.

—the spirit of that party would not have worked out its legitimate results had it done less. Similar results may be expected unless that spirit be subjugated. Booth is dead; Payne in custody. But they were not the cause of the tragedy. It lay back of them. It exists in the nature and controlling spirit of the Copperhead party everywhere. From the time it took form in organization at Charleston to the present, this has been its animus. It could be read in its filthy sheets from the New York *World*, to the smut mill at Olympia. It could be read in its platforms—it could be heard from its Vallandighams, its Seymours, its Pendleton's in their speeches all over the land. As life-long Democrats saw and heard these things, they drew out of the party at once, and forever. That same spirit was in the firing on Sumpter, the Fort Mifflin and Lawrence massacre, the sacrifice of untold precious lives to kill this

Nation, and the persistent efforts to destroy the influence, if not life of every Union man in the land. If the Copperhead party were in power to-day, it would, it must destroy the liberty and progress of this Nation. All things, unless restrained, act out their nature, and the Copperhead reptile is no exception. The above statements are not applicable to many who call themselves Democrats, but relate to the life principles of the Copperhead party. And every man who by vote or otherwise gives his influence to that party, gives his influence to that spirit. He cannot avoid it, as that is its distinguishing ruling feature. Revelations show the damning deed to have been planned by leaders of the Copperhead party, with Jeff. Davis at the head. We ask in all candor and earnestness, Democrats who have the good of humanity at heart to stop and ponder these things: Note where the party that claims you is drifting, and carrying you along—and as you prize life a fair heritage, and an approving conscience, disentangle yourselves from the Anaconda folds of the snake, and give yourselves, your votes, for the Union, the Nation and humanity.

---