

During Doty's incumbency occurred the killing of Charles C. P. Arndt in the council chamber at Madison, by James R. Vineyard, of Grant County. I had known Vineyard, and when he was brought to Mineral Point as a prisoner, I, with a large number of his friends, visited him and procured for him the required bail. Vineyard claimed that he acted in self-defense, and his friends and neighbors all declared him to be a peaceable, kind-hearted man. To me he expressed his sorrow for his rashness, but insisted on his right of self-defense. On his subsequent trial he was acquitted. John H. Rountree, a highly respected citizen of Grant County, a political opponent of Vineyard, but for upwards of fifteen years a neighbor and friend of the prisoner, and an eye-witness of the killing, gave testimony in common with other members of the council who were present, which convinced the jury that the shooting was really done in self-defense.¹

New discoveries of lead mines were constantly made throughout the mining regions, principally at Blue River and Franklin, where my brother, Charles G. Rodolf, and Henry M. Billings, worked valuable leads. The country was settling rapidly with miners, principally Cornishmen, who were experienced workers in lead mines.²

The social relations of the people of Mineral Point were about the same as prevailed in those early days in all new settlements. Although the population was mixed, not much race prejudice was perceptible, except that the Cornish people, who formed the majority of the foreign population, adhered more strictly to some of their peculiar customs. Of course intellectual and financial differences will always and everywhere bring about separate social groupings. Mineral Point could not be expected to be altogether free from this universal law; but the young people had their enjoyments, their parties and their balls, to which every

¹ Cf. *ante*, pp. 255, 256; numerous reports of this affair in previous volumes of the *Collections*; and article by E. W. Keyes in *Milwaukee Sentinel* for Aug. 27, 1899.

² See Louis Albert Copeland's "The Cornish in Southwest Wisconsin," in *Wis. Hist. Colls.*, xiv, pp. 301-334.—Ed.