

the state, recognizing only gold and silver as legal tender. The people on the lake shore and in all eastern counties, being mostly trading communities, were largely in favor of a paper currency. The result was the rejection of the state constitution, and the calling of another convention which recognized banks and paper money. That constitution was adopted, and in 1848 Wisconsin became a sovereign state.

I must refer to an occurrence previous to these events, which might have resulted in serious complications to the parties concerned. As I have already stated, the law firm of Dunn, Jones & Crawford were doing a large business for the mining community. Among their patrons was Dennis Murphy, of Lafayette County, who possessed valuable lead interests, and had for years been a client of the firm. He claimed that his lawyers were engaged by him by the year. A misunderstanding occurred between them, and one day while Samuel Crawford was in the village, Murphy assaulted him with a cowhide, claiming the firm had betrayed his interests. Crawford was unarmed, and had to retreat.

The report of the fracas reached Mineral Point before Crawford returned, but the next day, when he went to his law office, Francis J. Dunn forbade him to enter, saying that no man who had been assaulted as Crawford had been without taking revenge on his assailants could ever associate with him. There was in the office at that time a young law student named John Delany, a friend of Crawford, who offered to take the latter to Benton, Lafayette County, and give him a chance to wipe out this indignity. Next morning they started early on their errand, and reached Murphy's place near sundown. Crawford had a loaded gun with him in his buggy. As they entered the village, Murphy stood in the door of his home. As soon as he discovered the buggy approaching, he turned to enter the house. Delany said, "Now is your time—quick!" Crawford seized the gun, discharged it into his retreating foe, and drove immediately out of the village. Murphy was hit in the thigh, was carried into the house, and medical aid quickly summoned. Crawford drove on to Galena, where he had a