

NOVEMBER.3.1883

https://www.encyclopediavirginia.org/Danville_Riot_1883

The “Danville Riot.” In 1882 the biracial **Readjuster Party** had gained control of the city council, causing resentment and even alarm among some white residents, even though the council was still dominated by white members; the city had a majority African-American population. The Readjuster Party had been in power at the state level since 1879. What is called the **Danville Riot** took place on November 3, 1883, a few days before the election, when a racially-motivated street fight turned to shooting after a large crowd gathered; five men were killed, four of them black. A local Danville commission found African Americans at fault for the violence on November 3, but a US Senate investigation decided that white residents were to blame. No prosecution resulted from either inquiry.