

Book IX.
Title XXX.

Concerning seditious persons and those who dare to collect a mob to disturb the public
peace.

(De seditiosis et his qui plebem audent contra publicam quietem colligere.)

Bas. 60.61.

9.30.1. Emperors Gratian, Valentinian and Theodosius to Florentius, Augustal Prefect.

If anyone, contrary to the plainest command, puts himself at the head of a mob and to the prejudice of public tranquility attempts, perchance, to defend it, will incur the gravest punishment.

Given at Constantinople December 20 (384).

C. Th. 9.33.1.

Note.

Gothofredus thinks that the law was directed against the leaders of people who were resisting the tax collectors in Alexandria, the law being addressed to the Augustal prefect of Egypt. Paul., Sent. 5.22, says that leaders of seditions were, according to the rank of the offenders, either crucified or deported to an island. Crucifixion having been abolished by Constantine, it is stated in Dig. 48.19.38.2 that such criminals will be hung, thrown to the wild beasts or deported to an island. See title 8 of this book which deals with treason.

9.30.2. Emperor Leo to Erythrius, Praetorian Prefect.

In no places or cities shall any (public) demand be made by tumultuous clamors; nor shall insolent speeches be made solely for the purpose of insulting someone. Persons who make such speeches and raise up a tumult may know that their demands will bear no fruit, and they will be subjected to the penalties which the ancient laws provided for the authors of seditions and tumults.

Given at Constantinople March 6 (466).