

TRIAL OF EPHRAIM GILMAN.

[CONCLUDED.]

times the neck will be broken through, the minute blood vessels will be broken, and sometimes the bones of the throat will be fractured. I do not think the cartilages of the larynx could be brought near enough together to stop the breathing, without showing indubitable marks of great violence. There is a tendency, as age advances, to a hardening of the cartilages of the larynx. Sometimes it becomes ossified. In some cases the cartilages of the larynx have but little elasticity, at others they will be quite flexible—depending upon the age. Suicide is often committed without any particular mental indications before hand. Very powerful mental emotions will often produce irritation of the brain so as to induce suicide. The intent, to all appearances, to commit suicide, often comes on suddenly. (Show without the court.) There would be no difficulty in a person's drawing it around his neck sufficiently tight to produce strangulation, if he were disposed. If the scarf were drawn and saved alone, it is possible that the neck might produce abrasions in the true skin. If the scarf were drawn about the neck so as to produce partial strangulation, congestion of the brain might set in so as to produce death from both causes, and death might commence in the brain and lungs at the same time. In case of accidental strangulation, there would be no violent resistance on the part of the person attacked, both voluntary and involuntary. There would be the same appearance on the external surface of the internal organs, whether death were produced by strangulation or asphyxy.

Gen. F. Booth, called. At the time Mrs. Swan died, I was living with Henry Walker. I reached Mrs. Swan's house, on the morning that she was found dead, between 6 and 7. I did not touch the body till afternoon; then helped take it from the floor and laid it on the bed; her left arm was stiff. Heard testimony of Mrs. Walker, believe Abby said when she saw the paper (No. 1) that it was her mother's writing; can't tell how long she examined it—perhaps a minute. Mrs. Elvira Gilman, called.

Reads in Fryburg. Was a witness before the inquest; saw mother-in-law to the prisoner; live about two miles from where Mrs. Swan lived; was frequently at Mrs. Swan's; she was not often at our house.

Dr. Fitch, recalled. I received my medical degree at Edinburgh, and have studied in London and Paris. Dr. Towle, recalled.

Think the contraction of the muscles of the left arm must have commenced before death, or they would not have been so rigid. Exposure of that arm to the cold would not have hastened rigidity.

Dr. Fitch testified to the same.

The testimony for the defence closed at ten minutes before 5, when Hon. E. W. Wedgewood commenced his argument. In his preliminary remarks he occupied the time till near six o'clock, when the court adjourned.

FOURTH DAY.

The Court came in at 9 o'clock, when Mr. Wedgewood resumed his argument for the defence. His arguments were clear and logical, and forcibly presented; and his allusions to the peculiar relations that had existed between the prisoner and the deceased and her family, made a decided impression upon the crowded audience. He closed his remarks at one o'clock, having spoken nearly five hours.

After a recess of an hour, the Court came in, and J. H. Drummond commenced the argument for the State. In an able and comprehensive manner he reviewed the testimony, and showed the jury upon what grounds he claimed a verdict for the State. There was no attempt at sophistry, no false logic, every point being clearly and fairly stated. His remarks occupied one hour and ten minutes.

The Judge then briefly charged the jury, giving them the law which, with the evidence, should govern them in making their decision.

The jury retired a few minutes before 4 o'clock, and at half past eight brought in a verdict of GUILTY OF WILLFUL MURDER.

The prisoner received the verdict with the same seeming indifference that has characterized his appearance throughout the whole trial. His appearance and conduct has seemed to indicate either a natural stolidity, so that he has not appreciated the awful condition in which he was placed, or a recklessness of character truly appalling in one of his years.

The case was ably and fairly conducted throughout, both on the part of the Counsel for the State and those of the prisoner.

Exceptions were filed to the ruling of the court in admitting as evidence the testimony of the prisoner taken before the Coroner's inquest. As this testimony had no weight in determining the case, it is pretty evident that the filing was merely nominal, and will not be followed up. Probably its only effect will be to defer the sentence of the prisoner to the August Term.

Postmaster General Blair has issued the following notice:

"To the Postmasters of the United States: The Secretary of War now regulates the transmission of information by telegraph affecting the conduct of the war, in order to prevent the communication of such information to the rebels. It is also thought necessary by the Secretary, to put restrictions on the publication of facts of this character however derived, and the aid of this department is requested for this purpose: you will therefore, notify publishers not to publish any fact which has been excluded from the telegraph, and that a disregard of this order will subject the paper to be excluded from the mails.

The discovery of the fossil bones of a new and gigantic saurian, in a cutting recently made for a railway near Poligny, has just been announced. The animal must have been between 20 and 120 feet in length, and must have existed toward the end of the tertiary period.

The Home Journal says it would have been a blessing to the animal to be able to wag his tail by telegraph.

Capt. Isaac Gage, of Augusta, died at his residence, on the 11th inst., at the age of 74. He was favorably known to large numbers who have visited the capital, as a gentleman, of extensive and varied acquirements, and upright purpose and conduct.

The frigate *Rufoke* is to be plated with iron, immediately.

The Oxford Democrat

PARIS, MAINE, MARCH 28, 1862.

PUBLISHED EVERY FRIDAY MORNING BY

WM. A. PIDGIN & Co.,

PRINTERS.

JOHN J. PERRY, Editor.

TERMS.—One Dollar and Fifty Cents, per year, in advance. Two Dollars, at the end of the year.

Clipping.—We would respectfully call the attention of our friends to the fact that we are extending the circulation of a house paper to the following effect:

We will send

10 Copies, for one year, for

20 Copies, for one year, for

And one copy to the person getting up the club.

The money must accompany the order.

P. M. Pettigill & Co., 10 State Street,

Boston, and 122 Nassau Street, New York, are our authorized agents.

JOB PRINTING neatly executed.



Capt. Ericsson's Boat in Naval Warfare.

The recent fight between the Monitor, the new iron clad gun-boat, invented by Capt. Ericsson, and the Merrimack, settles the question, as to the practicability of iron-clad boats as instruments of warfare. The Monitor was all that saved any of our vessels from utter destruction. More than this, had not this gun-boat arrived at the scene of action, at the right moment, all our brave seamen on board our vessels would either have been killed, wounded or taken prisoners. And this would not have been the end of the disaster to us. The Merrimack would have run the blockade, and when once out, every vessel she met and every port she entered, would have been at her mercy. Why our government, which had notice from Gen. Wood, that the Merrimack was building, should have suffered such a dangerous monster to be constructed, is a profound mystery; and more especially, when no preparation had been made to take care of her, when coming out of Norfolk Harbor. One thing is certain, there has been most unpardonable negligence somewhere. Notwithstanding the timely arrival of the Monitor, the Merrimack damaged us to the enormous amount of three millions, besides sacrificing the lives of three or four hundred of our men. That is very much like the masterly policy that has prevailed on the Potomac, the only place in the country where anything like military science, has been practically exhibited; of allowing batteries to be erected, under the muzzle of our guns, for the sake of battering them down after they were built.

The engagement between the Monitor and the Merrimack, demonstrates the fact, that iron-clad gun-boats will hereafter supersede every other invention for warfare. Naval purposes; and that money expended upon wooden war steamers for use in our harbors and on our rivers, is property thrown away.

A single boat like the Monitor, is sufficient in, and of itself, to command any harbor against the world. It would be only when "Greek meets Greek" that the tug of war would come. And in such a case, where two iron war steamers should engage each other, it would be a great improvement on the old mode of warfare, for the reason that it would be an immense saving of human life. These boats, however, cannot engage in anything like long voyages; for the reason, they cannot carry sufficient coal. But this will not hinder their use in rivers and harbors, when we most need them. With ten boats like the Monitor, we can do more towards subduing the rebels, than can be done with fifty thousand men upon land. There is not a city or large town, connected with a harbor that could not be brought to terms, or destroyed by one of these boats. Capt. Ericsson's boat is one of the greatest inventions of the age. That has been demonstrated and passed into a stubborn fact.

Slavery in the District of Columbia. It is a fact, that, while Abraham Lincoln was a Member of Congress, he introduced a bill to abolish slavery in the District of Columbia. The subject was then too unpopular to engage the attention of a majority in either branch, and the bill was killed. The plan advocated in the bill now before Congress, introduced by Senator Morrill, coincides with the policy indicated by the President, in his Emancipation Message; and will probably be adopted by Congress. Thus will the President, in signing the bill, have at once the privilege of initiating the policy of compensated emancipation, and finally accomplishing the object sought while a Member of Congress.

How it can be Done. It is the opinion of thousands in the loyal States, that the property of rebels should be made to pay the whole expense of this war. This would be just, both towards the loyal States and the rebel States, and even that would be a poor equivalent for the suffering, the loss of life, and the incidental distress and ruin brought upon us by this unholy rebellion. We have seen the idea some where suggested, that in case this course was not determined on, we should go a step at least in this direction. And how? Take all the direct taxes that have been and are to be assessed upon us, and divide them equally among the several States, including those in rebellion. The loyal States, of course, will cheerfully pay their proportion; but not so in the rebel States. They will not pay unless forced into it. And how shall we collect it of them? The idea above referred to is to confiscate the slave property of the rebels—a sufficient amount at least to square the account against each disloyal State. But what shall be done with the contrabands in such a case? The answer suggests itself—liberate them under the recommendations of the President's Message.

Why would not this be an excellent plan? It would be just towards the traitors, and it would abolish slavery just so far as it went. The southern secessionists have brought on this war solely on account of slavery, and nothing would punish them so effectively as to confiscate their slave property. Nothing would cripple them equal to it. Another thing, we should, so far as it went, get rid of the curse—the great procuring cause of all our domestic troubles.

Whatever may be the opinions of the American people, just now, upon the question of taxation and the expenses of this war, one thing is very clear to us—that while the loyal citizens of this country are willing to pay all necessary bills to put down rebellion and restore the integrity of the government, they will not be willing, in addition to this, to pay the proportion belonging to the rebel States merely to save that demon of slavery from that destruction to which it is doomed by the rebels themselves.

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STONEMAN TOWN OFFICERS. Moderator—E. A. Small. Clerk—E. E. Barker. Selectmen—Sumner Evans, Hilton McAllister, Daniel H. McAllister. Treasurer—S. E. Rand. Supervisor—E. E. Barker. All Republicans.

ADVERT. The Price Current, in publishing a strong puff of the Forest City, uttered by Jeff Davis, credits the odium of the author's name, by avoiding it to the Home Journal. The latter paper has lately reproduced one of the speeches made in his late tour North, to spy out the country.

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Hon. Lot M. Morrill and Slavery in the District of Columbia.

It has been with no ordinary feelings of State pride that we have watched the course of Senator Morrill upon the question of the abolition of slavery at the National Capital. This matter has been put under the immediate control of Senator Morrill, by the committee that has had the same under consideration, and most faithfully has he thus far given it his attention. The bill reported by him ought to pass. It blots out the plague spot of slavery from the District of Columbia, and gives the owners of slaves an equivalent for their slave property.

Why should twenty millions of freemen be insulted and disgraced further by retaining the barbarism of slavery upon the soil of the National Capital? In a population of about twenty thousand, in the District of Columbia, there are only about three thousand slaves. Now is just the time to wipe out this burning shame. It is only a few years ago that slave pens were kept in Washington openly, and a pack of slave traders were prowling round under the very eaves of the Capitol, with whips in one hand and manacles in the other, hunting after human flesh and blood, and driving round in the streets of Washington chained gangs of men, women and children, to be incarcerated in these hells and dungeons of the slave power.

The freemen of the North, whose money has paid for the Capital, have been compelled, in times past, to witness these revolting, heart-sickening scenes. Shall they be compelled to witness them hereafter? That is the question? The indignant voices of millions answer in thunder, "NO!" There is not a single substantial reason that can be urged in favor of continuing slavery a single day in the District of Columbia.

We hope Senator Morrill and those who sympathize with him in this matter will press it to a successful issue. The people are fully up to the mark. Let not their representatives lag behind and attempt to stave off this question to take care of itself in the future. Now is the time to wipe out this infamous institution from the soil of the National Capital, and thus relieve a nation of freemen from the disgrace of longer perpetuating it upon territory exclusively their own.

How it can be Done. It is the opinion of thousands in the loyal States, that the property of rebels should be made to pay the whole expense of this war. This would be just, both towards the loyal States and the rebel States, and even that would be a poor equivalent for the suffering, the loss of life, and the incidental distress and ruin brought upon us by this unholy rebellion. We have seen the idea some where suggested, that in case this course was not determined on, we should go a step at least in this direction. And how? Take all the direct taxes that have been and are to be assessed upon us, and divide them equally among the several States, including those in rebellion. The loyal States, of course, will cheerfully pay their proportion; but not so in the rebel States. They will not pay unless forced into it. And how shall we collect it of them? The idea above referred to is to confiscate the slave property of the rebels—a sufficient amount at least to square the account against each disloyal State. But what shall be done with the contrabands in such a case? The answer suggests itself—liberate them under the recommendations of the President's Message.

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Death of two Soldiers from Oxford.

Jose Prince, of Oxford, who belonged to Capt. Cheney's company, in the 14th Regiment, died, about three days ago, on his passage from Boston to Ship Island. He was unwell when he shipped at Boston, and his officers offered him a furlough, that he might come home and recruit; but so anxious was he to serve his country, he declined, and went on board with his comrades. Jose was an excellent young man, and greatly beloved by his relatives and friends. A widowed mother, brothers and sisters, deeply deplore his early death. Like many others gone into the war, he was a sincere Christian; and a friend, who was with him when he died, writes that his last moments were cheered by the Christian's hope.

Wilson Wright, son of Mr. Ezra Wright, of Oxford, some years since, went to the great West. When the rebellion broke out he enlisted in one of the Indiana Regiments, and was at the battle of Fort Donelson, where he was wounded, and subsequently died of his wounds. We well remember him as a sedate, exemplary young man, who, though dependent on his own exertions for an education, was ambitious and energetic in availing himself of every means in his power to fit himself for the great duties of life. At the battle of Fort Donelson, in the very front ranks of his regiment, he fell, wounded, bravely facing the foe. Wilson, too, was a pious young man, and met death like a Christian hero. His parents and brothers and sisters are deeply afflicted at his sudden death.

Thus some of our best and most worthy young men are giving their lives to their country, and meeting death at the post of duty. But their memories will be cherished, and held in grateful remembrance, not only by their near and dear friends, but by every sincere patriot in the land. Peace to their ashes.

Supreme Judicial Court. The report of the trial crowded out all notices last week.

In the case, Waterford vs. Paris, the jury found a verdict for plaintiff. Exceptions were filed. This was the only civil verdict rendered.

The Grand Jury reported Friday afternoon. Six indictments were found.

Several cases were taken from the criminal docket, among which were the following: State vs. Jed. Bates, on case of assault and battery, and three for liquor selling. Fines and costs amounted to \$83.18.

State vs. S. V. Abbott, assault and battery. Not pros. entered on payment of costs, \$42.18.

State vs. Howell Ryerson, common soldier. Fined \$100 and costs, and in default of payment 60 days in county jail. Committed.

State vs. E. G. Osgood, common seller. Costs, amounting to \$53.

