

A Would-be King-Killer's End.

The execution, at Madrid, of Otero Gonzalez, nineteen years old, for attempting to assassinate the King of Spain, is described by the New York Herald thus: The prisoner was stirred in a black and violet robe, a white cap, a sash on his shoulders, his feet were held grasping an image of the Virgin. Several of the priests and brotherhood entered the prison van with Otero, while others headed the procession, with a crucifix before aloft. The crowd, which was still composed chiefly of women, pressed around the escort, and when it arrived at the Plaza, where the scaffold was erected, it could not have numbered less than ten thousand. In front of the gibbet, which stood on a low platform, was the bench upon which the convict sits. Death is caused by the pressure of an iron bar, which causes instant strangulation. Two executioners from Valladolid had preceded the arrival of the regicide. The crowd was guarded by a strong force of cavalry, infantry and gendarmes with fixed bayonets. The morning was beautiful and the sun gilded the wooded mountains in the distance. When the regicide ascended the scaffold he was deadly pale and his hands trembled. The troops formed a large square round the scaffold. The executioners seated the regicide on the bench and covered his head. At fourteen minutes to nine the signal was given and the prisoner was arrested, life seeming to be almost instantaneously extinguished.

The second attempt on the life of King Alfonso was made on the 30th of December last. The day was unusually mild and the streets of Madrid were crowded with vehicles and spectators. The king and queen had not since three o'clock in a small phaeton drawn by a pair of rather fiery horses which Alfonso had some difficulty in managing. Towards the end of the route, near the Puerta del Sol and down the Calle Mayor, to debouch by the Army square, at the principal entrance of the palace. Just as he neared the army his animals grew uneasy, and he pushed on to the Plaza de Armas. Behind him were two servants in plain riding liveries, and ahead a single outrider. Slackening the pace of his horses, the king wheeled them to enter under the portico slowly, on account of the heavy rain. The king and queen were some abreast of the large sentry box and while the sentinel was presenting arms, a man sprang out from the narrow space between the box and the wall of the palace, and firing a single shot, killed the king's horse. The king, who was immediately seized and ironed, proved to be a youth of nineteen named Gonzalez.

A Successful Female Detective.

For the past three months Nellie McPherson, who for some time has been in the employ of the St. Joseph detective agency, has traveled through the West and Northwest on business connected with the agency here, and her success as a "spitter" shows her to be a remarkably clever woman. She is about thirty-two years old, tall and slender, with dark hair, piercing blue eyes and altogether very stylish and attractive. Her latest exploit terminated in Chicago, a day or two ago, when she succeeded in getting the Chicago one of the deepest-dyed villains in the West, and the leader and accomplice of a gang of counterfeiters which have infested this section for the past two years.

Some months since the managers of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe, the Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific, the Chicago and Northern railroads became cognizant of the fact that a great many bogus local tickets had been set afloat along their lines, and on application Detective Murray, of Chicago, was authorized to work up the job, and, if possible, bring the guilty parties to justice. He reported from time to time that no satisfactory trail of the counterfeiters could be traced, and finally he called on McPherson, who was delegated to assist him in the work. From the outset she was suspicious of the detective himself, and for three months she watched him like a hawk, though pretending to fall asleep in her chair, and on application pretended lover, Mr. Murray. From St. Joseph they went to Chicago, where a few days' secret investigation placed her in possession of a perfect whirlwind of evidence, and convinced her that "Detective" Murray was the very man who had set afloat the bogus railroad tickets. Then she set the trap, gave the detective an official surprise in his room at the hotel, and as a result he now plays checkers with his nose in a Chicago jail.—St. Joseph (Mo.) News.

Peruvian Temples of the Sun.

Of the early history of the Peruvians we have but little knowledge, owing to that barbarian policy exercised by the followers of Atahualpa, in destroying everything belonging to the tribes which they conquered. Like the Mexicans, the Peruvians had advanced in art, science and learning, under the administration of successive wise rulers, and their state archives contained histories of their country, from the dawn of civilization among them, to the period of the conquest. But the superstitious Spaniards committed these works to the flames, because of their heathen origin, and we are obliged to depend almost exclusively on the truth of tradition for the knowledge of the history of the people during the Inca dynasty. The most magnificent of the sun at Cuzco. The mode of worship in this temple was similar to that of Heliopolis in Egypt, where the great luminary was adored. His golden image occupied a large portion of the interior of the temple, and before this the worshippers prostrated themselves with rich offerings in their hands, which were received by the attendant priests. Two or three virgins, selected from the first families in their kingdom, were in constant attendance, whose duty it was to make oblations of wine to the deity, and chant hymns of praise to the great Father of Light. Like other aborigines of that continent, the Peruvians were nomadic tribes and gained a subsistence by hunting and fishing. Superstitions in the extreme, their objects of worship were as numerous as the stars of the Egyptian sky.

Laws That Are Not Enforced.

"H. H." (Mrs. Helen Hunt Jackson) has made a little collection of the laws relating to the Indians which are not enforced, and embodies it in one of her letters to the New York Tribune on the Indian Problem. The following is the list she gives:

1. Any citizen or resident of the United States entering any territory secured by treaty to the Indians for the purpose of hunting or grazing therein—fine within \$100 and imprisonment within six months.
2. Entering the territory secured to the Indians south of the Ohio river, for any purpose whatever, without a pass from the proper authority—half the above penalty.
3. Entering the Indian Territory with a hostile intention and committing any offense against the person or property of any friendly Indian which would be punishable if committed upon a citizen of the United States—fine within \$100 and imprisonment within one year.
4. If property be taken or destroyed, re-negrative in double value and if murder be committed, death. (Suppose this law was carried out in regard to the murderers of the chief Big Snake last autumn, at Reno, in Indian Territory, how many men would be hung besides the soldier who fired the first shot?)
5. Surveying or settling upon any land belonging to Indians, or attempting to do so—fine within \$1,000 and imprisonment within one year.
6. Attempting to trade among the Indians as a trader, without license from the government—fine within \$100; imprisonment within thirty days and forfeiture of the goods.
7. Purchasing from Indians any article for hunting or cooking or any article of clothing, except skins or furs—fine within \$50, and imprisonment within thirty days.
8. Purchasing a horse from an Indian without a license—fine within \$100; imprisonment within thirty days and forfeiture of the horse.
9. An Indian agent being concerned in any trade with Indians on his own account—fine within \$1,000 and imprisonment within one year.
10. Treating with Indians for the purchase of land without authority from the government—same punishment.
11. A foreigner going into the Indian Territory without a passport—same punishment.
12. Any Indian or other person committing within the Indian Territory any offense which would be punishable if committed within places of exclusive jurisdiction, or in some punishment as is there provided for.

Village Improvement Societies.

In his report, lately issued, Colonel Wright, chief of the bureau of statistics of labor, gives some interesting statements concerning the work of village improvement societies in Massachusetts, of which the Laurel Hill association, located at Stockbridge, is the best. The object of this society, as set forth in their by-laws, is to improve and ornament the streets and public grounds of Stockbridge, by planting and cultivating trees, shrubs, and flowers, and to walk, and doing all other acts which tend to beautify and improve said streets and grounds. Its work has been the subject of many newspaper articles, and its example has been the incentive for many similar societies in the country. During its existence it has expended \$4,000 in carrying forward its work, planted more than 1,600 trees and hedges, and built miles of sidewalks, lawns, bridges, etc.

From the returns made to Colonel Wright it appears that 216 of the 325 towns in Massachusetts report the existence of twenty-eight village improvement societies, having a membership of 495. Instances of some of the work performed by these societies are given, and what directions their efforts have been employed: In Williamstown a hundred streets have been put in order, trees planted, and the village lighted. In Danvers the village committee has been fenced an acre of land for the planting of trees. In Shelburne has made sidewalks, planted trees, and lighted the streets. In Longmeadow, tree culture has been encouraged, borders cut and trimmed, and sidewalks repaired. In Westfield a street has been widened and over three miles long, has been laid out and lined with trees. In Carlisle the cemetery has been beautified. The "Field and Garden Club," of Lexington, has fenced many vacant lots. In Stow 186 maple trees have been planted, and in other towns trees have been planted, lights put up, and courses of lectures have been delivered.

The organization of these societies is a very simple affair, as the less machinery the better. It is organized by the easier they are organized and the better they do their work.—N. E. Farmer.

A Curious Pond.

Captain W. F. McClannahan called to see us this week, and we gathered from him the following information concerning a curious pond in the State Park. This body of water is between three and four miles across, and large enough to accommodate a large number of vessels. It is about one mile from the main shore to deep water—say a vessel ranging in all its fury outside. When the wind sets to the northeast, sail can be hoisted and the vessel proudly glide out of its haven to the open sea and proceed to its destination. It is thought that in a very heavy gale a vessel of twenty or thirty tons could push her way through the channel into this place of safety. The mud in this pond when dry, cuts as easily as chalk, and burns well when put in the fire. It is a favorite resort for lumber camp boys, plying between Calcasieu and Galveston and other coast towns, when storms arise. During the storm of 1875, when so much damage was done to property along the coast of Texas, vessels which put into the oil pond, weathered the gale and put to sea, when the storm had blown its fury against the land. The body of water would be a good study for scientific men, and we have some idea that there is some sulphur as well as petroleum in the water—that is similar to the sulphur bath of Sour Lake. If so, it will become a favorite for rheumatic people, and being situated on the gulf coast, will make it a desirable place, for its accessibility to salt water, bathing and beach driving.—Beaumont (Texas) Lumberman.

H. J. Lukins, of Rock creek, Ill., was driving hogs to market and one that was wild and unruly rushed upon him with fury, catching him in the thigh with his long sharp tusks, severing an artery. Medical aid arrived too late, as the man died in a short time after the wound was made.

A Minnesota farmer raised last year 700 bushels of corn, and sold it this year at \$5.00 per bushel.

Grain Production at the West.

The Columbus (Ohio) State Journal publishes the following interesting exhibit of the production of corn and wheat in the United States for the year 1879, prepared by Dr. James Williams:

State	Corn	Wheat
Illinois	209,000,000	44,900,000
Iowa	185,000,000	43,700,000
Missouri	142,000,000	33,000,000
Ohio	135,000,000	35,000,000
Kansas	90,000,000	31,875,000
Kentucky	65,000,000	38,787,000
Nebraska	62,000,000	28,800,000
Minnesota	51,000,000	25,800,000
Wisconsin	49,000,000	23,300,000
Indiana	39,000,000	18,100,000
Michigan	1,238,600,000	341,474,000

The whole country produced 1,545,000,000 bushels of corn, of which eleven States produced 1,328,600,000, while the remaining States produced 216,400,000. Of wheat the whole country produced 44,900,000 bushels—341,500,000 in eleven States and 10,750,000 in the other States and Territories. The eleven States enumerated above produced seventy-six per centum of the entire wheat crop, and ninety-nine per centum of the corn crop.

A Search for Thirty Years.

A light has at last been thrown on a mystery that has been inexplicable for over thirty years. The developments are as follows: One of the members of a man named Griffith, sexton of the First Presbyterian church, Allegheny, Penn., who disappeared about that time. He was addicted to habits of intemperance, and it was supposed had run away from Allegheny. On the other hand, a man named Griffith, sexton of the First Presbyterian church, Allegheny, Penn., who disappeared about that time. He was addicted to habits of intemperance, and it was supposed had run away from Allegheny. On the other hand, a man named Griffith, sexton of the First Presbyterian church, Allegheny, Penn., who disappeared about that time. He was addicted to habits of intemperance, and it was supposed had run away from Allegheny.

The Sea Scavenger.

This fish is a species of mussel, the *Mytilus lithophilus*. It works much mischief on the hulls of ships, and on this account it is regarded by ship owners as an enemy, yet a Westminister reviewer, quoted by Professor Simmonds, points out another action of this fish more than equivalent on the side of advantage. "Were the fragments of wrecks and masses of straggle timber, that would choke harbors and clog the ways, permitted to remain undisturbed, the loss of life and injury to property that would result would soon far exceed all the damage done and dangers caused by the terebro. This active shell fish is one of the police of Neptune—down a boy and a relay in the end, down Cass to Sproat, and out again to Woodward, where I expect I ran over two women and a horse, and then came directly here. It couldn't have been me, sir."

Rescued from a Watery Barrel.

The Toronto Mail tells the following remarkable yarn: "What in the name of goodness is that?" said a fisherman to his companion, as he held up a large fish, and the eastern end of the bay about 5:30 the other morning. "What do you mean?" inquired his companion. "You bind your eye on the barrel, with what looks like a pair of legs sticking out of it?"

Whence Come the Birds?

Along in cherry-time one wonders to see so many robins in the orchard and over by the hedgerows; to the thorns of which droop branches deeply beaded with the bits of red ripeness. Where do the birds come from in such flocks? A dozen in an tree, a score in another, had even a hundred cutting the air around like arrows that are all throat. How do they discover the cherry trees? And isn't it surprising they should come long leagues after them? But where grow the cherries the birds do flock, and even a hundred cutting the air around like arrows that are all throat. How do they discover the cherry trees? And isn't it surprising they should come long leagues after them? But where grow the cherries the birds do flock, and even a hundred cutting the air around like arrows that are all throat.

The Biggest Lie.

Bishop Selwyn was a benevolent and kindly spoken man as well as a great and famous one. He interested himself in the poor, especially in miners. One day, coming on a company of miners, he heard them talking in a very animated way, so loudly that he said to them: "My friends, something seems to interest you all very much; I heard your voices quite the distance, may I inquire what it is?" To which they replied: "You see that copper tea-kettle there? We found it, and were just saying that the one who could tell the biggest lie should have it." "Oh," said the bishop, "an sorry for that; I hope you never saw it." "No," they said, "a fearful habit, and so unmanly. Why never told a lie in my life." Whereupon, the four miners shouted in a breath: "Give the governor the kettle!" all of them thinking his assertion "the biggest lie they had ever heard."

How Diamonds are Bought.

Buying diamonds for retail is said to be a delicate and difficult task. The buyer sits down at a table with a large sheet of white paper spread before him. On the paper are placed the contents of certain packages received by the wholesale dealer. The keen eye of the buyer, an expert of course, picks out at once the shallow, flawed, and all defective stones, which are definitely rejected, and swept into a bag. The selected stones must next be paired, and to this end a tin plate, mounted on four feet, and provided with holes of different size, is employed. On this the diamonds are laid, and shifted to and fro till each diamond has been fitted into a proportionate hole. Then the gems undergo a second and final examination, the buyer examining them most rigorously, and rejecting some which may at first escape his attention. Any irregularity of form, lack of brilliancy, dullness of water, or yellowness of tint is sufficient to condemn them. The matched stones are then put up in pairs in paper or small cases, and the others are sold to interior jewelers. In Paris, the latter are readily pur chased and set in the flowers, stars, crosses and other ornaments which make such a display in the windows of the Palais Royal. The French, as a rule, like showy things, and are less fastidious in diamonds than Americans are. They are more for general effect than purity or perfection, and prefer set in inferior gems which will not bear resetting.

Little Annie is the daughter of one of our most prominent citizens. Her mother told us, in her way, what a good medicine Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup was, as it had cured her of a very severe cold.

Dr. C. E. Shemmaker, the well-known oculist surgeon of Reading, Pa., offers to send, free of charge, a valuable little book on diseases of the eye, to any person who will send him a card, and return the proper treatment—giving references and testimonials that will satisfy the most skeptical. Address as above.

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