paufession of Alexander McConnell to the Marder of Rosa Colvin, in Olmsted, on the 24th of March, 1866-How the Murder was Committed - He Desires his Confession not Published Till After

By invitation of Sheriff Nicola we were preent in the County Jail at 4 o'clock yesterday sternoon, to hear the confession of Alexander McConnell, the murderer of Rosa Colvin, on the 24th of March last, and sentenced to be hung on the 10th of August, 1866.

There were several gentlemen in attendance, meluding M. S. Castle, Esq., the Prosecuting Attorney, Sheriff Nicola, Deputy Sheriff Ridgway, reporters of the Leader and Herald, and one or two jurors who sat on the trial. McConnell shows signs of deep, heartfelt contrition, and often choked with emotion while making the appended statement. He seems to have no hope of commutation, and talks of his approaching doom with a sigh of half despair and half resignation. To Mr. Castle's interrogations Mc-Cennell made the following confession:-

My name is Alexander McConnell. I am 35 or 36 years old, don't know which; was born in the county of Tyrone, Ireland; came to America 16 years ago on the 8th of July last, and landed in I was married in the township of Fitzroy, Carrolton county, Canada West, thirty miles from Ottawa. My wife was a widow with six children when I married her. We have had three children. I have always been a tarmer. I left my home to come here in February last; came directly to Clevelard; staid one week in the city, and then went to Berea to work. I have said to some persons that I came away on account of difficulties at home, but it is not so. I owed a man the sum of \$12, and he threatened to sue me. I came to earn the money to pay him. (Here McConnell was overcome by his leelings and wept.) When I started with Colvin to go to Berca on the morning of the 24th of March last, I did not intend to go all the way. I intended to turn back and go to the shanty. There was no one at the shanty when I got there. I took Colvin's clothes and boots and left my own in the bed. I then started for the railroad, past Crawford's, in-tending to go by Elyria westward—the way I tending to go by Elyria westward—the way I came. On the way to the railroad track, I met Rosa Colvin in Egler's lot. I kept on, explaining to her that I had Colvin's things to carry them to him; that he was going to Cleveland. She said it Colvin was going she was going too. We went on about hall way up the lane by Clodell's house, when I told her that if Colvin didn't get his things be would not go to Cleveland; that I was tired, and we would go back to the shanty—I having bethought me that it wouldn't do to tell the other story. We then went back to the shanty by Egler's. After laying the clothes down and she seeing them, she said she didn't believe I was going to see her husband at all. I didn't know what to say. I confessed then to her that I was going bome to Canada. She said, "Have you been robbing the house?" I said no, I was taking some of Colvin's clothes, and leaving some of mine in their place. I then said I would take my own and go home. I had none of his clothes on then. She snatched up the iron poker, and, placing herself in the door, said I should not go till William got home.
I insisted that I would go. She said she would
go and call the neighbors. I got my own clothes and started to go out of the door, when she struck me over the arm with the poker. I laid down the clothes and think I struck her then with my fist. It knocked her down. She got up and struck at me; am not sure if she struck me or not. I seized a stick of wood and struck her-I think on the back of the head; she fell. She jumped up and struck me over the head with the poker. I staggered back against the wall, seized an axe and struck her on the head—one blow. She died instantly. When I struck her the blow with the stick of wood the struck her the blow with the stick of wood the struck her the blow with the stick of wood the struck her the blow with the stick of wood the struck her the blow with the stick of wood the struck her the blow with the stick of wood the struck her the blow with the stick of wood the struck her the blow with the stick of wood the struck her the blow with the stick of wood the struck her the blow with the stick of wood the struck her of wood she fell, and I kicked her, which I think cut her ear. As she fell the last time I took her in my arms; I was alarmed, and said, "My God, have I killed you!" (The prisoner here wept bitterly and could not speak for some moments.) Then I did not know what to do; I thought I had killed her in my passion, and did not know what would become of me. I and did not know what would become of me. I went outside of the spanty and stood there a little while, then I came back into the shanty and carried her to the woodpile. This was be tween 11 and 12 o'clock in the forenoon, as near as I can tell. After carrying her out I came back into the sharty. While I was inside the two Crawfords and the two Spears passed close by the house. I heard them talking, and saw them from the shanty. She was at the time buried under the wood. As soon as they had gone to dinner, I again packed up the goods and started. I then went past the Crawfords' house to the railroad, taking the track westward, and walked to Elyria. There I took the 5 o'clock train for Sandusky, I arrived at Sandusky a little before dark, and stayed at a hotel all night; I started on Monday morning about half-past 5 o'clock on foot, for fremont, arriving there about half-past 9 or 10 in the icrencon. There I took the 11 o'clock train to Toledo, and kept straight on to Detroit. I then crossed to Port Sarnia, and took the

Grand Trunk road home. In twenty minutes or half an hour after etruck Rosa Colvin the last blow, I took her bedy out and deposited it under the wood pile. I held her in my arms a good while, expecting her to come to; was not conscious when I dropped the dress which I had wrapped around her. After I had deposited the body under the wood I came back into the house and mopped up the blood. I did place the heavy logs of wood over her jeet. It was not more than fifteen minutes from the time I struck her the first blow till I struck her the final blow with the axe. The money that was claimed to be lost and the watch and Mrs. Colvin's clothing, mever saw and deny taking. God Almighty knows I am sorry for the deed I have done, and hope to be forgiven. The toregoing statement I make voluntarily, and have desired Sheriff Nicola and Mr. Castle, the Prosecutor, to be present with other gentlemen to hear it and take

McConnell is not able to write, though he can read a little. We make no comments upon his contession, except that it is doubtless truthful and made through sincere repentance. When the contession was concluded McConnell gave way to his feelings, and, weeping, was conducted back to his lonely cell. He expressed no hope of reprieve, and seemed thankful that Christian counsel had been tendered him. He begged that his confession might not be published till after his death, but on being told that it might benefit

his cause, he consented.

Miss Rebecca McConnell, the prisoner's sister. is engaged in circulating a petition among his friends in Canada, praying the Governor of this State that the sentence may be commuted to imprisonment.—Cievetand Leader, 11th.

## THE HOUSEMAN MURDER.

Thairwell's Trial Concluded-A Verdict of Murder in the First Degree-The Trial of Mrs. Houseman.

Uniontown, July 10. - The Court reassembled at 9 o'clock this morning, and the examination of Wesley C. Larimer, who was on the stand at the time of adjournment on Monday evening, was continued. His testimony was substantially the same as that of the other witnesses. Several other witnesses were called, but the evidence was merely accumulative, after which the Com-

monwealth closed. There was no evidence offered for the defense, and on the conclusion of the testimony on the part of the Commonwealth, the counsel proceeded with their arguments to the jury. Judge Gilmore then delivered the charge to the jury, and after they had retired, the hour of noon having arrived, the Court took a recess until 2

The Court reassembled at 2 o'clock, and the greatest anxiety was manifested to hear the result of the deliberations of the jury. The court-room was crowded with spectators, many strangers being present from different parts of the adjacent counties. The Court and spectators, however, were not kept in waiting, for immediately after the opening of the Court the jury came in, and announced through their foreman

that they had agreed upon a verdict of "Guilty of murder in the first degree,"

When the verdict was announced, Thairwell appeared to be completely overcome. Notwithstanding the conclusive evidence which had been adduced against him, and the fact that he had made a full and free contession of his participa-tion in the horrible deed, he had indulged in the

the first the lary would either reduce the grade of the crime, or probably acquit.

His hopes for lemiency seemed to be based on the facts shown, that Mrs. Houseman was the leading spirit, that she had so much influence over him that he became a mere tool to carry out her fearful designs. The rendition of the verdict, however, dissipated those hopes, and he was so much overcome that it was necessary to assist him from the court-room to the jail, when remanded for sentence.
At 3 o'clock Mrs. Mary Houseman, the wife of

the murdered man, and paramour of Fairwell, was arraigned for trial for the murder of her husband. Before the jury had been empan-nelled, the Court adjourned until Wednesday morning.—Pittsburg Chronicle, 11th.

#### THE CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT.

Important Letter from Governor Curtin. UNION STATE CENTRAL COMMITTEE ROOMS, NO. 1106 CHESNUT STREET, PHILADRLPHIA, July 4, 1866. -To His Excellency Andrew G. Curtin, Governor of Pennsylvania-Dear Sir:-I saw in the newspapers some weeks ago that you had initiated measures for a call of the Legislatures of the several States in extra session, to take action upon the amendments recently proposed by Congress to the Constitution of the United States. From the time since elapsed it is inferred no general concert of action has been had, and presuming this to be so many of our friends have grave doubts of the policy of a special session for our state. for our State.

As your action in the premises is likely in some things to modify my own, I hope you will be kind enough to inform me, if consistent with your views of official propriety, what action you contemplate on this important matter.

Very respectivity, your obedient servant, Chairman Union State Central Committee.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, HARRISBURG, Pa , July 11 1866. Sir :- Your favor of the 4th inst has been received. The question of calling an extra session of the Legislature to ratify the amendments proposed by the Congress of the United States has been carefully considered. As goon as Cong ess finally passed the amendments I consulted with the Governors of several of the States by telegraph, with the view of securing immediate and concerted action in ratifying them; believing that such a course might hasten the great end to be attained by their incorporation into our organic law. But the proposition was not received with the lavor anticipated, and it now seems settled that there will be no general action of the States to ratify by extra session, even it Pennsylvania should do so. To call an extra session in this state, there ore, would not in any degree hasten the adoption of the amendments by a sufficient number of the states. The issues involved in the adoption of the states. The issues involved in the adoption of the states are not new. They are questions which were considered and discussed during the whole progress of the war. The people have had abundant opportunity to consider them, and I do not doubt have definitely made up their minds on them. After it was ascertained that there could be peace and union only by the utter destruction of the mintary power of traitors, who, whilst there was the remotest hope of the dismemberment of the Government, would entertain no terms of adjustmen other than the severance of the States, and peace was restored only after the valor of our armies and the fidelity of our people had disarmed treason by the expirate of those who had marped the orms of government in the rebellious States, and thus competing us to accept the terrible arbitrament of the sword to rescae the Regulbile from those who had committed eight minicus of people to compass its destruction, and having saved it at an invaloutable sacrifice of brood and of treasure, it well becomes the people to provide for its websare in the ruture, so that those who shall live a term to ion an integral part of our nation, we should be magnanimous to a rec sinced people, who are to ion an integral part of our nation, we should also guard at sections against the possibility of renewed attempts to dismember the Union. There must be some penalty to a crime that has desolited our land, ridged it with untianely graves bereaved a most every household, and sta certed action in ratitying them; believing that such a course might hasten the great end to be attained by their

whose generosity could emanate only from a Govern

whose generosity could emanate only from a Government ostree and as strong as ours. To put all the States upon an equality as to the basis of representation is not only reasonable but necessary. Before the Rebellion three-fiths of the slaves were counted in estimating representative nopulation.

Slavery having licen abolished, the slave States unless he Constitution be amenaed as proposed, will be entitled to add two fiths of their lac slaves in estimating their representative population. Since ye, we have not carried on a bloody war of four years merely to give the rebellious states an increase of political power. That these States shall have no more representation, in proportion to their voting population, than the old free States have, is a proposition so just that it would seem to be impossible for any freeman of Februs lyania to object to an amendment to prevent

auch a result.

It is just and equitable in every sense, and, while it leaves the question of suffrage who is with the States, where it properly belongs it makes every appear to the inverests and pride of the States to liberalize their policy, and give to all classes the benefit of American civilization.

where it properly belongs it makes every appeal to the interests and pride of the States to liberalize their policy, and give to all: classes the benefit of American civilization.

That all bersons, of whatsoever class, condition, or color, should be equal in civil rights before the law, is demanded by the very form of our Goverament; and it is a bist ring stain upon our nationality that slavery has been enabled even until the noon ide of the nineteenth century, to deform our civil policy, and in many States to deny equal justice to a large class of people. To maintain our national credit, our faith with our womded and brave soldiers and to forbid the assumption of any part of the dest contracted for the Rebellion, are propositions to clearly in harmony with the purposes of the reople and the solemn duty of the Government to require clucidation.

These are the issues involved in the proposed amendments. They are intended as guarantees in the future against the renewal of wrongs already long suffered. But they are, in fact, elements which should have entered into our organic law whose the Government was trained in express terms, as they did in its true spirit, to effect their adoption, and the restoration of the States lately in rebetien, upon the terms proposed, at the earliest possible period, is my earliest destre, and to that end my humble efforts will be given with untiring zeal to the avocacy of the candidates who are identified with them. I am griad to know that the great Union party that has guided the Government so faithfully, even in the darkest hour of the war, and through whose instrumentality, the measures were devised to preserve our beloved Union, is cordially united in the support of these amendments, as is also out distinguished candidate for Governor—General Geary. Yielding to no one in veneration for the great charter of our identifies, I should not favor changes in its text for light or trivial causes, but the late Beebilon against the Government has made it our duty to incorporare into the o

Colonel Fr. Jorday, Chairman Union State Central Committee, Philadelphia

[GOSSIP ABOUT THE ACTRESSES. - Charlotte Cushman will shortly celebrate the 60th anuiversary of her birth. Fanny Kemble is in her 49th year; Kate Bateman is 24 years old; Julia Dean is 35; Madame Celeste is 64; Mr. John Wood is 36; Julia Bennett Barrow is 41; Adau Wood is 36; Julia Bennett Barrow is 41; Adah Isaacs Menken, 27; Avonia Jones, 28; Kate Reignolds, 27; Mrs. Vernon is nearly 70; Mrs. J. H. Ailen is 22; Madeline Henriques is 20, and is the youngest "leading lady" on the stage: Farepa is 38; Miss Hosmer is 26; Maggie Mitchell is 30; Miss Effie Germon is 26; Mrs. John Drew. 59; Mrs. D. P. Bowers, 41; Miss Josie Orton, 25; Miss Annie Graham, 30; Miss Lizzie Price, 24; Miss Corney Jefferson, 28; Ettle Henderson, 23; Miss Lucy Rushton, 20,

#### AMUSEMENTS.

BEYARTS' MINSTRELS give their farewe'l matinee to-morrow at 2 o'clock, and last appearance, posi-tively, to morrow night at the Che-nut Street Thea-tre. Never have we had a company whose "tout ensemble" equalled this great organization.

HELLER's "Scarlet Spirit" has given much food for thought, and bewilders the wisest of his patrons to explain the "modus operandi" of its appearance and disappearance. Large andiences nightly attend the Arch.

JESSIE BROWS and the Lost Ship are the attrac-tions at the Wainut. Those great dramas will be given this and to-morrow evening. The whole com-

—A disease peculiar to spring chickens prevails to an alarming extent, and towls are brought to market that are quite untit for wholesome food.—Alexandria Gazette.

We suppose this disease will be set down as a suppose that are quite trickings. chickenosis instead of trichinosis.

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Will be sold at maitimore, Maryland, on TUES-DAY, July 24, 1866, at 10 o'clock A M., at their ancho age, south side of basin, the following-named Wessels, together with all their Stores, Anchors, Bloats, etc., belonging to them, now on board,

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Side-wheel double-end ferry boat of 474 tons; length on deck, 148 feet; breadth of beam, 32 teet; over, at 150 feet; depth of hold, 11 feet 2 inches; draft, 7 feet; has one low-pressure inclined engine; diameter of cylinder — inches; stroke of piston, 9 feet; well found in all her outfits; hull good as new, but slight repairs required to machinery.
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Side-wheel steamer of 325 tons; length on deck, 1160 feet; breadth of beam, 24 feet; over all, 46 feet; depth of boid, 8 feet; draft, 5 feet; has one low pressure team engine; diameter of cylinder, 51 inches; strike of pisten. 10 feet; in good running order, with

stores on board
THE "MAYFLOWER," Side-wheel seamer of about 400 tons; length on deck, 164 feer; breadth of beam, 23 teet; over alt, 44 feet; depth of hold, 6 feet; draft, 5 feet; has one low-pressure beam engine; diameter of cylinder, 38 inches; stroke of piston, 8 feet; in running order,

with stores on board.

THE "ISLAND CITY,"

Side-wheel steamer of 198 tons; length on dack, 158 feet; breacht of beam, 22 feet; over all, 36 feet; depth of hold, 6 feet farft, 8 feet; has one low-pressure beam engine; diameter of cylinder, 38 inches; stroke of piston, 8 feet; rebuilt in Baltimore in 1864; in running order, with

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