## THE DAILY EVENING TELEGRAPH-PHILADELPHIA, MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1867.

## DEATH IN THE DOCK.

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On the 28th of April, 1794, a messenger from the Chief Secretary's office, with four policemen, entered Hyde's Coffee-house, College-green, Dublin. The entrances to the house had been watched through the night, and the appearance of the messenger had been anxiously awaited by at least one resident in the hotel. This person was a London attorney, named Cokayne, who had arrived in Dublin on the 1st of April with a friend of ten years' standing, the Rev. William Jackson, a clergyman of the Church of Ireland, but apparently without a cure. Jackson slept in the room next to that occupied by Cokayne, and opening on the same passage. The messenger addressed a few words in whispers to Cokayne, who, pale and trembling, met him on the stairs. The party proceeded to the corridor, with which Jackson's room communicated. Cokayne begged leave to remain outside. The messenger and his assistants entered. The noise awakened Jackson. Starting up he endeavored to seize some papers piled npon a table beside his bed. He had cleared that table the night before, and now at a glance that treachery been at work. The measenger SAW caught Jackson's hands, and motioning to his assistants to secure the papers, read aloud a warrant addressed to Tresham Gregg, keeper of Newgate, directing him to hold in safe custody the Rev. William Jackson, clerk, late of London, charged with high treason, and, specially, with inducing the king's enemies in

France to invade his realm of Ireland. Jackson had proceeded to France three years before to collect evidence in the famous case of the Duchess of Kingston. That business brought him into connection with some of the leading spirits of the revolution. He remained in Paris in habits of intimacy with some members of the French convention, and either at his own suggestion, or through their influence, was commissioned to ascertain the sentiments of the lower classes in England and Ireland towards the French republic, and should he find them favorable, to prepare cortain agents of the French convention in both countries for the landing of an invading force. A relative of Jackson, named Stone, had been long settled in Paris, and engaged in business there. He had a brother, resident in London, and an assistant, bearing the name of Bereaford, married to the sister of Archibald Hamilton Rowan, who, when Jackson arrived in Ireland, was lying in Newgate under a charge of sedition. Stone furnished Jackson, on his de-parture from Paris, with letters of introduction to Horne Tooke and Doctor Crawford. Armed with these credentials, Jackson reached London, and immediately proceeded to execute his commission. He renewed his intimacy with Cokayne, and employed him as his agent and confidential secretary. Jackson's communications with the convention were addressed at first through Stone, and then through Cokayne, to Monsieur Chapeaurouge, marchand, Hambeurg, under cover to Messrs. Texier, Angeli, and Massay, Amsterdam, in a third envelope directed to Monsieur Daubeduscaille, Hambourg. The letters were written in commercial style. "Business" meant Jackson's enterprise; "goods" denoted pro-visions for the expected army of invasion; "Magnett" stood for the French department of marine; "the baby" was the young republic; and so on. These letters were copied out by Cokayne, Jackson alleging that he owed money in England, where his own handwriting was well known. Throughout the correspondence Stone's name was transposed into Enots, and Jackson named himself Thomas

Popkins.

ters, and believing that Robespierre in the first flush of power would see the advantage of distracting England by exciting a rebellion in Ireland, redoubled his activity. He and Cokayne were hospitably received by a Mr. MacNally, a barrister, who took a foremost place in defending prisoners arraigned for high treason. Through this gentleman, an arrangement was effected for the introduction of Jackson to Archibald Hamilton Rowan. The letters addressed by Stone to Horne Tooke and Dr. Crawford had never been delivered, and they now served 8.8 certificates of Jackson's fidelity to "the cause." A long and anxious deliberation ensued in Rowan's "lodgings" in Newgate. Jackson used all means of persuasion to induce Wolfe Tone to proceed as the envoy of the Irish republicans to Paris. Tone hesitated, and at last persistently refused. He hinted something about five hundred pounds, but Jackson replied that the "French nation was as generous as brave." This did not satisfy Tone. Then a Dr. Reynolds was appealed to, also in vain; and at last Jackson penned those two reports on public feeling in England and Ireland, which condemned him.

But almost from the moment of his landing in England, every movement made by Jackson was known to the Government. Cokayne furnished Pitt with complete copies of Jackson's correspondence. The more recent letters were written as if in reference to a lawsuit in which Jackson was engaged, but Cokayne possessed the key and sold it. He assured Mr. Pitt that he was induced to betray his friend through motives of the purest patriotism, but he said something more. Alleging that Jackson owed him a debt of six hundred pounds, which he could not afford to lose, he reasoned that if Jackson should be executed through his information, the debt would never be recovered. William Pitt understood the hint and the man. He assured Cokayne he should be no loser by his patriotism. From that hour Cokayne accompanied Jackson as his shadow. He never left his side. Every letter, document, or word of Jackson's was immediately communicated to Government. The moment the paper on the state of Ireland was penned, and placed in Cokayne's hands to be copied like the rest for transmission through the post office, Cokayne conveyed it-while Jackson slept-to Mr. Hamilton, Private Secretary to the Lord-Lieutenant. He took a press copy of the original, and then returned it to Cokayne, directing him to post it in the usual way. The letter was, by order, intercepted, and then the authorities struck the meditated blow.

The arrest was made, and Jackson was lodged in the jail at Newgate, on the 28th of April, 1794. The indictments were not for-April, 1754. The indictments were not for-mally laid until the 23d of June. On the 30th of June Jackson pleaded "Not Guilty." Then the trial was deferred until the 7th of November. It was again postponed to the 20th of January, 1795, and once more to the 23d of April. Nearly a year had elapsed from the arrest of Jackson, and so long a delay was unusual in those troubled times. It was expected, probably, that in the interval some damnatory evidence might be procured against Hamilton Rowan and others suspected of complicity with Jackson's design. But Hamilton Rowan escaped from Newgate in November, 1794, through the agency of a government informer, and then, at length, preparations were made for Jackson's trial.

The court was formed of the Earl of Clonmell, Lord Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench, Mr. Justice Downes, and Mr. Justice Chamberlain. Mr. Justice Bond was absent. The names of the leading counsel for the accused are remarkable in Irish history. Amongst them are found those of John Philpott Curran, George Ponsonby, L. MacNally, and Thomas Addis Emett. The case from the first was clear against the prisoner. There were the Two celebrated despatches from Jackson to the convention are extant, and possess a sin-was proved, indeed, that Cokayne swore his last deadly information ra the prive council under a menace from the Lord Chief Justice. "Remember, sir, you are in our power as to committing you if you do not swear." The case against the prisoner hinged upon the evidence of Cokayne; but the court decided that in Ireland but the court decided that in Ireland one witness was sufficient to condemn a man of treason, though two were required in England. At 4 o'clock in the morning of the 26th of April the jury found Jackson "guilty." They recommended him to mercy; but the Lord Chief Justice exclaimed that they had done of the full." that they had done so "only" through com-passion: a plea not influential with such a judge. Turning to the jailor, who stood be-side the condemned, he said, "Jailor, take that man away, and let him be brought up here in four days. The four days slowly but surely passed hour by hour away, and then, on the morning of the 30th of April, Jackson was conveyed to the Court of King's Bench to hear his doom pronounced. He had made some allusions to suicide, and therefore was guarded strictly. His food was always cut in pieces for him, the jailor fearing to entrust him with a knife and fork. "The man who did not fear death," said Jackson, "can never want the means of dying. So long as his head is within reach of the prison-walls, he can prevent his body being suspended to scare the community." A partisan of the Government of the day saw Jackson as he passed on his way to the Court. This person remarked to one of Jackson's connsel, "I always said Jackson was a coward, and I am not mistaken. His fears have made him sick. I observed him, as the coach drove by, with his head out of the window, vomiting violently." His friend hurried to the court only to wilness a most appalling scene. Jackson's frame quivered, rather than trembled, but his mind was firm and collected still. With clammy and nerveless fingers he tried to press the hands of his counsel, and sadly smiling, whispered the words of Pierre. "We have deceived the Senate." The Chief Justice, perceiving the condition of the prisoner, thought of remanding him, but the Attorney-General prayed for judgment. Then "the Reverend William Jackson was set forward." All eyes were directed towards him. His body teemed with profuse perspiration, the steam rose from his hair, the muscles of his face twitched in convulsions, his eyes were nearly closed, and when at intervals he opened them the dull dry light of death glared out of them. Ordered by the court to stand up, his mind strave to command his failing body. He rose, but tottered and reeled as if about to fall. At last he crossed his arms tightly over his breast, and, rocking to and fro, awaited the traitor's dreadful sentence of doom. When the clerk of the court directed him to hold up his hand, he strove to raise it, but the powerless arm dropped instantly at his side. When the clerk demanded, in the usual form, "what he had now to say why judgment of death and execution thereon should not be awarded against him according to law," Mr. Curran rose and moved an arrest of judgment. A legal argument of some length ensued. All the while the prisoner grew worse and worse; he presented the aspect of a living corpse. Mr. Curran proposed that he should be remanded, as his state of body rendered communication between him and Lord Clonmell impossible. counsel thought it would be lenity to dispose of was soon acquainted with this change of mas- the sentence with all speed. They opened the

windows of the court, and the cold air came rushing in. But the spirits of death gathered closer round him, and now he fainted. He sank down in the dock. The crowd heard the hollow sound of his convulsive movements against the panelling. The closing scene is

state of insensibility, it is impossible that I can pronounce the judgment of the court upon him.

Therenpon, Mr. Thomas Kinsley, an apothecary, who was in the jury-box, said he would go down to him. He stooped down over the dock, felt Jackson's pulse, and then turning round towards the judge, declared that the prisoner was certainly dying. By order of the court, Mr. Kinsley was sworn.

Lord Clonmell-Are you in any profession ? Mr. Kinsley-I am an apothecary.

Lord Clonmell-Can you speak with certainty of the state of the prisoner ? Mr. Kinsley-I can; I think him verging to

sternity. Lord Clonmell-Do you think him capable

of hearing his judgment? Mr. Kinsley—I do not think he can. Lord Clonmell—Then he must be taken away. Take care that in sending him away no mischief be done. Let him be remanded until further orders; and I believe it is as much for his advantage, as for all of yours, to adjourn. But the further orders never were delivered; the case of the prisoner had been already transferred to another tribunal. The sheriff, pale and horror-stricken, informed the court that the man was dead.

All rose and hurriedly left the court. The jailors laid the corpse straight on the floor of the dock, and hastened away. Many a man dead by the execution of the law had they seen, but never such a sight as this. All through the night, the dead lay there, a guard of soldiers keeping silent watch. There is a story that at midnight a weeping woman stole in like a spirit, kissed the cold lips, clasped the rigid hands, and vanished. Next day an inquest was held; the body contained a large quantity of metallic poison. The jailor swore that on the preceding day, a little before the prisoner was brought up to court, he found him, with his wife, greatly agitated, and vo-miting violently. "I have taken some tea," said Jackson, "which has disagreed with me." He had died of poison, and bailled the law. Whether it was to save himself and his family from the shame of an ignominious execution, or to preserve his property from confiscation, he had hurried to the final Court of Appeal. In his pocket, as he lay dead, were found some passages from the penitential Psalms, in

his own handwriting. Such a scene could never be forgotten by those who witnessed it. Few, however, could imagine the effect it had upon the judge. Here is his "note," written with his own hand on the very night of Jackson's death, when the eyes of the corpse were rigidly fixed upon the

ceiling of the Court:--"April 30, 1795.-Recollect the death of that Jackson, at the moment that judgment was about to be pronounced upon him. This should make a new judicial era in your life. As to regimen, diligence, and exercise, remember to ride and walk as much, to eat and sleep as little as possible; to read law as much, to idle as little as you can, and never to fret at all; to laugh and smile as much, to frown and sulk as little as may be. Never to be drunk. Put yourself into no person's power. Live as long and as happy as you can. Turn each moment to the best account, and make the most of each good occasion, and the best of every bad one. Look to God and yourself only."

What a comment on so fearful a tragedy, and written by a judge's hand !-All the Year Round.

### LEGAL NOTICES.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA.



afar interest in reference to the recent Fenian conspiracy. They are written with great ability, and, as far as England is concerned, bear the impress of candor and truth. As the result of long-continued and minute inquiry, Jackson states that although the English people were weary with a war against France, which brought the nation hollow fame but substantial loss, they entertained a deeply-rooted hatred towards the French republicans. He declares that ninety-nine men out of every hundred would start to their feet in arms to drive an invader of the sacred English land into the sea. Any invasion of England would unite all classes and parties in determined opposition, and no sacrifice would be considered too great to protect the inviolability of the soil. He artfully recommends the convention to disarm the hostility of the English people by liberating at once, and without conditions, all English prisoners, to restore to them their property, and to transmit them with all honor and respect to England. He suggests that the convention should proclaim their anxious desire for peace, and their desire to live on terms of amity with the British nation. But under no circumstances did he think it possible to set the populace in array against their Government and Constitution.

But in Ireland Jackson believed the Convention had the fairest prospects of success. The organization known as that of the "United Irishmen" prevailed in every part of the kingdom, and possessed agents in the army, the navy, and all public departments. The servants in private families of power and influence were members of the fraternity. Theobold Wolf Tone had just accomplished, as it seemed, the difficult task of effecting an alliance between the Dissenters of the North and the Roman Catholics of the south. Jackson estimates the Protestant Episcopalians at four hundred and fifty thousand, the Dissenters at Catholics at three million one hundred and fifty thousand-an enumeration which proves his sagacity and knowledge of the country at the time. The Dissenters, under which name he includes the Presbyternians of the north, were, he asserts, to a man, re-republicans. The Roman Catholics of the south were thoroughly discontented and disloyal, ready to welcome any invader. The great mass of the people would receive the French into fraternity the moment they appeared, because while the Government of Eugland was thoroughly national, that of Ireland was provincial. In addition to the natural love of change, the great bulk of the nation was actuated by hatred of the English name. The gentry and clergy were more tyrannical and aristocratic than the nobles whom the republicans had annihilated in France. The English Government was solely a Government of force in Ireland, and would crumble to pieces before any power of adequate strength at the first collision. The people had received arms from France, and were efficiently drilled. Their organization was complete, and they awaited with ill-concealed impatience the arrival of a force sufficiently great to give them confidence. The moment such a force appeared, Ireland would be in a blaze, and the English dominion at an end.

On the 1st of April, the day of Jackson's a rrival in Dublin, Danton and his colleagues were murdered in Paris, and the sanguinary Robespierre ruled the French republic, Jackson TN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA. MICHAEL SHAFFER vs. JOHN GATCHELL. Levari Facias. June Term, 1867. No. 768. The Auditor appointed by the Court is distribute the fund arising from the sale under the above writ from the toilowing described real estate, to wit: - All that certain lot or piece of ground situate on the moth side of Coates street, at the distance of fluy five feet ten inches and three-quarters of an inch esasi-ward from the east side of Thirteenth street, in the burget of the Cuty of Philadelphila: containing in front or breadth on said Coates street eighteen feet, and ex-tending southward between lines at right angles with said Coates street, in length or depth on the east line thereof aixly feet, and on the west. Hine thereof forly-three feet to the head of a three-feet wide alley lead-ing southward bit of pain street, thence along the eastwardly side of said alley still southward seven-teen inches and unverties of moth ward seven-teen in the toil of Mary Brown, and westward partly by a certain two feet six inches wide alley lead-ing northward into the said Coates street, partly by the back ends of Ann W. English and Nathan street,'s Thirleenth street lots, and partly by said three-feet wide alley leading southward into said or the street. Mill meet the parties interested for the purposes of

Stretch's Thirteenth Breading southward into saw inco-feet wide alley leading southward into saw Penn street. Will meet the parties interested for the purposes of his appointment at his Oflice, No. 123 S. FIFT H Street in the city of Philadelphia, TUESDAY, the 17th day of December, 1867, at 4 o'clock P. M., when and where all persons interested are required to make their claims, or be debarred from coming in upon said fund, 12.5 lot AMOS BRIGGS, Auditor,

The second secon

IN THE ORPHANS' COURT FOR THE CITY AND COUNTY OF PHILADELPHIA. Estate of PERRY O'DANIEL, deceased. The Auditor appointed by the court to audit, set-tle, and adjust the second account of THOMAS MKGEAR, Trustee of estate of PERRY O'DANIEL, deceased, and to report distribution of the balance in the hands of the accountant, will meet the parties interested, for the purpose of the appointment, on THUREPAY, I ecember 19 187 at 12 o'lock M., at No. 14: ARCH Street, in the city of Philadelphia. No. 14: ARCH Street, in the city of Philadelphia. Y. D. BAKER, 12.6 fmw51\* 12.6 fmw51\*

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