LOCAL AFFAIRS.

FRIDAY MORNING.....APRIL 4.

The Seduction Case.

Court of Common Pleas.—Judge M'Clure. Mary Murray vs. Wm. A. Greatrake.

The following letter was read on Wednesday afternoon. It is dated steamer Midas, April 10th, and post marked Cincinnati, April 17, and is from

MISS MURRAY TO REV. MR. TAYLOR.

STEAMER MIDAS, April 10, 1855.

My Kind Pastor:—I received your letter on Monday, the 2d of March, just as I was getting ready to leave the city, and that is why I have not answered your letter before this. I have not been well since I came on board or I should have answered it immediately, and the boat rocks so it is almost impossible to write at all. I did not mean to treat my friends unkindly, by leaving them so abruptly, and I did not look at the matter in all its lights, or I should never have taken the step I did. I cannot tell you now how much I repent, but alas! it is too late now. I received a letter from my husband requesting me to come to Orleans immediately; and though he had not treated me as it became a husband to treat a wife, he would now do all in his power to make me happy. If I still wished a divorce he would give me one, or (when I saw him, I would consent to live with him; he would do all that could be reasonably expected of a husband to make me happy. I wished for a divorce and started from Louisville. I left Mrs. Rhodes' and went to the railroad station and got in the cars, (that was on Thursday morning,) and on Friday morning I was in Cincinnati, and on Saturday I arrived in Louisville; on Monday I took passage on the steamer Southerner for New Orleans; and in just two weeks from the day I left Allegheny I arrived at New Orleans. On my way I began to fear I had not done right, and commenced to think of returning, but I still kept on, in the hope that he would do as he had said he would. Well, I arrived at New Orleans, and nobody came to receive me; so I placed myself in the care of a gentleman who had his family on board. This was the best I could do, for I was afraid to go into the city alone. I remained on the boat until Saturday. In the meantime he found me a boarding house, and then went back on shore. Had it not been for him I should have returned home again, for I thought that all was not right when he did not come as he had promised. I did not go on shore until Saturday, and I was going down to the boat to see if I couldn't return on her, when I met him. Our meeting was not a very affectionate one, I assure you. He treated me very gruffly, but I would not permit him. He then told me that he had seen me before, and that he knew of my arrival; that he had come on board, and having inquired for me and my baggage, he found that I was there, but I had no baggage; which was a lucky thing for me, and as he did not wish to take me with or any clothes, he left me to take care of myself until we would have a better opportunity of explaining to me what he wished me to do. He told me, and I believed. He got angry, and then we parted. I saw him three times afterwards, to talk with him, but I received him in my resolutions. He used language that made my heart fit for a moment to bear, and after that I could not speak to him. I never went out alone, for he had given that I should never leave New Orleans without him. But his threat was harmless, as I am now on my way south. Now I hope this letter will set the people at rest, and they will believe that I *have* been to New Orleans. I shall never feel indebted to you for your kindness, and to all the members of the church. You treated me kindly, and for me to receive such kindness was not misplaced, and you did not deserve ill. Such an idea as that of obtaining Mr. Greatrake as my object for entering the church is false. No; you know me better. I never thought of such a thing. I had been led a gay, dissolute life, and the result was, I married a Unitarian acquaintance, and in five weeks afterwards was alone. He had left me, and I was not sorry. I then went into all the gaieties of the world—but I was not happy, though all seemed to think me so. I soon wearied of them, and tried the quiet of home to see if I could not find rest—but it was not for some time that I could bring myself to look at her thoughts. After a while I came to the conclusion that there was no need to be cast down even while suffering under the natural consequences of the fearful mistake I had made in marrying a man I could never love; for he who said, "Commit thy way unto the Lord," would sustain me in my time of trouble, when I, unsought to do it, threw myself upon Him in the time of trouble, when I thought they generally walked home with her when she left the store.

Counsel continued.—I saw him every time he called; he called at least once a week while Mary was at Mrs. Derby's; precious to her joining the Baptist church I was not acquainted at all with her character; she told me she was married on the 11th day of December, 1853; I thought he was engaged to be married, or I wouldn't have encouraged his visits; don't know whether Alderman Rinehart was living or dead at the time she said he married her; did not think at that time that her conduct was such as to interpose an obstacle to her marriage with Greatrake; from the time she took the laudanum had no knowledge of any indelicacy or impropriety in her conduct; previous to my conversation with her I did not hear Greatrake say she was married.

Mrs. Cole, *sworn*—I am a sister of the defendant; I reside in Allegheny; Mrs. Murray came in at the back door one evening to my mother's house; she represented herself in great distress at Mary's leaving home and making charges against herself; she represented Mary as a wild, unmanageable girl; she did not make use of the terms reckless and loose, but told of circumstances that were reckless; she spoke of her appearance when going to balls; spoke particularly of her looking after Mary until after midnight on the night she left home; she said that Mary had formed an intimacy with this man with the opera troupe; he had taken her away twice in a carriage—once to the theatre and once to the opera; I did not give the name of this man; he watched her; followed her, and made every profession of love; said she got letters out of Mary's pocket, but can't tell on my own recollection what they contained; she was angry at Mary for wearing a certain dress, when she found out it was to go out to have her daguerreotype taken for this opera troupe man; in speaking of the persons who came to see Mary, she said they were a set of fellows; which I judged she meant disreputable persons.

Cross-examined—But nothing new was elicited.

Mrs. Marshall, a sister of the defendant, was sworn, and corroborated the testimony of the last witness in regard to Miss Murray's visit to her mother's, and also as to what she said; she said she had a great many admirers, including the opera troupe man; that the opera troupe man wrote her a great many letters; that while Mary was asleep, she crept along the floor and took the letters from her pockets, and that there was enough love in them to fill all Allegheny.

Cross Examined—But nothing new came out.

Joseph Elliott *sworn*—[This witness is the celebrated shirt and collar man, No. — Fifth street. When he commenced to testify, the Rev. Mr. Taylor escorted the lady witnesses out of the Court room.]

Am acquainted with the prosecutrix; she worked for me on Market street about two and a half years ago; it was before she went to the printing office; am a married man for five years; I have very frequently cautioned her in regard to her conduct toward young men; she acted very foolish toward young men; strangers, with whom she ought not to have any thing to do with; I knew the persons who sought her acquaintance were persons who sought it for an object different from good; she took liberties with men in talking to them; I advised her not to go home with some of them; she did go home with one or two of them, nevertheless; saw her on her return from New Orleans; took notice of her personal appearance; I remarked to her that she looked very much like a married lady; she acknowledged she was married; she said that she was married to a man for some time; he was living in New Orleans; had treated her badly, and she would not live with him; his name was Mitchell; told me she got acquainted with him at the *Dispatch* office; gave me a whole history of the matter.

Alexander Robinson, *sworn*—Reside in Allegheny; know the prosecutrix; knew her when she lived at Mrs. Price's; she attended in the tee-cream saloon; knew her associates and companions; she was rather bold and forward; quick at making an acquaintance with any males who came to the saloon; in her conduct she was considered loose; was in the habit of going to Price's saloon.

Cross examined—It was in the spring of 1852; at that time I was working for the Ohio & Pennsylvania Railroad Company; I was one of her associates and companions; judged her character was bad from her associates and companions, of which I was one; judge that loose means forward in making up with men who come to the store; was in the habit of going to Mary's house to see her; it was not because I thought her loose.

Mr. Swartzwelder said his rebutting witnesses were not all present, but he would offer the prosecutrix herself as rebutting to a portion of the testimony for the defence. He proposed putting her on the witness stand, with the letters read here put into her hand, and that she be submitted to the most rigid examination from the counsel on the other side in regard to them. And also proposed to recall the prosecutrix for the purpose of introducing new matter. The Court refused the offer.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Testimony for the prosecution closed.

Mr. Swartzwelder put in the evidence of one of the witnesses for the defendant, read the testimony on which he intended to rely for the defence, and after which Mr. Black opened for the defence, which he said he was prepared to show, from the testimony of this Court, under the act, although such a birth occurred, the child was born dead, and that there was no evidence of good repute, and in the opinion of the law, seduced. He denied that the lady in question was of good repute, and in such instances as the 143d Section was construed by Judge Lewis, in the case from 3d Lancaster. He did not intend to argue the point of law, but that defendant was entitled to formation. Did not deny that prosecutrix was under age, but he had that though the jury should not believe it from the evidence, that she was of good repute, and consequently bad, and that was the law contemplated. But the counsel would have to go to the much round of authorities. He was a married woman. Much of the testimony had been received of the defence, as to the character of the woman.

This girl had made confessions to her associates. Confessions were to be received with caution, as persons have been convicted on circumstantial evidence, on the confession or statement when it came to the truth, if the confession implicated others. But when confessions bearing on the case of the prosecutrix, were of great importance against the latter, they were argued that confessions were to be received with caution, and hence the rule. Mr. Black argued at length in favor of the position that the testimony of the prosecutrix, but corroborative evidence should be given, and that she was unworthy of credit. He argued that the 143d Section of the Act of Assembly, under which the defendant was indicted, was unconstitutional, and that the Act of Assembly was unconstitutional, and that the Act of Assembly was unconstitutional, and that the Act of Assembly