

The Enterprise.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 30, 1883.

J. W. DOUGHTON, M. E. DOUGHTON, Editors.

One hundred and ninety-seven children had died by Monday from the Catarrh at Victoria Hall, London, England, Saturday night, and they were crushed to death in leaving an upper room after an entertainment.

A BALLOON ascension and daring feats performed high in the air was one of the attractions the last day of the Greenwich Fair. There was also an equestrian race by young ladies, and a pony race by boys. About 7,000 people attended Thursday, and the Fair on the whole was financially and otherwise a success.

Mrs. MARY CLEMMER, the well-known Washington correspondent and writer, was to be married yesterday to Mr. Edmund Hudson, of the Washington correspondent of the Boston Herald, and editor of the Capital and the Army and Navy Register, of which he is also chief proprietor. The mothers of the bride and groom and only a very few friends were invited. The newly married will sail for England on the 30th, remaining till autumn when they will reside at Mrs. Clemmer's home on Capitol Hill.

At a late meeting of the Wooster District Conference held at Creston, the following, among other resolutions on this subject, was passed.

"Resolved, That, deprecating the loss of votes for the prohibitory amendment which would result from the nomination of a State Prohibition ticket, we therefore hope that no such ticket will be presented to the people."

If the more radical portion of the Prohibitionists could take the same view of this question there might be some hope of making substantial progress at the fall election, but with them it is, "Our way or nothing."

Sentiment and Lawlessness.

Nothing strikes the intelligent and observing foreigner, brought up under one of the monarchies of the old world, where the utmost regard for authority and law is taught the people from youth up, and where every violation of law is visited with the severest penalties from which no one, rich or poor, high or low, can any more escape than from the decrees of fate—nothing so repulsive as the spirit of lawlessness and vandalism and riot and crime that prevails and too often goes unpunished and unremarked in this boasted land of free institutions. In its more extravagant manifestations, such as capital crimes and others of slightly lesser degree, public sentiment condemns and will justify their punishment, though the delays and the uncertainties of the law and the facilities with which justice is meted out, have largely abolished the moral and legal restraints that under other circumstances might deter the evil disposed from crime.

This condition of things is partially no doubt the occasion, perhaps the cause, of the prevalence all over the country of a disposition to disregard all the forms of law, and to take into their own hands the execution of penalties that should never be inflicted except upon the most certain evidence of guilt known to human law, and so in not a few instances the lives of innocent men have been taken. This of itself ought to be sufficient to alarm us, but when it is known that this disposition or tendency is extending through all ranks of society, that the individual is more afraid of more taking into his own hands the redress of his real or fancied grievances or injuries and becomes the judge and executioner of his neighbor, and the moral restraints of society, and after a fair trial with certain acquittal by a jury of his peers, we may well question the wisdom and perpetuity of Republican institutions.

Lawlessness and crime are spreading like a contagion, but instead of being viewed with apprehension, appear rather to be looked upon with indifference if not approval. On the question of the nature of crime and the moral restraints of society, the criminal, society seems totally at sea. The question of guilt has very little weight in determining whether a criminal shall be punished or not. Wealth, position, sentiment, respectable connections, prejudice or sympathy, each are more potent factors than the abstract question of guilt. It is hard to say whether these loose and wicked notions have arisen in the upper or lower strata of society, but it is certain that it pervades all ranks. From the boy not yet in his teens to his hoary-headed sire, considerations of right and wrong, law and disorder have very slight relations to human conduct.

It is sufficient for the boy that a given thing interferes with his pleasure or convenience, without reference to its having been ordered by legally constituted authorities, which cannot be expected of any civilized or improper motive, after a long and patient study of every phase of the subject, he feels perfectly safe and justified in resorting to acts of vandalism and crime to defeat the measure and testify his supreme displeasure, and the saddest thing of all that they, in most instances, are made to feel that they have the moral support of parents and friends who happen to sympathize with their view of the subject. Criminal acts on the part of their children, if not openly justified, are too often winked at or considered as the youthful pranks of boys, not sufficiently serious to warrant punishment. If the damage to property is insignificant, it does not seem to be thought that the open defiance of law, if in opposition to an unpopular measure, is demoralizing in its tendencies and setting an example to others that they will not be slow to imitate. The average judgment even in our most intelligent communities, is so weakened that it is almost more than the reputation of the authorities is worth to attempt to inflict legal penalties for minor offenses, especially if the offender is respectably connected, and so they go on growing in crime, and out of it we finally reap a plentiful crop of criminals and outlaws that are a terror to society, and which have already made this country notorious for its disregard of law.

In Europe the majesty of the law is everything, and petty crimes, as well as those of greater magnitude, are punished with such promptness and certainty and severity that they are well nigh unknown. Here on the contrary, heedless boys who have not been reared in vice but under the most favorable conditions, engage in acts of lawlessness with no apparent shame or consciousness of conscience, and all, as we believe, on account of wrong teaching.

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The jury in the Star route case brought in a verdict not guilty on the 14th, and Brady and Dorsey were discharged. Trial lasted for more than six months. It was stated that there were five ballots taken. The first was upon the question of a conspiracy, the second was upon the question of the innocence or guilt of the defendants. This vote remained unchanged until eight o'clock in the morning of the 14th, when the verdict of acquittal was announced.

JOHN BARNETT, who was on trial at Mount Sterling, Ky., for the manslaughter of Vaughn Helton, was permitted on the 14th to withdraw his plea of not guilty and plead guilty. The prosecution then offered the evidence in the facts of the murder. The widow of the murdered man told how she saw her husband shot in bed and fall dead upon the morning of the 13th. The jury fixed the punishment at penitentiary for life. Five of the seven were indicted with Barnett, namely, Newton Jarber, John Barnett, William Secrest, John Gibbs and Elias Watkins. The three others called as witnesses against Barnett, viz., James Morrison, William Hodge and Alonso Secrest.

REV. E. W. CHASE, of Richfield, a small town near St. Paul, Minn., committed suicide by hanging on the 14th. Mr. Chase was at one time Secretary of the Young Men's Christian Association of St. Paul, and afterwards President of the Society for the Relief of the Poor and Prevention of Crime in Animals in that city. Insanity was the cause of his self-destruction.

LARON HARRIS, who was committed to jail at Enterprise, Miss., for the murder of a peddler named Edward McLaughlin, was taken from the prison by an armed mob on the night of the 13th and hanged near Chattanooga, Tenn., died on the 14th aged 107 years.

EX-GOVERNOR CHARLES J. JENKINS, of Georgia, died at Augusta, that State, on the 14th.

JUSTICE JAMES, of the Equity Court, Washington, in the case of Jonathan Bigelow against Bessie Mason, wife of Sergeant Mason, in the bill for a restraining order and a decree allowing the complainant to sell the property of the defendant, dismissed the restraining order and the bill on the 14th on condition of Mr. Bigelow's bond for his expenses.

SECRETARY TELLER on the 14th paid Chief Busby, head of the Cherokee Indians, \$400,000, appropriated by Congress for lands ceded to the United States by the Cherokee Nation. The money will be distributed only among the Cherokees and

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A General Summary of Events at Home and Abroad.

Compiled from Daily Reports up to the Hour of Going to Press.

DOMESTIC.

A storm of rain and hail visited Hubbard, Ohio, on the 13th, causing a great amount of damage. Half the size of