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**Princess**  
Soap Chips,  
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Robinson's Groats, Robinson's Patent  
Barley, fresh and new.

**C. P. EAGAN,**

2 Stores:  
Duckworth Street & Queen's Road

## About Convicted Criminals

### and Their Punishment and Reformation.

THE ESCAPE OF MAURICE  
WHELAN.

By OBSERVATOR.

of Warden Ebenezer Knight, in Boat  
House Lane. Here Whelan, evidently  
soon realized that an opportunity  
to escape presented itself, and, man-  
aging to communicate with some of his  
friends in the suburbs, who sym-  
patized and co-operated with him,  
they made the way as easy as pos-  
sible. So, one morning, while the in-  
specting Warden—good, easy man—  
was quietly and with a keen ap-  
petite, I presume, taking his break-  
fast inside the house, and Whelan  
working outside, the latter "silently"  
stole away, and ran down to the  
foot of Quill Lake, where he  
found an accomplice waiting for him  
with a suit of plain clothes.

HE STARTS FOR PLACENTIA AND  
GETS THERE.

Concealed by the trees, Whelan  
quickly threw off his prison garb, and  
putting on an ordinary laborer's "over-  
all," at once began to work out the  
plan already arranged to get him  
out of the country. Eluding the ef-  
forts of the police to locate him, he  
reached Placentia on time and was at  
once conveyed to an American bank-  
ing schooner, the captain of which  
had "generously" offered to take him  
out of the Colony. However, the  
search for the elusive convict was  
kept up for some weeks. Then the  
authorities abandoned all hope of re-  
capturing him. But it was not until  
the early part of the following year  
they learnt that he had reached the  
United States and was comfortably  
settled in the city of Gloucester. Of  
course, he could have been extradited,  
but the Minister of Justice at that  
time, who, by the way, was an "un-  
compromising economist," positively  
refused to put the country to the ex-  
pense, and the authorities to the  
trouble, of bringing the homicide  
back. This attitude of the Minister  
was severely criticized at the time,  
but right-minded people, for the most  
part, endorsed his action.

PUNISHMENT AND PUBLIC SENTI-  
MENT.

The prosecution succeeded in put-  
ting up a strong case against Whelan,  
but public sentiment here at the time  
was averse to capital punishment,  
nor has that feeling changed very  
much since. As a matter of fact, we  
are not accustomed to it; only three  
executions having taken place in  
Newfoundland during the past half a  
century. Is it any wonder, then, that  
our people dislike the idea of the  
death penalty being inflicted, under  
any circumstances? Most of us re-  
gard it as a relic of barbarism. Death  
is the most ancient of all penalties,  
and the most common in antiquity, as  
it still is among savages. It is the  
most effectual mode of getting rid of  
troublesome or offensive characters;  
and the feeling it renews, when in  
active operation and unrestrained by  
the considerations which appeal to  
the intellect and conscience of civil-  
ized men, is an impulse which grows  
by what it feeds upon, and very easily  
runs to excess, nor stops short until  
the extreme limit of possible anger  
has been inflicted upon the sufferer.

OUR ONE AND ONLY METHOD OF  
EXECUTION.

Hanging is, practically, the only  
method of execution with which Brit-  
ish people are acquainted. It is a  
very ancient method. Hanging, you re-  
member, was hanged on the gallows  
which he erected for Mordred. Con-  
stantine the Great practised it in  
France the criminal was conveyed to

the gibbet seated in a cart, with his  
back to the horse, his confessor at  
his side, and his executioner before  
or behind him. In this order he was  
taken through the crowded streets. On  
arrival at the place of execution he  
was made to ascend a ladder leading  
up to the gallows; the executioner  
preceded him, mounting backwards,  
so as to assist the prisoner. The con-  
fessor followed. After he had con-  
fessed him upon the scaffold, three  
ropes were attached to the prisoner's  
neck, two of them knotted, and the  
third intended to swing him off the  
ladder. The confessor then descended  
to the ground, leaving the culprit  
standing on the ladder, and the ex-  
ecutioner upon the platform above  
him. The latter pushed away the lad-  
der with his foot and swung the  
prisoner off. In England the cart was  
driven out from under, and the man's  
neck was broken by the fall.

WHAT THE LAW REQUIRES IN  
ENGLAND.

In England the law now requires  
executions to be private; and in New-  
castle prison, not even the official wit-  
nesses required to certify the death  
see the contortions of the expiring  
convict, whose body falls into a sort  
of well, out of sight of all but the  
executioner and the attending physi-  
cian. When the physician announces  
that death has taken place, the wit-  
nesses come forward, identify the  
corpses, and sign the necessary attes-  
tation. Strangulation, as described in  
Homer's "Odyssey," appears to have  
been by hanging. In Sparta it was ef-  
fected by two executioners, who  
pulled at the opposite ends of a rope  
which encircled the victim's neck.

THE LAST EXECUTION IN NEW-  
FOUNDLAND.

The last execution in Newfoundland  
was carried out with as little cruelty  
as possible. It took place in the  
Penitentiary yard, the Sheriff, Doc-  
tor, officials of the prison and repre-  
sentatives of the city press being  
present. By the appointed hour all  
those had assembled in the Superin-  
tendent's office amidst a silence that  
could be felt. At 8 o'clock, sharp, he  
(the Superintendent) took out his  
watch, looked at it for a second or  
two, and, turning to the Sheriff, pro-  
nounced the significant words: "Mr.  
Sheriff, the time is up!" Then they  
went down stairs, met the prisoner,  
chaplain and guard, joined in solemn  
prayer, and, with measured pace  
and slow, filed out of the prison and  
proceeded to the place of execution.  
The enclosure now used as a wood-  
yard. It is not desirable that I  
should further recall the gruesome  
event by describing it here in detail.  
Suffice it to say that it passed off  
without a hitch, and, as far as could  
be observed, with a minimum of phys-  
ical suffering on the part of the vic-  
tim.

THE THEORY OF PUNISHMENT.

All students of the history of pun-  
ishment have noticed (1) the ex-  
treme cruelty of punishment among  
savages, (2) that cruelty and igno-  
rance exist in about the same propor-

## FEELS IT HIS DUTY TO TELL FACTS IN CASE

Dartmouth Citizen Says He  
Suffered For Years From In-  
digestion But Was Finally  
Restored Completely By Tan-  
lac.

"In telling how Tanlac helped me,  
I feel I am only doing my public  
duty," declared Peter Nielsen, highly  
respected citizen of Dartmouth, N.S.  
"For nearly fifteen years I was  
troubled with indigestion. My food  
would form gas that caused me sharp  
pains across my chest and almost cut  
off my breath. My kidneys also were  
out of order. I had a pain in the  
small of my back and if I stooped  
over I could hardly straighten up  
again."  
"Of late years my chief trouble was  
rheumatism. Sometimes I could not  
use my arms and shoulders. Then it  
seemed to settle in my legs. I got so  
bad I could not walk to business."  
"Finally I decided to try Tanlac  
and to-day I am a well man. My  
rheumatism is gone and I am able to  
walk back and forth to work. My  
indigestion has been overcome and I  
feel just fine. I think Tanlac is a  
wonderful medicine."  
Tanlac is sold by all good drug-  
gists.

tion, and (3) that enlightenment, and  
particularly the better understanding  
of the nature of crime and its causes,  
has tended to modify the barbaric  
forms and to mitigate the severity of  
savage punishments. Gibbons truly  
says (ch. 14): "Whenever the offence  
inspires less horror than the punish-  
ment the rigor of penal laws is  
obliged to give way to the common  
feelings of mankind." The controll-  
ing idea of the savage was vengeance.  
Upon this basis was formulated the  
savage theory of punishment. Pun-  
ishments were originally administered  
by the victim or his family. The  
Abyssinians delivered the murderer  
to the nearest relations of the vic-  
tim, to be disposed of as they deem-  
ed proper. The ancient German was  
always allowed the right to kill his  
adversary. The same was true of the  
savages of Australia. By the code of  
the Visigoths it was provided that for  
any offence for which there was not  
already prescribed punishment, the  
poena talionis should prevail. Men  
were punished "in kind," according  
to the Hebrew maxim of an eye for  
an eye and a tooth for a tooth. That  
one who set fire to a house was him-  
self destroyed by fire. This was  
also the idea of the primitive Greeks.

CAUSES WHICH OPERATE TO PRO-  
DUCE CRIME.

Usually the causes which operate  
to produce crime are extrinsic and  
independent of the individual will.  
As Rousseau says: "Anger is a pass-  
ing fever, jealousy a momentary de-  
lictum, the rapacity of the thief the  
result of an aberration of disease,  
and the depraved passions that drive  
men to sin against nature are or-  
ganic imperfections." All moral evil  
is the result of physical evil. The  
murderer himself is a sick man like  
all other criminals. Why, and in the  
name of what principle, could they  
be punished, unless it is because they  
disturb the regular course of the so-  
cial life and impede the normal and  
legitimate development of the species.  
On this ground society, or, better, the  
government, had the right to place an  
obstacle in the way of the fatal con-  
sequences of their acts, just as a  
land owner has a right to build a dyke  
against the flood which threatens to  
inundate his fields. The social power  
can, then, without scruple and  
without hesitancy, deprive malefac-  
tors of their liberty; but the moment  
that all crime is recognized as the  
natural product and logical conse-  
quence of some disease, punishment  
must become only medical treatment.  
We shall cure the thief and the vag-  
rant by teaching him the joys of hon-  
est work. If by an exception, which  
is unhappily too frequent, they show  
themselves insensible to medical cure,  
they must be separated from their fel-  
low-citizens.

I shall have something more to say  
along these lines in my next article  
on this prolific and interesting sub-  
ject.

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etc., at BOWRING BROTHERS,  
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may 18, 1922

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White.

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Ground Patra Rice.  
Ground Rice Flour.  
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Bottles and 15 Gallon Kegs.

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WATER ST. EAST.

A teaspoonful of lemon juice im-  
proves the flavor of chicken croquettes.  
Before putting eggs on toast for an  
invalid, cut the toast in small  
squares.

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efficiency of the kitchen as a good refrigerator that  
keeps foods sweet and wholesome. The

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will delight the heart of every careful housewife. Not  
only is it an attractive and well made piece of kitchen  
furniture, but it can easily be kept clean and sani-  
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entirely around the door frame, over the edges, and  
with rounded front corners. Non-leaking device.  
Automatic locks keep the Leonard airtight.

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By Gene Byrnes



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