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## STORY OF THE AYLWARDS.

The Judicial Murder of 8th December, 1862.

A Never - to - be - forgotten Epistle of Blood in Cauadian Annals.

In the course of his speech on the motion proposed by Mr. Landry (Montmagny) condemnatory of the execution of Riel, Mr. Curran made reference to the execution of the Aylwards in 1862, one of the most red handed acts of infamy ever perpetrated in this country, for notwithstanding all statements to the contrary, the indictment was unjustifiable, the trial unfair, the verdict monstrous. And though official denials were secured, it is to this day believed that the female prisoner was at the time of the execution bearing child. Never in the annals of Russian or Mussulman atrocitiy was a darker deed perpetrated than the execution of these unfortunate people. And it was done to placate the Orangemen. On what day? On the feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 1862. The Premier of that time, whose Government was responsible for this foul outrage on humanity, was the Hon. John Sandfield Macdonald, whom Mr. Curran's friends, the Orangemen of Ontario-the men who applaud his last speech in Parliament—afterwards supported as Premier of Ontario. The non, member for Centre Montreal in his speech in the House of Commons of March 15th last, said:

"The hon. gentleman, Mr. Cameron Huron, spoke in the first instance with respect to the legality of the trial. He agrees with the hon. member for Rouville (Mr. Gigault) that the trial was not

a fair one.
"I say on this occasion that I am surprised to find a gentleman calling him-self a lawyer who pretends to say that a trial can be legal without being fair. What is the test of fairness? The only what is the test of fairness? The only test of fairness is that which is estab-lished by law; you cannot go beyond that; the judge cannot go beyond the law, and if a man has had the full benefit of the law—for the law as it stands on the statute book is the test of fairness— he has had a fair trial."

This from an Irish Catholic gentleman is an extraordinary statement. Does not Mr. Curran know that the history of Ireland is darkened with the record of trials legal but not fair, and he cannot surely be ignorant that the history of Canada is not free from the same shadow. But if he should be, we propose to enlighten him, by the publication of the following official papers in reference to the Aylward massacre, upon which the Minister of Customs may further enlighten him :

[Copy.]

Toronto, 23rd October, 1862. SIR,-I have the honor to enclose, for the information of His Excellency the Governor General in Council, a report of the evidence, verdict and sentence in the case of the Queen against R chard Aylward and Mary Aylward, charged with the mur-der of William Munro.

The jury accompanied their verdict

with a strong recommendation to mercy.
They offered no reason for the recommendation, and I cannot pretend to explain upon what ground their recommendation

cution on Monday, the 8th December next. I shall be glad to hear that this report reaches you.

I have the honor to be, Sir

I have the honor to be, Sir
Your obedient humble Servaut,
(Signed,) WM H. DRAPER.
The Honorable the Provincial Secretary.
The QUEEN Indictment for Murder
vs. Indictment for Murder
vs. Allemand At the Township of
and Monteagle, on the 16th
MARY ALYWARD. May, 1862.

1st. ALEMANDER MUNRO, sworn—I live
on the town line between Monteagle and
Wicklow, and have lived there since the
16th May, 1861. The prisoner came two
months later to live on the opposite side
of the road. The deceased is my father.
We were on good terms with the prisoners
when they first came. There were, after when they first came. There were, after a while, a few little differences between a while, a few little differences between us. I never heard the prisoners complain of our fowls before the 16th May last. On that day, about 4 p. m., I and deceased heard a shot, apparently fired on prisoners' lot. We went home, and mother sail one of our hens was missing, Deceased and I went over. Prisoner Richard told deceased to go away. Deceased said he would not till he got the hen. Prisoner Richard was standing inside at his own door; he said he did not shoot the hen, but he wished he had. Deceased said. but he wished he had. Deceased said. but he wished he had. Deceased said, perhaps they're on, now; and prisoner Richard took a gun, and we all three went into his field. We went west. Prisoner's house fronts to the south; on the west is a gable end. The field was, I think, sown with wheat. Then prisoner Richard turned with the cun towards Richard turned, with the gun towards deceased, and deceased caught hold of it. They were close together, the muzzle of the gun towards deceased. Prisonor Rich-ard took a pistol out of his pocket with his right hand. Deceased knocked it out his right hand. Deceased knocked it out of his hand, and told me to get it. I asked where it was. Deceased said it was behind me. I went for it, found it, and rose with it in my hand. It was 11 or 12 yards from where deceased struck it from prisoner Richard's hand. When I rose, wisconer Richard was standing near me. prisoner Richard was standing near me with the gun to his left shoulder, pointed towards me. I threw myself at his feet, on my knees. He stepped back and fired, and hit me in my back, over the left shoulder. I was on my knees, leaning forward. I ran home directly. The gun was loaded with cut lead; 26 pieces were taken out of me. As we were going to the field, deceused said to prisoner Richard, he did not mind his shooting his hens, if in his wheat, if he did not take prisoner Richard was standing near me

them away with him. When I rose with the pistol, I saw the prisener Mary about II or 12 yards away, at the place where I left prisoner Richard and deceased souffling for the gun. I did not then see deceased, nor did I see her until I turned, having picked up the pistol. I could not say whether she had anything in her hand; I was frightened. After I got into the house, deceased came in; he was cut on the left side of the head and in the arms; he was bleeding much. The cut arms; he was bleeding much. The cut was above the left elbow. He had no coat on; was in his shirt sleeves. Deceased never went out of the house sgain, and he died in 11 or 12 days.

died in 11 or 12 days.

Cross examined—This place of prisoners' is not on the Hastings Road. It is on a road that crosses the Hastings Road. They had a clearing, and some wheat sown that apring. I believe, not long sown before this occurrence. Our two houses are about 24 acres apart. Our house is to the west of theirs. Our hens were over in prisoners' wheat. Deceased and I went to prisoners' house. Deceased was approximately acres apart. oners' house. Deceased was angry at prisoner Richard shooting at his hens more prisoner Richard shooting at his hens more than I was. I saw prisoner Mary in the house, and her children—two were run ning about, and there was a baby. We did not enter the house. Deceased did not ask me to go with him; I went of my own accord. I followed a little after deceased, not directly with him. The first I heard was prisoner Richard saying to deceased, "Go away," and deceased replied, "Not till he could get the hen, or knew what had been done with it." Prisoner Richard denied shooting the hen,but said he wished he had. Deceased said, "Perhaps they're on now." Then prisoner Richard took the ne had. Deceased said, "Fernaps they're on now." Then prisoner Richard took the gun. I did not see him put any thing in it. We then walked abreast to the wheat field. Prisoner Richard was on deceased right hand, and he had the gun in his own right hand. We went about 1½ or 2 acres. right hand, and he had the gun in his own right hand. We went ab out 1½ or 2 acres. I saw prisoner turn with the gun. I did not see deceased first try to get hold of it. Prisoner had not the gun up to his shoulder. I did not see him try to pull the trigger. Then deceased seized the gun. They tussled and wrestled. Deceased was the oldest and strongest, I think. I did not see either of them fall. I did not see deceased seize hold of prisoner Richard, but he tried to take the gun from him. I did not interfere. I was 8 or 10 feet from them. I don't know whether the gun was cocked. I believed deceased life was in cocked. I believed deceased life was in danger. Prisoner R chard got the gun at last. Prisoner R chard was drawing back, last. Prisoner R chard was drawing back, and deceased kept hold of the gun, fol lowing him. I never said to anybody that deceased had threatened prisoners. Prisoner Richard took a pistol from his pocket with his right hand, holding on to the gun with his left. Deceased kicked the pistol out of prisoner Richard's hand. It was in the right trowser pocket. A double have

out of prisoner Richard's hand. It was in his right trowser pocket. A double bar relled rifle pistol, the barrel 4 or 5 inches long. I ran for the pistol, and picked it up; and as I rose, prisoner Richard was about 2 feet from me, right before me. I had turned round, with the pistol in my hand. Prisoner Richard then stepped back. I threw myself at his feet before he stepped back. I did not catch hold of him, nor try to. When I threw myself on my knees, I stooped a little forward. I was not looking at him. When he fired he had the gun right on my back,—resting on my back—and he fired. I had no vest on; I was in my shirt sleeves. When deceased came in, I did not tell him I was shot. The doctor came some days after deceased was wounded. I some days after deceased was wounded. I had never heard deceased say it was his own fault—that these people ought not to be prosecuted. The coroner came a few days after my father's death. I cannot exactly say how many days after, deceased had not long been buried. Prisoners were in their own house when deceased died. They did not leave the country. their own house when deceased died.

They did not leave the country. My mother is living; not here. I had not been on very good terms with prisoners. We passed one another without speaking. I never played tricks with them, nor with a spring that was near. I did not speak to them when I and deceased went over to prisoners. I extract the magain, or any person who would do prisoners. I extract the magain, or any person who would do not speak to the magain.

Mary did not speak. She turned the grindstone, and he ground. I think they said it was Munro's scythe. I did not see said it was Munro's scythe. I did not see
the scythe again until the inquest. Prisoners came to our house the day deceased
was hurt. She had the gun, and loaded it
at the end of our stable. He had the
scythe. She said she had cut the head off
the old man, and that Richard had shot
Alick. I told her, "Surely that wasn't the
truth." She said it was, and showed me
the scythe. She held the sche up to me the scythe. She held the edge up to me, and showed me the blood on it. The edge of the scythe was turned where the blood of the scythe was turned where the blood was. She gave the scythe to him, and took the gun and put a cap on it; and then my boy came in and told her to go out of the house, and they went away. The scythe was, I think, the one they had ground; it had a piece off the point. I observed this on both occasions. I went to Munro's about 4 o'clock. I found him being a the fleet firsted blood all arms. Munro's about 4 o'clock. I found him lying on the floor, fainted; blood all over the floor, and part half full of blood and water. He had a cut across the top of his head, from which blood was flowing, and his arm was cut. He did not speak. He spoke the third day after that, when I went there. Two days after that, he said to me he did not think he would live, he was so weak. He died on the tenth or twelfth day after he was hut. I saw him was so weak. He died on the tenth or twelfth day after he was hurt. I saw him every day after, till he died. He was hurt on the 16th, and died on the 28th. From the second conversation, he always told me he would not live; from that time he always expressed his expectation of dying; always spoke of himself as a man about to die, but he did not give any account of how he was injured. I saw Margaret

Munro's. I never had any difference with prisoners. I never said I would wait in town and see these people hanged, or any

thing like it.

3rd Isabella Macrae, sworn-I am 3rd Isabella Macrae, sworn—I am daughter of last witness, and live with her. I know prisoners. I knew deceased, and remember the day he was hurt. I was in prisoners' house one evening, not long before this. I heard prisoner Mary say, in her husband's presence, ahe would tempt deceased over their fence, and she would draw back till she got to her door, and she would take a gun or pistol and shoot him, and leave him dead at the door, and then she would go for two men to see how far he had followed her into the door yard; that her husband would be a witness for her, but she could not be for

the door yard; that her husband would be a witness for her, but she could not be for him. I told her to take care of herself, or something to that effect.

Oross examined—We were on good terms with the prisoners. I was not at her house after this conversation, before the fight. I do not remember being in the house after it. I spoke to her on the road. I did not think much of this at the time. She would talk in this boasting style of what she would do.

4th. WILLIAM JOHNSON, sworn—I live about 100 rods from Munro's, in the same township, since the 27th March last. I remember deceased being injured. I saw the prisoners that day, about four in the afternoon. They were coming along the

the prisoners that day, about four in the afternoon. They were coming along the road from their place. She had a gun, and he was trailing a scythe. She said, "William, Munro's dead. I lifted up the scythe and struck him on the head, and that would not do, and I struck him again. I did not mean to hit him on the head, I meant to hit him on the neck and

head, I meant to hit him on the neck and cut his head off!" She made a gesture with the gun at my neck, to show me what she meant. I said it was too bad. She said she could not help doing it. Then they went on. I followed and saw them both at James Macrae's. Prisoner Richard had the gun, and the scythe was on the table. James Macrae came in. Frisoner Mary asked him about deceased, and he told her deceased was pretty badly hurt, and they deceased was pretty badly hurt, and they did not think he would get over it. She replied, "God Almighty increase his pain!" She spoke mostly on these two occasions. He said little; he was standing close by

Cross examined -I am a relative of Mary Ann Macrae: she is my aunt. Prisoner Mary did not appear to be excited. It was Mary did not appear to be excited. It was about 4 p. m., about three quarters of a mile from their place. I was sitting on a log by the roadside when she spoke to me. I was in their house when she was arrested on the Saturday week after deceased got hurt. He was huct on a Friday. I have not been in the house since. It was the not been in the house since. It was the Saturday after deceased died that she was arrested. I stop at my uncle's. I have no house of my own. I never had the no house of my own. I never had the alightest trouble with the prisoner Mary. I heard that she got a warrant for me, but

never saw it.

5th. MARGARET GLEN, sworn—I live near prisoners, 1½ miles off, in Monteagle. I remember deceased being in jured. I met prisoner Mary on the road after deceased was hurt and before his death. She ceased was nurrand before his death. She was just outside her door. She took hold of my arm and told me to come and see where the fight was—to come and see the cut in Muuro's hat. I walked a short distance and saw the hat, and would not distance and saw the hat, and would not go further. I said it would give her a great deal of trouble. She said it would give her no trouble, that, if it was to do, she would do it again. Her husband was not present.

Cross-examined—This was a few days after the fight.

6th. Theophilus Golder, sworn—I live on the branch road, 1½ miles from deceased. After deceased was hurt, I went

them when I and deceased went over to prisoners. I carried the pistol home, it was not cocked then. I never pointed it at prisoner. I never fired it. I know it was loaded; there was something in it; it was capped.

2nd. Mary Ann Macraz, sworn—I live just a lot from the prisoners, in another township. I remember deceased being injured. The prisoners were at my place the week before that with a scythe. They were grinding it. One of my children asked Prisoner Richard whether he was going haying. He replied, yes; he was going haying. There was no grass then. There was a little enow still left. Prisoner Rary did not speak. She turned the room at that time. The scythe blade had no handle then. A few days after the fight, I saw prisoner Richard. I asked him what it was about. He said it was all about some fowls of Munro's that came to his wheat. That he had heard deceased had used threats against him, and he was determined to be prepared; and that he took the scythe out of the cradle, and told his wife if he wanted help she was to use

that.
Cross examined—I have lived nearly years out there. I have only been once at prisoners. This conversation took place on Sunday, after deceased was buried. Prisoner Mary was then arrested. The conversation with her was while she was a prisoner. I am not a constable. The on the road opposite my place. He did not say he was afraid of Munro.

8th. Dr. Augustus A. Yeomans, sworn
—I was practising at Madoc (70 miles from deceased's place), 100 miles from here. We started from Madoc on Saturday, 31st We started from Madoc on Saturday, 31st May, and reached the neighbourhood of deceased at 10 o'clock on the Monday morning. An inquest was held. I found a large incised wound on the left side of deceased's head, 3½ inches long. It penetrated into the brain, through the skull and membranes. The blow must have hear given with great force, or it could and membranes. The blow must have been given with great force, or it could not have gone through the skull in a part where it is so thick. Inside, I found a large abcess in the brain. There was also a large abcess in the brain. There was also a wound above the elbow joint of the left arm. The weapon had gone half way through the bone, and had fractured the bone at the joint. The wound was inflicted by a sharp and thin instrument. A scythe would inflict such a wound. The injury on the head must, I think, certainly have considered death.

inquest was taken. Prisoner Mary had been arrested the preceding Saturday. I enquired for the scythe. One of the pris-oners got it. I then enquired for the gun and got it; and a man who was sitting at the door had the pistol. I took the scythe, and it was carried off by some person—I don't know who—as I was stopping at a tavern on my way to Belleville; I have not been able to recover it.

DEFENCE. JOHN ROUS, sworn—I live on a lot joining the Hastings Road. I knew deceased, and saw him after he was injured, on the fifth day after, as near as I understood. I had a conversation with him. He said he felt very bad; that he did not expect to live. I advised him to have prisoners arrested. I proposed fetching a doctor. He said, "No; it was no use." He said he had no huminess interfering with prisoners. bad no business interfering with prisoners; this was in answer to my advising him to

have them arrested.

Cross examined—He was lying in his own Cross examined—He was lying in his own shanty, on the west side, on a bed. His son Alexander was in the house, and deceased's wife. I live about 1½ miles from the house. I did not ask deceased how he got hurt. I had heard from neighbors what had happened: that deceased had a bit of a quarrel with the prisoner Richard, and deseased had got hurt. Deceased did not say he had interfered with prisoners, and did not tell me what happened. He was pretty bad.

REPLY.

ALEXANDER MUNRO, re-called-I was ALEXANDER MUNRO, re-called—I was present when the conversation took place between deceased and John Rous. Deceased asked him to go for the Indian doctor, and Rous said he would go the next morning. I was there all the time Rous was. I did not hear Rous propose that deceased should have prisoners arrested, nor did deceased make any such answer. The shauty is 18 by 20 feet.

Cross examined—Rous was there an hour or more. I was not able to stir out of

or more. I was not able to stir out of bed. I was only 9 or 10 feet from deceased's bed.

I decline to receive evidence of what deceased had said respecting the prisoners, or either of them,—not being said in their presence-unless it could be shown that struggle took place; since, whatever it might be, it could not have influenced the prisoners' conduct if they were in ignorance of it.

Verdict-"Guilty;" strongly recommended to mercy.
Sentence—To be executed on Monday the 8th December, 1862.
(Signed,) WM. H. DRAPER, C. J. C. P.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE Quebec, 28th October, 1862.

Sir,—I have had the honor to receive, and lay before His Excellency the Governor General, your letter of the 23rd instant concerning a report on the case of nor General, your letter of the zord instant, concerning a report on the case of the convicts, Rich ed and Mary Aylward, convicted of murder at the last Assizes for the county of Hastings, and sentenced to be executed on the 8th December next.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your most obedient Servant,
(Signed.) E. A. MEREDITH,

E. A. MEREDITH, Assistant Secretary

[Copy ]
BELLEVILLE, 11th November, 1862. The Honorable the Provincial Secretary Sir,—I herewith transmit a petition, for the consideration of His Excellency the

for the consideration of His Excellency the Governor General, in the case of the Queen vs Richard Alyward and his wife, who were tried at the late assizes for this county, and sentenced to be executed on the 8th proximo.

The petition is numerously signed by all classes of our community, and of all denominations, including many of the first and leading men of our county. It is to be hoped it will have the effect set forth in its prayer; for it is believed that the

signed on both sides, and the fact that it was signed in the country will account for this. I hope it will not be rejected on this account. You will please lay both petitions before His Excellency, who, I am confident, will lose no time in giving them that attention and consideration

them that attention and consideration which the importance of the case demands. May I ask you to acknowledge receipt.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed,) JOHN Finn.
S. O —Acknowledged, 14th, Nov. 1862.

[Copy.]
BELLEVILLE, 11th November, 1862. The Honorable the Provincial Secretary SIR,—Enclosed you will please find petition, in case of the Queen vs. Ayl petition, in case of the Queen vs. Aylward, referred to in my letter of to-day, as having been signed in the country. You will please lay it and the other before His Excellency.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant, (Signed,) John Finn.

[Copy.]
BELLEVILLE, 12th November, 1862.
Provincial Secretar The Honorable the Provincial Secretary Sir,—I beg respectfully to enclose a petition to His Excellency in Council, praying that the sentence of death on the

praying that the sentence of dearn on the prisoners, Aylward, be commuted.

The petition speaks for itself. It is signed by gentlemen of the greatest intelligence and highest standing in this county, all of which were present at the criminal trial, and are acquainted with the facts.

facts.
I have taken the liberty of placing in pencil, on the petition, opposite each name, the avocation of those who signed, and they and I most fervently hope that His Excellency and his Council will extend mercy to the unfortunate father and

> I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient servant, (Signed,) JAMES KENNEDY.

[Copy.]
To His Excellency Viscount Lord Monck,
Governor General of British North America, and Captain General and Governor in Chief of the Provinces of Canada,
New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and the
Island of Prince Edward, &z., &z.,
in Canada samphing.

in Council assembled:
The Petition of the undersigned, respect-

fully sheweth :—
That two persons, named Aylward (man and wife, were found guilty of murder at the last assizes for the County of Hast-ings, and were sentenced to be hanged on the Sth day of December next, by His Lordship, Chief Justice Draper, who tried

That, just before the trial took place, man named Moorman was tried at the same assizes for causing the death of a person named Taylor, and, contrary to all expects. tions, Moorman was acquitted; people were astonished, and it is believed that the surprise created in this community on account of that trial, caused the conviction of the

Aylwards.

That these latter persons have three young children, including a child at the breast.

That they and the person (Munro) wh lost his life, are settlers in a new tract of country called the Hastings Road, and resided, at the time of this occurrence, a resided, at the time of this occurrence, a distance of 150 miles from Belleville, the county town, at a place where there is no law, no magistrates; where every one thinks it proper to defend his supposed rights by the strong hand; and it was there that the affray occurred, in which Munro eventually lost his life.

That your petitioners, therefore, respectfully represent, that from the strong recommendation to mercy by the jury, and from the very peculiar circumstances of

from the very peculiar circumstances of the case, that Your Excellency in Council will be graciously pleased to commute the sentence of death imposed on the prisoners, inasmuch as their lives, if taken, will not atone for that of Munro, while their little children will be left fatherless, motherless, and friendless in a strange country and a strange land.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(Signed,) ROBERT REID (Honorable),

Copy J To His Excellency the Right Honorable CHARLES STANLEY, VIECUUIT MONK, Governor General and Governor in Chief of the Provinces of Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, and the Island of Prince Edward, &c., &c., in The Petition of the undersigned, humbly

sheweth :That at the late assizes for this county. Richard Aylward and Mary Aylward, his wife, were tried and convicted of the crime wife, were tried and convicted of the crime of murdering one William Munro, and sentenced by His Lordship, Chief Justice Draper, who presided as Judge on that occasion, to be executed on the 8th day of next December.

That the jary who sat upon the trial of the case, found the prisoners guilty, with a strong recommendation to mercy.

That there was no positive or direct evidence against the prisoners, with the

That there was no positive or direct evidence against the prisoners, with the exception of statements immediately made by the female prisoner, Mary Alyward, after the scuffle between the deceased and the prisoners; statements which your petitioners firmly believe to have been made by her in a moment of excitement, and when she was in a passion, not know-ing what she was doing or saying, and only for which, as before stated, there was no evidence against either of the prison-

er. That Alexander Munro, son of the deceased, would not nor did not swear who it was that inflicted the fat il blow, nor would any of the other witnesses who were sworn on the part of the prosecution

on the trial of the case, do so.

That the deceased and his son came to the house of the accused and irritated them in a most provoking manner, and after being told by them to desist and go

tweive days after the ngnt, and your peti-tioners believe had not the wound which was ir flicted been opened by an Indian "quack doctor" in his neighborhood, the deceased would yet be living; said wound having been dressed previously, as we are informed and believe, by a neighbor of the deceased, after which, and until said doctor was called in, the deceased was progressing very favorably towards convalescence.

That a witness who was called on the part of the prisoners swore that deceased, when he was in a dying state, told him that he did not wish the accused to be arrested, as it was his own fault, and he

had no business to interfere with them. That the prisoners have three small children, who are dependent upon the charity of the public for support, one of whom, an infant, is at the breast of his mother and confined in juil with her.

That the prisoners allege, and your petitioners are of opinion that it is a fact, from what they know of the circum stances, that the evidence against them is not true in substance and in fact, but was manufactured and got up for the occasion, in order to convict the prisoners at all That it is the current opinion that the

female prisoner is not in her sound senses, and it is also alleged that she is pregnant with child : that the prisoners, to the knowledge of your petitioners, have here-tofore borne a good character for honesty and good behaviour. Your petitioners, therefore, pray that the sentence of death recorded against the

said Richard Aylward and Mary Aylward. said Richard Aylward and Mary Aylward, his wife, may be commuted for imprisonment in the Penitentiary, or such other punishment as to Your Excellency may seem meet. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

(Signed,) EDMUND B LAWLOR,
R. C. Clergyman, and former pastor of the prisoners, and 150 others.

Another petition, similar to the above, signed by the Rev. Michael Brennan, and 273 others.

[Copy.]
BELLEVILLE, 22nd November, 1862. BELLEVILLE, 22ad November, 1862.
The Honorable the Provincial Secretary:
SIR,—I have the honor to transmit
herewith another petition in the case of
"The Queen vs. Aylwards," signed by the
wife and son of the deceased, and to request that you will lay the same before.
His Excellency the Governor General.
May I ask you to communicate to me,
as counsel for the prisoners, the result of
the consideration which His Excellency
the Governor General will arrive at in

the Governor General will arrive at in the matter of the petitions, and that so soon as his cpinion may be expressed. I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient servant,

(Signed,) John Finna S. O.—Acknowledged, 24th November,

[Copy.]
To His Excellency Lord Viscount Mones,
Governor General of British North
America &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY : MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

The undersigned widow and so of the late William Munro, who was world by Mary Aylward, in May last, most numbly and earnestly pray Your Excellency to exercise your Royal prerogative of mercy in behalf of the convicts, Richard and Mary Aylward, who now lie under sentence of death at Belleville, by commuting the said sentence into one of imprisonment in the Provincial Penitentiary for life, or such term as to Your Excellency

life, or such term as to Your Excellency
may seem meet, and your most humble
servants shall ever pray that the Almighty
may shed his choicest blessings upon Your Excellency.

(Signed.) CHRYSTINIA MUNRO ALEXANDER MUNRO.

[Copy]
I hereby certify that the within memorial was signed in my presence, on the 15th of November, by the widow and son of the late William Munro; the memorial having been first read and explained to both. Also, that the memorial was suggested by a spontaneous expression of regret on the part of the widow and son at the approaching execution of the convicts.

(Signed,) M. P. HAYES, Govt. Agent, Hastings Road, Bellevilles Monteagle, 15th Nov., 1862.

[Copy.]
BELLEVILLE, 27th November, 1862.
The Honorable the Provincial Secretary a SIR,—I have the honor to transmit erewith a petition which I received last evening, and which has been signed in the place where the murler was committed, in rs Aylwards. I hope you will lay it before the Governor General. I see that it is signed by some of the witnesses who appeared on behalf of the Crown.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Your obedient servant, (Signed,) JOHN FINN.

[Copy]
To His Excellency the Right Honorable
CHARLES STANLEY, Viscount MONCK,
Governor General of British North America. & ... & ... &c., in Council.
MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY:
We, the undersigned, residents on the
Hastings Road, humbly approach Your
Excellency in Council, on behalf of the
unfortunate Richard Aylward and his wife, Mary Aylward, who have been found guilty of the murder of William Muuro, and for which crime the sentence of death has been passed by the honorable Judge at the late Belleville Assizes. They are to die on the 8th of December next.

We, therefore, humbly plead that Your

We, therefore, humbly plead that Your Excellency may be graciously pleased to spare their lives and reduce the sentence to imprisonment for life, or to transportation to some distant land. We offer no

(Signed,) ROBERT ELLIOTT, Hastings Road, Tara Post Office, 27th October, 1862. S O.—Receipt acknowledged to Mr. Finn, 29 h November, 1862.

[Telegram ]

Quebec, 1st December, 1862 To Mr. Sheriff Moddle, Belleville; It is said Mrs. Aylward is preguant. Have medical examination made, with the assistance of one or two experienced matrons.—R-port result as soon as possible officially by mail; but communicate result to me by telegram also, forthwith. (Signed,) J. S. MACDONALD.

Copy ]

SHERIFF'S OFFICE, Belleville, 2nd December, 1862. SIR,—In answer to your telegram of yesterday, I have the honor to state that, in ompliance with your directions. I at once applied to Dr. Hope, our gaol surgeon, and he in conjunction with Mrs Dafoe, the gaoler's wife, have just personally extensined the prisoner, Mrs. Aylward, and nave come to the conclusion that she is not pregnant.

I enclose the joint certificate of Dr.
Hope and Mrs. Dafoe.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your obedient servant,
(Signed,) J. W. DUNBAR MOODIE,
Sheriff County of Hasting.
The Honorable John Sandfield Macdonald,
Attorney General, Quebec.

BELLEVILLE, 2ad December, 1862 We certify that we have this day examined Mrs. Aylward, the prisoner now confined in gaol for murder, and are of opinion, both from her own statement and personal examination, that she is not

(Signed.) W. Hope, Sargeon, ANN DAFOE.

By telegraph from Belleville, 6 h December, 1862.]
To the Honorable Provincial Secretary.— Petition forwarded yesterday in Ayl-wards case, asking a respite for one mouth, (Signed,) J Finn.

Action on Mr. Finn's telegram of 6th December, 1862. [Copy ]

SECRETARY'S OFFICE 6th December, 1862.
Remitted to the Honorable the Attorney General, Upper Canada, with refer-CONTINUED ON BIXTH PAGE.