St. Thomas Reporter.

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR,

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FRIDAY, JULY 9, 1880.

AN INDIAN WITCH CONDEMNED.

HER EXECUTION, HOWEVER, POSTPONED AT THE COMMAND OF A UNITED STATES OFFICER.

From the St. Louis Republican.

A recent despatch from the Indian Territory was wired to the newspaper press, stating that a woman in the Seminole nation had been sentenced to death for the crime of witchcraft, and the day of execution fixed for Tuesday last. No other particulars were given of the singular proceeding, so utterly repugnant to the civilization of the present nineteenth century, and the bare mention of which carries the mind back to the days of the Salem witchcraft, when fraud and delusion turned the heads of the misguided Puritans of that period. It may be remembered, however, that New England was not alone in these cruel executions for the supposed crime of witchcraft, but in England and many parts of Germany people were hanged on similar charges.

Mr. Maston, a former United States agent in the Indian Territory, now employed in missionary work, just arrived from a visit to that section, was sought out by a *Republican* reporter recently for information. He said that he had very little knowledge about the reported execution, but stated that he learned this much, that the woman to be executed was a negro woman, and that Major Tufts, the present United States Indian Agent of the Territory, had sent a runner named Wheinery to the head chief of Governor John Chupco, at We Wo Ka, the capital of the Seminole nation, with a message, ordering him to stay the execution of the woman until he could make an investigation. The runner was sent from Muscogee, and there was no doubt he reached the Seminole capital in time, and that the execution has been suspended.

Mr. Maston seems to have little doubt that Chief Chupco will interpose in the matter, as he has the pardoning power and the power of staying execution the same as a Governor of a State. The chief is a Presbyterian, and a very good man. He was old enough to take a part, while a young man, in the Florida war, and was known by the nickname of 'Long John.'

Mr. Maston said, with regard to the prevailing superstition respecting a belief in witchcraft, it was not uncommon among the Creeks, and the Seminoles were an offshot from that tribe, who went into Florida during the Jackson war. The superstition prevails to a large extent among the negroes, who compose a large proportion of the Seminole nation. They believe in the absurdities of Voudouism, and that the witches kill off the children. Mr. Maston says during his residence in the Territory he heard of numerous instances in which witchcraft was charged by the negroes; it was subject of talk among them; but of late years he heard of no executions for that cause. The coloured people were more prolific than the Indions. When he took a census of the tribes there were negro families having from ten to a dozen children, while the Indian families were never as large. The missionaries among the Creeks and Seminoles of some forty years ago, say the Indians believe in possessions, that people may be possessed of the devil.

There is among them what they term the spirit sickness, when a person is possessed with some spirit, and of course incantation is needed to cast out the spirit; until that is done they believe the person cannot be restored. They talk of the horse sickness, the cow sickness, &c., in which the patient, as they suppose, is influenced in some way by these animals. The doctors are expected to tell them what the sickness is, and to presaribe the remedies. Sometimes certain portions of the animals may be eaten, or certain portions must be abstained from. For example, a person with the headache muit not eat hog's head.

They believe in witchcraft. One person may bewitch another; also animals may become bewitched, and then they will be troublesome to manage. There was much talk about a certain witch bear, against which heavy charges were brought. He was said to come among the cattle and swine at night, and those which he chose to bring under his influence would rove about at a furious rate, and might never be docile afterward.

Take the two Charlies out of the Council and the remainder becomes a myth. The Irishtown Council wants a Finance Minister.

THE IRISHTOWN COUNCIL.

When our reporter entered the council chamber in Irishtown on Tuesday evening last the room was only occupied by Johnny Berry and a big yellow dog. The magnificent apartment was brilliantly illuminated, and the handsome paintings, executed by the skilful brush of Mr. Bruntz, were marvels of artistic workmanship, one beautiful scene, a sadly tender one, representing a night shirt in a storm, was excellent. The regular meeting hour approached and passed, but still no other councillor made his appearance; in vain Johnny grabbed the cow bell and rang it for half an hour, and yelled in a tenor voice, "Yees bether bese afther coming or the roi will all be dranked." No one came, so at nine o'clock Mr. B. called the meeting to order.

Moved by Mr. J. Berry, seconded by Johnny Berry, that Johnny Berry, be appointed chairman. Carried unanimously.

Moved by Johnny Berry, seconded by J. Berry, that Johnny is wan of our gratest min. Carried. An innterruption disturbing the tranquility of the meeting occasioned by the entrance of Billy O'Neal, now occurred, Mr. Berry, remarked Billy, faix, but yer losin all the fun, we're having a divil of a time at the Irishtown Timperence House. Come along wid yees to onst. It was then

Moved by Mr. O'Neil, seconded by Mr. Berry, that the meeting ajourn till Tuesday evening next. Carried.

A high old time is anticipated on Tuesday next, as J. McNerny is going to bring some dark matters to light, and it is confidentially reported that the great Roman orator of the east end, John Foly, is to address the meeting.

BULL FIGHTIFG IN NEW YORK.

Angel Fernandez, proprietor of the bullfighting arena in Havana, is now erecting a frame building to hold from 12,000 to 15,000 persons, in 116th street, New York, and will open it in the middle of July. A dozen torreros or bull-fighters are to arrive from Europe in a fortnight, among whom will be Valdermore, who was one of the three most skilful performers exhibiting before King Alfonso on his accession to the throne, and at the periods of his two marriages. The duties of torreros are to worry the bulls by swaying red cloaks before their eyes, and, by various other modes of exciting anger, cause them to give chase. The torreros then run rapidly, and spring over the barrier which seperates the ring from the spectators. Though the bulls are generally very close in the rear, it rarely happons that a man is caught. In Spanish-speaking countries it is customary to torment the bull by cruel methods. Little spears with flags at one end are thrown into his neck. To these fireworks are sometimes attached. The poor brute is also pricked and worried in numerous ways. But it is understood that any annoyances practised upon the animals here will be entirely devoid of physical pain. The flagged spears will be thrown, but they will be blunt and dipped in a sticky substance, which will cause them to adhear to the hair of the bull. Three experimental entertainments will be given, and if they are well attended the exhibition may be continued for a longer time.

A POLICE COURT SCENE.

Attorney for the defence of a man charged with having brutally beaten a woman, cross-examining the woman:

'Now, then, state to the Court what your relations with this defendant have been.'

'Well I have supported him for two years——

'You have supported him for two years, eh? You positively swear that you have supported him for two years?'

'Well not exactly two years, but—'

'Oh, ho, not exactly two years, eh? Your Honor will observe that she contradicts herself. Very well, miss, what do you mean, miss, by falsely asserting that you have supported this innocent gentleman two years? Answer that, if you can, miss!"

"Never mind what you meant; don't you dare to tell me what you meant. Tell the Court, now, if you please, what portion of the two years you did not support the honest fellow, my client."

"The only portion of the time I have not supported him, during the last two years was the various times he was in jail.

Attorney subsides.

'I say, mister, this is a double seat, and you can't lay over it in that way,' said a stand-up passenger in a crowded car to another passenger who was making himself too much at home. 'Can't lay over the seat?' echoed the loafer. 'Bet your life I can. See here, I have a lay over check from the conductor, and it is good.'

A BAD STORY FROM ESSEX CENTRE.

In a letter from Essex Centre to the *Globe*, under date of June 21st., Mr. A. J. Allen tells a story which is too barborous to be true. It puts the authorities of that town in an unenviable position. The writer says that "on the night of the 25th of May, about three miles from Essex Centre, on the Canada Southern Railway, a young man got struck by a passing train and had one of his legs broken. Next morning he was brought into Essex Centre by the track-men on a hand-car and taken to the Royal Hotel and laid on a lounge. One of the doctors was called to see him, but he concluded not to do anything for the suffering young man. So it was decided by the human people of Essex Centre to put him in a wagon and take him fifteen miles in a hot sun to the town of Windsor to see what could be done for him there. He was there put in a stable to wait and see what the people of the town of Windsor would do for him. They allowed the young man to lie in the stable all day without anything being done to the broken limb, and at night they got him across the river to Detroit and got him into the hospital there. But on account of the way that he had been neglected he only lived a few days."

A few weeks ago a respectable old peasant farmer in Roumelia, smitten by the charms of a young gipsy girl belonging to a tribe that had squatted in the neighborhood of his farm, induced the maiden to listen to his addresses, and finally obtained her consent to become his wife. He received several warnings from sundry of her gipsy lovers, couched in threatening terms, but was so infatuated by her surprising beauty that he disregarded these monitions and married her. On his wedding night a number of stalwart gipsy youths broke into his house, seized him in his bridal bed, bound him to a plank, and deliberately sawed him in two, having previously strangled his young wife before his eyes. On the same night the tribe struck its tents and decamped, nor have the authorities as yet succeeded in laying hands upon the perpetrators of the crime.

Deacon Jackson of St. Louis called a sister in the church 'an old cow.' She had him arraigned before a committee, but a majority of the church voted against such punishment. That was the situation when, at a prayer meeting Deacon Jackson took his accustomed place in the amen corner. The pastor suggested that, under the circumstances. he had better take a back seat. He refused to be thus humiliated. Then Deacons Smith and Bird ejected him, after a violent struggle.

Stephen Allen was so ill at Jacksonport, Miss., that he could hardly stir in bed, when he was told that HenryMelville was on his way there to kill him. Melville was known to be desperate and vindictive, and there was good reason to fear that he would carry out his threat. Allen told his young son to stand at the door and endeavour to dissuade Melville from his purpose. The boy begged the assassin not to murder a defenceless invalid, but he forced his way in, drew a knife, seized the sick man by the throat, and raised his weapon to strike. Just then Allen feebly protruded a pistol from under the bedclothes and shot his assailant dead.

BORN

In this town, on the 14th inst., the wife of Mr. W. T. Cripps, of a son.

In Ridgetown, on the 30th ult., the wife of Mr. E. D. Mitton, of a son.

In Ridgetown, on the 29th ult., the wife of Martin Lutz, of a daughter.

In this town, on the 5th inst., the wife of Mr. Alfred Finch, of a son.

On the 28th inst., the wife of T. Cole of a daughter.

MARRIED.

At the church of the Holy Angels, St. Thomas, on the 16th inst., by the Rev. Father Flanery, Mr. Austin Delair of Union, to Miss Breen, second daughter of Mr. P. Breen of Southwold.

DIED.

On ths 28th inst., the infant daughter of Thos. and Julia Cole.

A Few More Days

Don't let the chance pass at

W. F. MARTIN'S

GREAT

CLEARING SALE!

—238—

Talbot St., - St. Thomas.

REISER'S LAGER

WM. REISER & SONS PROPRIETORS.

Universally admitted to be the beverage of the day. Try it!

CANADA SOUTHERN RAILWAY LINE

CHANGE OF TIME.

SUMMER ARRANGEMENT.

On and after Sunday, May 8th, Trains will leave the St. Thomas Depot as follows:

FOR THE EAST.

MAIL AND ACCOMMODATION, 11.05 a. m., for all Stations to Fort Erie.

ATLANTIC EXPRESS, 8.40 a. m., (daily), arriving at Buffalo 12.50 p. m.

NEW YORK AND BOSTON EXPRESS, 4.40 p. m., (daily) arriving at Buffalo 8.20 p. m.

NEW YORK EXPESS, 3.30 a. m., (Monday excepted) arriving at Buffalo 7.15 a m.

FOR THE WEST.

MAIL AND ACCOMMODATION, 3.35 p. m., for all intermediate Stations, arriving at Amherstburg at 8.10 p. m.

ST. LOUIS EXPRESS, 12.30 p. m., (daily) for Detroit and Toledo.

PACIFIC EXPRESS, 5.00 p. m., (daily) for Detroit and Toledo.

CHICAGO EXPRESS, 5.15 a. m., (Mondays excepted) for Detroit and Toledo.

ST. CLAIR BRANCH, 3.30 p. m., arriving at Courtright 8.30 p. m.; leaves Courtright 6 a. m., arriving at St. Thomas 10.35 a. m.

ACCOMMODATION, leaves Amherstburg 6.00 a. m., arriving at St. Thomas, 11.50 a. m.; leavei Fort Erie 6. 15 a.m., arriving at St. Thomas 11.50 p.m.

E. P. MURRAY, Div. Superintendent. W. P. TAYLOR, Gen'l Superintendent.

GLOBE HOTEL!

No. 268, Talbot Street,

ST. THOMAS.

—:o:—

E. BOND, Prop.

—:o:—

KEEPS THE BEST OF

Liquors, Cigars,

AND

Accommodation for Travellers.

—o—

☞ Meals can be had at all hours Good Stabling and a careful hostler.

CHARGES MODERATE.

2-3m E. BOND, Prop'r

W. H. WENDELL'S

EAST END

HAIR-DRESSING

—AND—

Shaving Room!

Opposite C. S. R. Station.

MR. WENDELL having secured the services of a first-class workman is now running two chairs, will be ever ready to wait on his friends and the public generally. Special attention to Ladies' and Childrens' Hair-cutting. Thanking his customers for past patronage, would respectfully request them to call again.

SHOP—Next to Branton's Bowling Alley and Billiard Parlor. 12-4

BELFAST HOUSE!

Opposite Canada Southern Park,

ST. THOMAS, EAST.

Jas. O'Shea, Prop'r.

THIS magnificent new hotel has been fitted up throughout in an elegant and superior manner, no expense having been spared to make it one of the handsomest and best furnished hotels in Western Ontario.

In the bar department will be kept only the best brands of Wines and Liquors, imported by the subscriber. Ale, Porter, and ice cool Lager constantly on hand. Also, a choice assortment of Cigars. A commodious dining room, comfortably fitted up, and guests can rely on procuring the best the market affords. Oysters and game in season, served up in any style required. Polite attendants. A call solicited.

JAMES O'SHEA, Prop'r,

May 14, 1880. 3m

JOSEPH LAING, Jr.,

Accountant, Conveyancer, &c.

OFFICE—Southkick Block over McPherson & Armstrong's Store, Talbot Street, St. Thomas. Books made up; accounts and rents collected; titles searched and conveyances drawn promptly, and on reasonable terms. Also servants' registry and general Intelligence office.

Agent for reliable Fire, Life and Accidents Insurance Companies.

$20.000 to loan at reasonable rates for five, six. or seven years, and renewable if satisfactory. 4