

placed so that the smoke shall ascend into the prisoner's head-cover. As the smoke cannot escape through the top, the victim endures indescribable agony, or is suffocated, unless the instrument is removed.

Another mode of torture is to compel the prisoner to kneel on chains or bits of crockery. His arms are outstretched, and he is severely whipped if he attempts to lower them. Again, he may be made to kneel on these sharp and uneven substances with his hands tied behind his back. The Chinese say that in the case of stubborn criminals, it happens quite often that several hundred blows, inflicted with a ratan thong, are laid on the prisoner while he is in this painful position.

A fiendish mode of torture occasionally used upon State prisoners is called the hot water snake. Hollow pewter tubes made in the form of snakes, are so constructed that they can be wound around the arms of the prisoner. Another, and the third coil, is sometimes wound round the body. Boiling hot water is then poured into the mouths of these snakes, and as it runs through the hollow tubes it burns into the unhappy victim's flesh, and occasions the most exquisite torment. This devilish contrivance is still

occasionally used at the capital on State prisoners.

The torture of the shirt of iron wire is even more diabolical than the boiling snakes. A shirt-like garment, made of very fine iron wire, with interstices something like those of a fishing net, is put upon the prisoner, the clothing from the upper part of the body having been removed. A cord is attached to it in such a way that when pulled the shirt will press down closely on the body, and the skin and flesh will protrude more or less through the interstices. A knife-like instrument is then passed over the wire on the outside, cutting or rasping off the protruding skin and flesh. The operation is repeated at the option of the dispenser of justice.

The torture of the whip of hooks is no less inhuman. A large number of very fine hooks are securely fastened to a handful of the fibres of hemp. The whole is then used as a whip with which to beat the prisoner in order to elicit a confession. When a blow is given with this whip, many of the hooks will stick to the body of the victim, and unless a satisfactory confession is forthcoming, the whip is pulled or jerked back by main force and another blow given. And so on until the presiding officer is satisfied.

CAUTION.—The Editor of the *Presbyterian Witness*, Mr. Robert Murrey, who is now Editor of the *Burning Bush*, might be in better business than palming off his *sec-tarian* articles on the Irish Church question upon the Orangemen. He cannot catch old birds with chaff,

although it appears he would like to see the British Throne open to Papists. Such audacity if repeated will be promptly met in the Rose. Who gave him authority to tell his readers what the Orangemen would or would not like? Presumption!!