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ELEVENTH YEAR. SATURDAY MORNING. NOVEMBER 15. 1890.—EIGHT PAGES. ONE CENT.

STRANGLED TO DEATH

Birchall Meets His Doom on the Scaffold.

CONNIE BENWELL AT LAST AVENGED

The Murderer Faces the Gallows with a Smile and Coolly Walks to it, Defiantly Eyeing the Crowd the While—The Drop Fell at Exactly 8.26, and in Six Minutes All was Over—The Doomed Man Probably Insensible the Instant the Drop Fell—How he Spent his Last Night on Earth.

WOODSTOCK, Nov. 14.—"Conny" Benwell is avenged; the slayer of the first-born of Col. Benwell of Cheltenham, England, lies buried in a felon's grave within the gloomy walls of Oxford's jail, and within a few miles of the spot where he so ruthlessly shot his victim down. Outraged law has been vindicated, but there is no rejoicing here. The sternness of men's minds has dwindled away before the veiled face of the mighty, Angel Death. If earnest repentance availed the condemned sinner in reaching the ear of the Almighty, should not the same amendment soften men's hearts and induce them, not to forgive indeed, but to mitigate in some degree, the sin of the man who has met so appalling a doom? Man can discourse most eloquently on God's mercy. Shall he have none himself?

But let us have no more puerile questioning about the justice of his fate, we may be sure his case has been full and fairly inquired into. Since the grim, black, ugly Sentence of Death was solemnly pronounced by Judge MacMahon, the evidence has been sharply tested; the smallest loophole by which the light of truth might shine in and show the prisoner innocent has been scrupulously left clear. The Argus eyes of the press have been spying about in every conceivable nook and corner for whatever might extenuate the crime. There has been almost a weakness, almost a superstition, in the sensitive desire shown by some that the condemned wretch should have every chance of safety. Ever since the trial when the evidence was hammered home, point after point, like nails knocked into a coffin, the throne of justice has been beset by petitions to bear upon the scaffold that it was claimed undue severity had built up, not for an innocent sufferer, but for one not wholly worthy of the strangling cord. But the Ministers of the Crown could see nothing to justify them in feeling doubts and staying the execution. And the fiat went forth that Birchall must prepare to give up a life for a life, to undergo the dire sentence of the offended law, and spend the short remaining time he had for repentance in beseeching for pardon the Fountain of Grace.

HIS LAST NIGHT ON EARTH.

How the Last Night on Earth Was Spent.

As stated yesterday the final interview between Birchall and his wife last night was of a very affecting character. It was 1¼ when she took her departure. During the five hours they were together they were closely watched by a guard, and Rev. W. H. Wade, the prisoner's spiritual adviser, was in the corridor in which the day cell, where the interview occurred, is located. At 1 o'clock the guard notified Mrs. Birchall that the interview must close. She commenced weeping hysterically and kissed her husband a number of times. Her last words were: "Bear up," and Birchall replied: "Good-bye, Flo, be brave."

She was then escorted to the foot of the stairs, where she waved her hand to her husband. In great contrast to the leaving of his wife was that of Birchall. He gave signs of little emotion; in fact, as stated yesterday, the parting with him was as if one was about to go on a journey of a few weeks' duration, instead of one which was to end for one of them in eternity. During the interview Mrs. Birchall presented her husband with a plain gold locket, in which were her picture and a lock of her hair. This he wore with him to the scaffold and it was buried with him.

Mrs. West-Jones, who accompanied her sister to the jail, did not remain long, merely bidding Birchall good-bye through the bars of his cell door. While Mrs. West-Jones was stated in Jailer Cameron's office she caught sight of the block and tackle to be used in the execution. She inquired, "What is that horrid thing?" and, as if divining its use, cried, "Take me away!" She was removed to Turnkey Forbes' room, where she recovered her composure.

Hearing His Doom.

After Mrs. Birchall parted with her husband for the last time on earth, Rev. Mr. Wade entered the cell, and remained with Birchall throughout the night. Birchall had announced his intention of remaining awake throughout the night and the rural dean shared his vigil, and together they sent up prayers to the throne of divine grace for pardon. Birchall expressed himself perfectly satisfied of his salvation.

Meantime, in the corridor below, the hangman was peacefully reclining on a lounge, with the sound sleep of a babe but the snore of a traction engine. A World representative, The Standard reporter and two other Toronto newspaper men shared his company. The executioner was in an unusually cheerful mood, and during wakeful moments joked with the turnkey, the pencil pushers and others.

The corridors were as still and silent as death, save for the occasional step of one of the guards on the brick floor. At 3 o'clock Birchall sent for Turnkey Forbes and had a half hour's conference with him respecting the disposal of his effects, Forbes having been named as one of his executors. That the interview had a most depressing effect upon the sympathetic turnkey was evidenced by his appearance when he returned. Shortly afterwards Birchall appeared at the grating and called his night guard, County Constable Midgley, to whom he talked for a quarter of an hour. To all his attendants Birchall has given some memento, and assured Midgley that he has arranged for a sword to be sent to him from England on the return of Mrs. Birchall.

His Last Breakfast.

Birchall had early in the evening asked the cook to take him supper at 12 o'clock, which was done, but as he was then with his wife it could not be served. He left it untasted, but fed some of it to his black cat, which has remained with him all the time. Birchall ate nothing until 6 o'clock, when Cook Whitehead took him up a couple of poached eggs, toast, canned raspberries and peaches and coffee. Birchall looked at it and shook his head, saying he did not wish any food. On second thought, however, he fell to and ate heartily of the eggs and a small piece of toast, and then pushed the tray away from him. Then he began to prepare himself for the gallows. He put on his white flannel shirt, with coat and vest over it, having previously asked Turnkey Forbes to see that this was replaced after execution by a white starched shirt, with collar and tie.

At 6 o'clock the other prisoners in the jail were started at work sweeping the corridors, etc., in order to have the routine duties of the forenoon completed before the execution.

The executioner arose out from his couch about 7 o'clock and passed into the yard to make a final inspection of the gallows.

Sheriff Perry arrived at 7¼ and the preparations for the march to the scaffold were shortly afterwards commenced. Jailer Cameron first went up to the cell. Guard Whitehead emerged from the governor's office carrying a coil of rope, while Executioner Radcliffe walked up and down the entrance hall, straps in hand, waiting to be summoned. Dr. Chamberlain, Inspector of Prisons, arrived and had a brief interview with the condemned, after which Mr. Leetham of Montreal, who had just entered the jail, went up the spiral staircase and into the corridor, to remain with his old college chum to the last. The deputy-sheriff followed after a short interval to prepare Birchall for his march to the scaffold. Ten minutes later the executioner was beckoned to follow and immediately started on his mission of death. As Radclive, neatly dressed in black, entered the cell Birchall did not shrink, he did not start; but there was a sort of shudder and shrinking, not of fear, but of strong repugnance, in his voice as he made answer: "I am ready."

THE EXECUTION.

Birchall Maintains His Remarkable Nerve to the End.

> Ah, me! 'Twas a fearful sight, ah, me!
> A deed to shudder at, not to see.

As early as 6¾ reporters and others anxious to witness the execution began to arrive at the jail, and at 7½ those having tickets, numbering probably 175 in all, were admitted and at once made their way into the jail yard and assembled in front of the instrument of death, and in the semi-darkness of the jail yard was heard that strange, subdued noise, that murmur which yet is silence, those sounds without words, that betoken the presence of an absorbed and anxious crowd. From time to time a spectator more curious than his neighbors would rise on his tiptoes and look hastily, and not infrequently with a shudder, upon the scaffold, the stern and awe-inspiring proof of the adage that crime has its losing as its winning day. Anon some one might occasionally mutter a few words, but rarely was a sentence completed; for who could forget, for one moment, the fact that the rope was dangling down as though reaching for its victim? At length even these faint murmurs ceased. The group was voiceless, motionless, until the sudden closing of a distant door caused a perceptible thrill through the assembly. Was there one human being amidst that concourse of spectators whose heart did not throb more rapidly as the moment drew near when the soul of the condemned was to be ushered to his Maker with all his human imperfections? As the echo of the closing door reverberated through the building into the yard some of the spectators trembled and grew pale from emotion and expectation. Some also cast nervous glances at the door through which the prisoner must come.

Arrival in the Jail Yard.

In the fever of waiting and expectation each second as it passed seemed an hour. Still the little door through which the procession must come remained closed. The feeling became almost unendurable. The dawn had meantime given place to bright daylight and the sun shone out with all his powerful rays. The trees outside the walls, in the top branches of which were perched a number of boys, swayed to and fro, and from the branches that were not yet bare little showers of leaves fell fluttering to the ground. The roseate streaks of the breaking morn were followed by a mild and clear blue sky, which smiled on all things, while the sun, whose course had just begun, gilded with his rays the dismal, dark-frowning gallows tree. Sounds and sights alike spoke of peace and happiness. How beautiful was the earth! How sweet life's daily work and daily pleasures! But such work and such pleasures would never again be known by Reginald Birchall.

Shortly after 8 o'clock Woodstock's chief of police Willy, assisted by several constables, cleared a space in front of the scaffold, which was located in the northeast corner of the west yard in the angle formed by the jail wall and the jail proper, and a few minutes later Executioner Radclive, who had been engaged for half an hour or so previously fixing the rope and other apparatus, calmly smoking a pipe meantime, raised the drop in place. He placed a ladder against the wall and coolly ascended and put the noose rope through the pulley and attached the chain to the staple. He then descended and entering the building arrayed himself in a Prince Albert suit.

Suddenly through the door so anxiously watched the procession appeared.

> Ah! see! from forth the opening door
> They come—He steps that threshold o'er.
> God! 'tis a fearsome sight to see
> That pale wan man's meek agony.

Birchall remained stationary for a moment and surveyed the crowd with a partial smile.

Did any one at that dread moment venture to dwell upon the agony of terror now endured by the brink of the grave, as he caught sight of the ghastly scene—the scaffold, the dangling rope, the assembled crowd? But he gave no indication of the awful agony he was enduring. Descending the steps leading into the yard and lining to the right, he came into full view of the gallows.

His Remarkable Nerve Did Not Desert Him.

Nervy to the last, his face was set, though very pale, and his lips were tightly compressed. He fearlessly and steadily gazed at the downcast faces of the men who were to witness his fate, then cast his eyes to the clear blue vault above.

His step was firm. His attire consisted of the dark suit he wore at the trial, striped pants and vest and black box coat, while he wore a white flannel shirt, black stockings and patent leather shoes. He had only a few minutes before been shaved and his hair was nicely combed.

It was exactly 8.19½ when the procession emerged from the jail. Rev. W. H. Wade, rector of Old St. Paul's, appeared first, walking with "measured step, and slow," and solemnly repeating the ritual of the Episcopal Church:

> I am the Resurrection and the Life. He that believeth in Me, though he were dead, yet shall he live; and whosoever liveth and believeth in Me shall never die.

The prisoner came next. Accompanying him on either side were his guard, George Perry, and his old college chum, Arthur R. Leetham of Montreal. Deputy Sheriff John Perry, Jailer Cameron and Inspector of Prisons Dr. Chamberlain were also in the procession. The venerable sheriff of the county, who had arrived at the jail at 7¼, accompanied the procession as far as the door.

An awful hush succeeds the slight noise produced by the entrance of the procession. The most curious of the spectators, those whose presence at the last scene of all was not necessitated by duty but by a morbid curiosity to see an execution—shrink back appalled unable to look twice upon

> The glare of that wild, despairing eye
> Now bent on the crowd, now turned to the sky,
> As tho' 'twere scanning in doubt and in fear
> The path of the spirit's unknown career;
> Those pinion'd arms, those arms which ne'er
> Shall be lifted again, not even in prayer—

The hundreds of spectators who had climbed on the jail walls and in the trees surrounding strained their necks to secure a better view of the procession. Every effort had been made by the authorities to prevent this gathering of the morbid, but fruitlessly, as they would again clamber up as soon as driven away.

Just before reaching the scaffold a halt of upwards of a minute was made, Mr. Wade meantime continuing the recital. They were directly in front of the gallows and about 20 feet away and the suspense seemed terrible to the crowd.

A Prayer For Pardon.

But short space remained for the accused to make his last, his expiring peace with his offended Maker, and Mr. Wade gilded the horrors of eternity in those awful moments when religion arrays itself in her brightest robes and bids the expiring criminal sink into her everlasting arms with hope if not with security. A dying and repentant prayer issued from the quivering lips of the blood-stained murderer, but his remarks were scarcely audible three feet away. At a sign from the deputy-sheriff Birchall was then moved forward to the scaffold, Rev. Mr. Wade continuing his recital.

Birchall walked with stern steps under the scaffold, and turning round faced the crowd. He stood as straight as an arrow and a piteous smile appeared on his face.

When Mr. Wade began the recital of the familiar words, "Man that is born of a woman hath but a short time to live and is full of misery," Birchall turned to his friend Leetham and kissed him. The hangman at once pinioned his legs, the strap being tied just above the knees. Rev. Mr. Wade then came to the words:

> I heard a voice from Heaven saying unto me, From henceforth blessed are the dead who are in the Lord, even so saith the spirit, for they rest from their labors.

He then stepped forward and kissed the prisoner, who murmured the following brief but expressive prayer:

> Domine, cum veneris judicare, noli nos condemnare.
> O Lord, when Thou shalt come to judge, do not Thou condemn me.

Birchall had already informed the jail authorities that he did not purpose making any statement upon the scaffold, and he did not make any reference to his case at all.

After kissing the prisoner the rector stepped back, the hangman drew the black cap over the condemned man's face and shook hands with him, Birchall remarking words that the spectators could not catch: "Good-bye, old man, for God's sake do your work well."

Rev. Mr. Wade then began the recital of the Lord's Prayer, the executioner meantime adjusting the rope. At the words: "Thy will be done," the executioner pulled the cord which released the weight and

Birchall Shot Upward.

A drop of ten feet was allowed the weight. As he descended the victim's weight stretched the rope taut. The body turned partially round, and the knot under the left ear was plainly discernible. The executioner gently turned the body with the face to the wall and stepped back a couple of feet to examine his work with a critical eye. Rev. Mr. Wade continued his reading and the words "O, Lord, with whom liveth the spirits of those departed" sounded with preternatural clearness. For 3½ minutes after the drop fell the body showed signs of life at intervals. His neck was not broken, death being due to strangulation. The heaving chest, the drawing together and then relaxation of the muscles of the arms and legs showed that life was still present. The executioner caught hold of the feet and steadied the dangling man. At 8½ exactly, two minutes after the drop fell, his pulse was felt by Dr. McClurg and was beating at the rate of 60 pulsations to the minute. For 1½ minutes longer the body continued to show signs of life, and 2½ minutes later the doctors pronounced life extinct. His spirit had gone, if for weal or for woe is known but to One.

The body was allowed to remain hanging for 12 minutes longer, or about 18 minutes in all, and as it hung there the sun rose higher and higher in the clear dome above, and there fell a silence that was the benediction of a pitying God upon his sinful child. After it had been cut down it was removed to a cell in the lower corridor to await the inquest.

8.12 a.m.: The executioner entered Birchall's cell.

8.14: The procession started from the corridor.

8.15: The procession emerged from the jail door.

8.22: Birchall reached the scaffold.
8.23½: The black cap was put out.
8.25: The rope was adjusted.
8.26: The drop fell.
8.32: Doctors pronounce Birchall dead.
8.44: The body was cut down.
8.50: The post-mortem.

When the black cap was removed the dead man's face was found to be but slightly discolored and calm and unmoved. The windpipe was almost completely flattened.

The Post-mortem.

The usual post-mortem examination was conducted by Drs. McLay, Odlum and Mearns. Every medical man in town was present, including Jail Physician Rice, Drs. McClurg, Karn, Ivey, Kitchen, Brown and Wallace (Hamilton). The result showed that Birchall's windpipe was crushed in and that his death was therefore due to strangulation. The neck was not dislocated.

The Inquest.

The usual formality of an inquest was gone through with. The jury was composed of John Virtue (foreman), Joseph Baird, John McKay, Peter Irwin, Thomas C. Grant, Angus Dent, M. Virtue, George A. Fraser, Mathew Symes, George Pascoe, William McDonald, William Baldwin, A. P. Brown, James Lyons. The evidence of Jailer Cameron, Deputy Sheriff Perry, Jail Physician Rice, Guard George Perry, was heard and the inquest was adjourned until 1½ in order that a post-mortem examination might he held. This was conducted in the presence of doctors, whose names are mentioned already, and according to all accounts was a most thorough description. The examination seemed to show that death was due to strangulation, but there were ample indications to show that Birchall suffered no pain. He must have become unconscious immediately after the cord was pulled. The posterior ligaments of the upper vertebræ were parted slightly, but not sufficiently to separate the spinal column. The heart was normal and the stomach empty, with the exception of a slight fluid. The kidneys were partially congested, liver normal. The brain weighed 50¾ ounces. The developments of the head, however, anything but bore out the reputation which Birchall had obtained of being a man of culture. The unanimous opinion of the doctors present was that his learning was superficial, that while he was a close observer of the ordinary affairs of life, his faculties were of those of a man of learning. At 1½ the jury were assembled and the doctors reported the result of their post-mortem, finding that the deceased died from strangulation combined with shock.

The Burial.

The remains of Birchall were embalmed and placed in an airtight metallic coffin and this evening were interred in the jail yard, but was buried beneath the scaffold as was generally supposed would be the case. The idea of incasing them in a metallic coffin was that another effort will be made to induce the Attorney-General to allow Mrs. Birchall to take the remains home with her to England. She is expected to leave with Mrs. West-Jones on Wednesday next.

Received the Intelligence Calmly.

Mrs. Birchall was made acquainted with the fact that the execution had taken place by her sister, Mrs. West-Jones, when she awakened at 10 o'clock. She was partially dazed as the result of the light opiate which had been given her during the night, and did not fully realize the import of the communication conveyed to her. However, she soon rallied and acted as though she had resolved to hear the result without any more emotion than was necessary.

The Previous Execution.

The only previous occasion of which the death penalty was exacted in Oxford was in 1862, when Thomas Cook of Innerkip was hanged for the murder of his wife. The execution was, however, bungled, and Cook's head was torn completely from his body and rolled on the ground. The gallows was the old style with trap door, through which the victim fell. The trap door still remains in the jail yard, and has frequently been used as a mortar board, and not long ago was pressed into service by a butcher in killing pigs.

His Last Letter.

Birchall handed the following letter to George Perry a day or two ago:

WOODSTOCK JAIL, Nov. 10, 1890.

If after my death there shall appear in the press or in any other manner whatsoever. any confession that I had any hand in the murder of Mr. F. C. Benwell or any previous knowledge of said murder, with intent or malice aforethought, or any personal connection with the murder on the 17th Feb. or other day or any knowledge that any such murder was likely to be committed or any statement further than any that I may have made public previous to this date, I hand this statement to the care of Mr. George Perry, of Woodstock, Ontario, that he may know that any confession or partial confessions are entirely fictitious and in no way were ever written by me, neither emanated from me in any way whatsoever to any person, and the whole are fictitious and without a word of truth. This likewise applies to my autobiography, in which I have made no such confession or partial confession.

This to be good throughout.

REG. BIRCHALL.

Notes.

The hangman received $50 and his expenses were about $25 additional.

Yesterday afternoon Birchall packed up his personal effects and handed them over to Mr. Leetham.

Chief of Police Tom Young who arrested Birchall, was in attendance at the execution.

Sheriff Smith of Welland was among the visitors. He was interested in the execution, as it is probable that he will have to arrange for the execution of Murderer Day.

Detective Bluett called on The World yesterday in reference to the statement made by Birchall that he had paid him £500 in connection with his defence. Bluett says his bill was much less than £100 and that all he got was $300.

Those members of the Sunnyside Boating Club who did not know their steward was the professional hangman were surprised to see the announcement in The World, and there promises to be some fun at the next meeting of the club. Other members merely laughed at it, and say that as long as the man does his work for them properly what does it matter.

The receipt for a revolver bought by Birchall a few days before he sailed from England was found in Birchall's clothes; the receipt is from the Hartmann. 314 King William-street London, dated 4th Feb., 1890, and is for several articles as follows: 1 box of type, 7 shillings 6 pence: 1 holder, 1shilling 2 pence; 1 ink and pad 6 pence; 1 revolver, etc., 1 pound 6 pence. Total—1 pound 9 shillings and 8 pence.

Captain Waters of Hamilton was one of Birchall's visitors yesterday. He has invented a new arrangement for hanging men which is said to work very satisfactory. He has experimented occasionally with a corpse in the hospital, and in every case treated the neck has always been broken without trouble. This new-fangled scheme consists of a band of steel which fits snugly about the neck, and when the drop takes place Capt. Waters claims the neck is broken instantly. He made application to introduce his steel band in this case, but the Attorney-General objected.

The struggle between the two telegraph companies as to which should announce first throughout the world that Birchall was no more was an exciting one. The Canadian Pacific Company made a special effort to get the news to England. This company did not get permission to put their wires inside the jail yard until midnight last night, but, notwithstanding this, at daylight this morning two wires were working direct from the jail yard to the cable station at Canso, N.S., one of which was connected with the French cable for the use of the Dunlap & Dalziel Cable News Association and the other with the Commercial Company's cable, to be used exclusively by the Reuter's Gable Agency. The instruments were placed on a bench within 20 yards of the scaffold. When the drop fell at 8.27 the news was sent forth, and within a fraction of three minutes later it was on a bulletin board in London, England, besides having, during that time, been carried to every part of Canada and the United States.

THE NEWS IN ENGLAND.

The Dead Man's Brother Prostrated with Grief—Mrs. Birchall's Father.

LONDON, Nov. 14.—The news of Birchall's execution was received here and throughout England with the deepest interest. As a rule executions in Great Britain do not attract much attention from the general public, but no crime of recent years has aroused the curiosity and anxiety for details that the Birchall case has excited. Crowds waited anxiously for the news of the hanging, which came about three minutes after the execution, and the papers were eagerly bought up. At Oxford University, where Birchall was a student, some one draped in mourning the door of the apartment which he had occupied, and nothing else has been talked of by the students for several days but Birchall's crime and fate. Birchall had many warm friends among his old college chums, and to this day he is spoken of with favor and regret at the college. His mother is rapidly sinking and it is feared that the news of the execution will finish her.

Birchall's half-brother, the Rev. Oswald Birchall, denied himself to all callers to-day and yesterday, and is said to have spent all of Thursday night in prayer. Mr. Stevenson, the father of Mrs. Birchall, is crushed with anxiety about his daughter and has again sent word to Mrs. West-Jones to return to England immediately with her sister. Mr. Stevenson is very well situated as to property and there is no danger of Mrs. Birchall wanting for anything. The newspapers are unanimous in approving the action of the Canadian authorities in enforcing the law to the letter in Birchall's case.

Large sums of money are invested in real estate. In the event of the death of a person holding such real estate, it would be difficult to realize upon the same immediately without incurring loss. The opposite is the case of the holder of a compound investment policy in the North American Life Assurance Company, which is payable immediately in case of death or will realize a handsome return if the holder lives to the end of the investment period. 246

Grant & Co., 246
77 King-street east, for fine furs and stylish perfect fitting sealskins at old prices, having purchased their season's supply in skins previous to the advance. The latest in ladies' capes and storm collars; dress and mantle trimmings cut to order at moderate prices. See our ladies' storm collars, the latest out, and only to be had at 77 King-street east.

Personal Mention.

Mr. W. Farwell, general manager of the Eastern Townships Bank, is at the Rossin.

Mr. J. C. Patterson, M.P., Windsor, is at the Queen's.

Mr. E. P. Hannaford, chief engineer of the G.T.R., is at the Queen's.

Mr. F. M. Bell-Smith, who is leaving the city to study in Paris, France, wishes to announce to his many patrons and to all lovers of good pictures that he intends sending to Messrs. Oliver, Coate & Co., to be sold without the least reserve, about one hundred of the best and most important of his works, and he wishes them to be on the lookout for the date, which will appear in a future advertisement of this paper.

He Is Very Low.

Ex-Ald. John James, the well-known Colborne-street provision merchant, is dying at his residence, 80 Yorkville-avenue, of stone in the bladder. There have been several consultations of medical men, and at last accounts Mr. James was very low.

A Mint of Money, by the author of Black Blood, at all bookstores; price 40 cents. The Red Letter Series.

The Opposition Dairy.

We are and will continue selling 20 tickets for $1, spot cash, thus making your milk 5 cents a quart. Regular delivery to all parts of the city. Chapman, Symons & Co., 230 and 232 Queen-street east. Telephone 1723.

Gas fixtures and lamp goods, retail at wholesale prices. Milne's, 169 Yonge-street. 156

$5 New York $5—New York via The Great Erie Railway.

If every person in Canada don't see New York it cannot be for the want of low rates, for it is cheaper to travel than to stay at home. Only five dollars round trip, Suspension Bridge to New York on November 15. Magnificent through sleepers from Toronto. For full particulars apply to G.T.R. agents or to S. J. Sharp, 19 Wellington-street East, Toronto. ed

A Mint of Money, by the author of Black Blood, at all bookstores; price 40 cents. The Red Letter Series.

JUVENILE CRIME INCREASES.

OLD COUNTRY WAIFS OUGHT NOT TO BE DUMPED IN TOWNS.

Erect Public Playgrounds—Enforce Truancy Laws—Three-Fourths of Youthful Delinquents Totally Uneducated—Manual Training Essential—Six Hundred Children This Year Before the Beak.

The Prison Commission concluded the taking of evidence on the subjects of enquiry yesterday. It will now endeavor to digest the immense amount of material collected and to have the report ready for the opening of the Legislature.

The witnesses were:

W. Stark, inspector of detectives.
J. J. Kelso of the Humane Society.
G. A. Barnett of the Newsboys' Home.
Mrs. O'Reilly, superintendent of the Mercer.
Miss Elliott, superintendent of the Girls' Refuge, Mercer.
D. J. O'Donoghue, trades delegate.

The evidence dealt principally with different phases of juvenile crime, and brought out the great need of increased care for that part of the population.

Inspector Stark declared that the first and chief cause of crime was the deplorable lack of parental control over young children. The great majority of noted criminals began their career at an early age. Intemperance was the next most important factor, and it was found that persons of this class gradually drift into dissipated habits and their expertness as thieves leaves them. Junk and second-hand shops exercised a very damaging influence on juveniles, especially before they were put under police regulation. They are now conducted on the strictest possible lines, and the owners of them are often the first to come and report to us any suspicious transaction. He did not think pawn shops encouraged crime to any extent. He put in a statement showing that in four months there were 213 convictions for felony in Toronto, of which 73 were boys between 7 and 15 years of age. Public playgrounds should be provided at the public expense and under police surveillance. Juvenile crime was increasing with the growth of the city. It was a mistake to bring waifs from the Old Country and dump them in Canadian cities and towns. They should be placed on farms. Toronto already contains a professional criminal class.

Enforce Truancy Laws.

Mr. J. J. Kelso, who has been connected with the Humane Society, the Fresh Air Fund and other similar institutions for some time, gave the commission the result of his experience. He believed that the first and most pressing thing to do to lessen crime was to commence with the children. Truancy laws should be enforced. A probation officer should be appointed to attend the police headquarters and examine into the history of every juvenile offender and see that the young or innocent were not injured by contamination with others. A place of detention should be established where children could be kept until absorbed again into the family relation. Industrial schools should be started for the older boys, and the Penetanguishene Reformatory should be made more of a home and less of a prison. He said the fate of children, under the present system, "often causes me great tribulation."

Mr. G. A. Barnett, superintendent of the Newsboys' Home for the past four years, gave an interesting description of the work of that institution. The average number of inmates is 24 and in winter the number sometimes rises to 35. The reason why more did not take advantage of the place was that they disliked the restraint necessary for carrying on the home. The conduct of the boys while in the home is very good. The cost of maintaining the home last year was about $5000, obtained by voluntary subscriptions, except a Government grant of $126.

Advocated the Cottage System.

Mrs. O'Reilly, superintendent of the Mercer Reformatory since its establishment in 1880, said that 1556 women and 160 girls had passed through that institution. Of the 124 inmates last year, the majority were convicted as vagrants and only six as prostitutes, but more than half of the inmates were really prostitutes. There are 85 inmates to-day. Owing to the structural arrangement it is impossible to properly classify them. To secure proper classification and to effect more reformation, the cottage system ought to be adopted and the institution placed in the country. She believed a considerable number of women reformed even with the present arrangements.

A peculiar point brought out in the evidence of Mrs. O'Reilly was that there were no rules governing the institution. She said she never had any experience of other institutions which were governed by rules, and did not know whether they would be effective or not.

Mr. Langmuir: "For my part I don't see how the institution can be carried on without by-laws of some kind."

Mr. Drury: "I think it is the only institution in the province without rules."

Three-fourths Totally Uneducated.

Miss Elliott, who has charge of the refuge for girls, a department of the Mercer, said her aim was to make good servants of them and thought that 90 per cent. of them became respectable members of society. About 12 per cent. of the girls are weak-minded with vigorous constitutions and should never be permitted to be sent out in the world, because nothing but criminals spring from them. The refuge ought to be at a distance from the reformatory. Nearly 75 per cent. of the inmates when first admitted can neither read nor write.

Mr. D. J. O'Donoghue produced a statement from the police department showing that 569 children under 15 years of age were brought before the Police Magistrate during the 10 months ending Oct. 31. In January there were 26 boys and 1 girl, in February 39 boys and 2 girls, in March 43 boys and 3 girls, in April 36 boys and 6 girls, in May 47 boys and 3 girls, in June 53 boys and 4 girls, in July 64 boys and 4 girls, in August 53 boys and 2 girls, in September 70 boys and 2 girls, in October 106 boys and 5 girls. He placed before the commission the views of the labor organizations upon manual training in schools and similar subjects.

A Mint of Money, by the author of Black Blood, at all bookstores; price 40 cents. The Red Letter Series.

A Great Demand for Furs.

Owing to the great advance that has recently taken place on the finer grades of skins, such as seal, Persian, otter, beaver, sable and bear, the furriers are quite busy. Dineen, on corner King and Yonge-streets, reports trade brisker than usual—their full staff of hands is working over-time to keep up with the orders, and from present appearances there won't be many choice furs left at the close of the year. Those who do not take advantage of the present prices to buy furs will have to pay double next year.

A Mint of Money, by the author of Black Blood, at all bookstores; price 40 cents. The Red Letter Series.

Killed by a Wagon.

NEW HAMBURG, Nov. 14.—As Mr. Nicklaus Meyer, a farmer of Wilmot township, was nearing the village of Phillipsburg, 4 miles from this place, he fell from his wagon, which passed over him, injuring him so that he died in an hour.

The Sheffield House Importing Company (Registered).

65 Yonge-street (below King.) Just to hand new English goods, suitable for wedding present, at wholesale prices. C. E. Robinson, Manager.

A Mint of Money, by the author of Black Blood, at all bookstores; price 40 cents The Red Letter Series.

The Shadow Led to Death.

KINGSTON, Nov. 14.—A little son of J. Tracey of Grattan was looking at his shadow in a tub of water, when he fell in and was drowned.

A Mint of Money, by the author of Black Blood, at all bookstores; price 40 cents. The Red Letter Series.

SUICIDE AT ST. HELENS.

An Old Man Shoots Himself While Temporarily Insane.

ST. HELENS, Ont., Nov. 14.—George Staples, a farmer in good circumstances living in the 6th concession of West Wawanosh, committed suicide last evening about 9 o'clock by shooting. Deceased has been in poor health lately and at times temporarily out of his mind. During one of these fits he took a loaded gun, which was left in the room by his son who had been hunting, placed the muzzle in his mouth and pulled the trigger, the charge coming out and blowing off his right ear, killing him instantly.

Jottings About Town.

Ex-Governor Aikins, Mrs. Aikins and Miss Aikins leave for Florida on Tuesday next.

On Monday afternoon next the Associated City Charities will continue the discussion of Juvenile crime.

Mrs. Bradley of London East will begin her lecture work in connection with the Central W.C.T.U. Monday afternoon in Association Hall.

"Sedan and Its Issues" is the title of Rev. Dr. King's lecture in Carlton-street Methodist Church on Monday night.

Dr. Hugh Johnstone gave his illustrated lecture on Scotland in St. James-square Presbyterian Church last night.

The funeral of the late Mr. John Blakely, caretaker of the Elizabeth-street public school, took place yesterday afternoon to St. James' Cemetery. The members of L.O.L. No. 140 attended in a body.

Sparks from a defective flue ignited the woodwork in 77 Belmont-street, occupied by J. Hill, yesterday morning. The damage to building and furniture amounted to $400.

Dr. Oldright lectured before the physical class of the Y.M.C.A. in Association Hall last night. His subject, "Ventilation," was replete with useful information.

Mr. Schiverea will bring to a close the present series of meetings with two services to-morrow (Sunday), the first open to all at 4 o'clock, when the annual sermon will be preached, the second at 8½ p.m., for men only.

We direct attention to the sale of pictures by T Mower Martin, R.C.A., which will take place at Lydon's Mart, 43 King-st. east, this afternoon at 2.30.

The Rev. Prof. Clark will preach in St. Margaret's, Spadina-ave., to-morrow morning.

The Toronto Gardeners' and Florists' Club will elect their officers for the coming year next Wednesday.

Patrick Irving, 27 St. Clarence-avenue, is a prisoner in St. Alban's Ward station charged with insanity.

John Kane, a C.P.R. porter, was yesterday sentenced to 30 days' imprisonment for theft of a case of whisky.

A half-day school for newsboys will be opened in Elizabeth-street on Monday.

The Presbyterian News Company have a grand show of new holiday books and novelties at their depot, corner Toronto and Adelaide-streets, opposite postoffice.

George Warr is still confined to the General Hospital from the effects of the brutal attack on him three weeks ago. The accused were yesterday remanded for a week.

For theft of ulsters from the store of P. Vinberg, Queen-street west, John Williams was yesterday committed to jail for 3 months.

A man named Muldoon, hailing from Toronto, has been arrested in Buffalo for aiding in smuggling a Chinaman into New York.

Dr. Oronhyatekha, the supreme chief ranger, interviewed the Dominion Ministers, with a view to having the order brought under the Dominion Insurance Inspection Act.

The 25th of November will be observed as "Crusade Day" by all the branches of the City W.C.T.U. Special efforts will be made on that day to increase the membership of the organization.

The central organization of the Enfranchisement Society met in Yonge-street market last night. J. L. Hughes in the chair. Miss Youmans was appointed treasurer, and steps were taken to perfect the organization of the city. Several new members were received.

The Board of Examiners of Land Surveyers for Ontario has granted certificates to practice land surveying in Ontario to the following: Albert D. Griffin, Woodstock; Robert McDowall, Owen Sound, and Joseph E. Ross, Sault Ste. Marie. The two last named are graduates of the School of Practical Science.

Mr. G. H. Ferguson will represent the Arts students of the University of Toronto at the McGill College banquet next Thursday night in Montreal; Mr. B. Thompson will represent the medical students and Mr. H. D. Symmes will represent the students of the School of Practical Science.

Rev. John Alexander Dowie and Mrs. Dowie, formerly of Australia, unfolded their experience of "God's way of healing" to a number of ministers, office-holders and ladies in Association Hall yesterday. Mr. Dowie also spoke in Richmond Hall last night.

The Ontario Society of Artists held an executive meeting last night, at which it was decided to present Mr. Henry M. Stanley with an address on the occasion of his visit to Toronto.

At the German Benevolent Society's annual meeting it was reported to be in a very prosperous condition. The officers for the ensuing year are: Charles Cluthe, President; John Kelz, Vice-President; T. W. Handorf, Treasurer; J. Kawm and Theobald Braun, Secretaries.

Many persons visited the studio of Mr. Carl Ahrens, O.S.A., 31 King-street east, on Wednesday when that young Canadian artist gave the public an opportunity to view his most recent work. Mr. Ahrens has many admirers who will do well to call to-day. His work should be seen to be appreciated.

Messrs. Suckling & Co. announce in to-day's issue their removal to the commodious premises, Nos. 62 and 64 Wellington-street west, next door to Messrs. Gillespie, Ainsley & Martin. These premises are beyond doubt the largest and best-adapted to the requirements of the auction business in Canada. Any class of goods exposed for sale will look well in them.

The members of the Parliament-street Methodist Church choir assembled at the home of Mr. J. Howitt, 281 King-street east, last night, and after the usual choir practice, Mr. R. H. Self, on behalf of the members, presented the leader of the choir, Mr. Herbert Duffitt, with an illuminated address and an inlaid silver-mounted baton as a token of the good wishes of the choir for his assiduous and gratuitous efforts as leader of the choir for the past nine years.

The Don Improvement Case.

The City Solicitor on Monday will move in Osgoode Hall to have the case of Manning and Macdonald v. the city of Toronto, postponed for three months because of the indisposition of Assistant City Engineer Sproatt. The big contractors will fight the application on the ground that Mr. Sproatt is sufficiently well to undergo the strain of hearing a witness.

The largest stock of trusses, crutches, abdominal supporters, shoulder braces, is carried by the one-price firm, established twenty years, of Charles Cluthe, 134 King-street west. Trusses in hard rubber, celluloid and leather, from 75c upward. 26

How to cure Indigestion—chew Adams Tutti Frutti Gum, 5 cents.

Jurgenson Watches.

If you carry a "Jurgenson" don't risk a large depreciation in value by allowing it to RUN TILL IT STOPS. Ed. Beeton, High Grade Watch Specialist, 25 Leader-lane.

Brass Fenders, fire irons, andirons, coffee machines and kettles. Milne's, 169 Yonge-street. 156

When a gentleman observes an exceedingly pretty foot tripping along before him on the street his mind involuntarily carries him to 87 and 89 King-street east and he exclaims mentally, "Blachford's Shoes." 2

The Dead.

Daniel S. Appleton, the well-known New York publisher, is dead.

Mrs. Bridget Dissette, mother of Mr. Richard Dissette of the Empress Hotel, died yesterday at her late residence, Gardiner, Ont., in the 77th year of her age of heart failure.

Mr. Peter Kemp, traveler for Northrop, Lyman & Co., Toronto, died suddenly in Quebec on Thursday. He went to Burk's drug store and complained of feeling unwell. During the night his illness became serious and doctors were called in, but their aid was of no avail. Mr. Kemp was a native of Ailoa, Scotland, and was well known and highly respected. The funeral takes place in Toronto this afternoon.

The Jewel Range, with duplex grate, has no equal. Milne's, 169 Yonge-street. 156

MARRIAGES.

RAMSDEN-CARMAN—On the 12th inst., at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. M. Fawcett, Joseph George Ramsden to Effie Lavinia Carman, all of this city.

DEATHS.

McARTHUR—Suddenly, at his residence, 400 Bloor-street west, on Friday, 14th inst., John McArthur of the McArthur Bros. Co. (limited), in the 57th year of his age.

Funeral from the above address on Monday afternoon, 17th inst., at 2½ o'clock.

Cornwall papers please copy.

Steamship Arrivals.

The Allan steamship Brazilian from London passed Cape Race, Newfoundland, at 10 a.m. on Friday.

The Allan steamship Prussian from Glasgow arrived at Boston at 11½ a.m. on Friday.

FULL SPEED ON THE ROCKS.

PARTICULARS OF THE LOSS OF THE CRUISER SERPENT.

The Intense Excitement on the London Stock Exchange Continues—Large Arrivals of Gold Apparently Have no Effect in Checking the Unrest—Suicide of a German Army Officer.

LONDON, Nov. 14.—The street dealings at the stock exchange were the worst of the day. Every department was demoralised. The fact that over a million pounds in consols had been sold led to a reaction. The rush to realizations increased on bear rumors that notable financial houses were involved. The influx of £1,039,000 in gold into the Bank of England from Paris failed to relieve the strain. Several discounters refused bills at 6 per cent. or on any terms owing to the general feeling of uneasiness. The heaviest fall was in Uruguay securities, which declined 5. Argentine declined 2½ to 4. American railroads 1 to 3½ and English railways ½ to 2. On the Paris bourse prices were weak. Rio Tinto dropped 17 francs. The Berlin boerse was very unsettled under the reports of financial troubles in London.

The Lost Cruiser Serpent.

LONDON, Nov. 16.—The survivors of the wreck of the cruiser Serpent near Camarina, Spain, are unable to give any details of the disaster except that the vessel was going ahead at full speed when she struck the rocks. Intelligence has been received here that another person was saved in addition to the three who were known to have reached the shore.

A Mayor Suicides.

SONDERSHAUSEN, Germany, Nov. 14.—Mayor Von Borke, aide-de-camp of the Prince of Schwarzburg-Sondershausen, committed suicide to-day by shooting.

Thirty bodies washed ashore from the torpedo cruiser Serpent have been recovered. They are terribly disfigured from being dashed against the rocks.

The Hull steamer Derwentwater struck a reef off Cape Finisterre and foundered. Two of the crew were drowned and six were saved.

The O'Shea divorce case will come up for trial before Justice Butt in the Divorce Court to-morrow. It is rumored Parnell will conduct his own case. Captain O'Shea will produce 30 witnesses in his support. Mrs. Steele, sister of Mrs. O'Shea, says no matter how the case may end she is determined to vindicate her character against the charge of adultery with Captain O'Shea.

Severely Scoring The Mail.

[From The Week.]

The publication of "Birchall's Biography" in the columns of a paper of the high standing hitherto occupied by The Mail is one of the most shocking things in modern newspaper literature. If the wretched man wished to earn a few hundred dollars for his unhappy wife, any claim which the law might have had upon his writings might have been relaxed or set aside. Even in that case the publication might have been deferred. It is greatly to be feared, however, that Birchall is influenced quite as much by the desire for the quasi-heroism of his biography being read by thousands during the last hours of his life, and that he is enjoying the vulgar satisfaction of seeing his own miserable writing and vulgar sketches reproduced in the copies of The Daily Mail which find their way to his apartment.

If the writing had any interest whatever, literary, intellectual or moral, its publication would be somewhat intelligible, but it has none of these qualities. A composition which seems partly that of a half-educated schoolboy, and of a horse-jockey not educated at all, is hardly the thing to lay upon the breakfast tables of our ladies and gentlemen, or upon the desks of our business men. We confess that this description is the result of a very slight perusal of the disgusting document. But we dipped into a good many places in the hope that some passages might be found of a redeeming character, but anything more weary, stale, flat and unprofitable we cannot remember. We are persuaded that hardly anyone would care to read a dozen lines of the trash but for the fact that it is the production of a murderer under sentence of death.

It is asserted that the other daily papers denounce the publication because they failed to obtain possession of the precious manuscript. We sincerely hope they made no attempt to do so. If they did, we congratulate them heartily on their failure. The Mail is jubilant over the number of copies sold of the numbers containing the first part of the biography. We are afraid that there may be grounds for this jubilation, but we are quite certain that if it has increased its temporary circulation it has certainly damaged its general character. It is the business of papers which look at these subjects from a disinterested point of view to say plainly what educated men are thinking and saying on this unprecedented literary venture.

Railway War.

The Buffalo Express says the Erie Railway is apparently bound to convince the Rome. Watertown & Ogdensburg Railway that it is not a safe venture to cut rates from Canadian territory or, in other words, to run cheap excursions to New York city from Canada, and says the Erie has made a $5 rate from Suspension Bridge to New York and return. We would ask General Passenger Agent Rinearson if this is a printer's error. If not, we think the Erie has made a grand mistake in asking Canadians to patronize them, and therefore compel the R., W. & O. to put the rates up to $16 and they will do likewise. If this is not a fact we invite them to contradict it. Do they think Canadians are so near sighted that they cannot see through the above object? H. W. Van Every of this city, passenger agent of the R., W. & O., and who has been the instigator of these cheap excursions, met their rate promptly, and will continue to do so. Van has too strong a railroad company at his back, is very popular and has been too good a friend to the traveling public in always giving them low rates for any other railway company to come in and force him to put up the rates. We are pleased to see that the Canadian traveling public have so far stood by Van, and they deserve great credit for it, as he is fighting for their interests, and we are sure he will succeed, as he is one of the keenest men in this city.

Cooking ranges, 25 per cent. cheaper than any place in city. Wheeler & Bain King east.

The great sale of jackets and mantles which has been going on at the warehouse of Nicholas Rooney, at 62 Yonge-street, still continues. Ladies in need of jackets or mantles will do well to call and see the stock. Mr. Rooney is in the wholesale trade, but is selling these jackets and mantles by retail in order to close out the stock in that department. Goods of this class have never before been offered at such low prices. Remember the address and that the goods are being sold retail at 62 Yonge-street.

Adams' Tutti Frutti Gum purifies the breath and aids digestion.

Ontario Mutual Life.

"THE ONTARIO" is the PEOPLE'S COMPANY, owned and controlled solely by and in the interests of the policy holders, and stands unimpeachable in the soundness of its basis and the equitable relationship its individual bears to its collective membership. Office, 32 Church-street.

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Ocean Marine.

Date.	Name.	Reported at.	From.
Nov. 14	State of Georgia	New York	Glasgow.
"	Nevada	"	Liverpool.
"	City of Chicago	London	New York.

Rain To-Night.

Increasing easterly to southerly winds, increasing cloudiness followed by rain.

Frank Cayley Offers for Sale

a semi-detached residence in St. Albans-street, containing 11 rooms; decorated, painted and papered throughout. The house is in perfect order, situate near new Parliament buildings; lot 30x300 to a 20 ft. lane. For further particulars apply at his office, 65 King-st.