

these days to be very reliable, the management of the case by the counsel for the Commonwealth was not what would have found commendation either in England or Canada. With us, there is expected of Crown counsel a calm and judicial, as well as a logical and exhaustive, though it may be pitiless, presentation of the facts of the case to the jury, combined with such vigorous and searching cross-examination as may be necessary to bring out such facts, rather than the seeking of a conviction by the impassioned and eloquent harangues which are credited to Mr. Graham. The reason of this may possibly be that in the United States they have the elective principle connected with the administration of justice as well as with politics. We notice that one of the newspaper reports says that Mr. Graham is ready and anxious to come to this country to assist in the prosecution of Holmes for the alleged murder of the Pietzel children, should he escape the death penalty in the United States. We would say as to this that we can manage the matter quite well ourselves, and with due regard to what we consider the proper administration of justice, as well as with much more certain results should the defendant be found guilty. We have nothing to learn in such matters from a country where criminals very largely either escape justice altogether or are brutally murdered under the law of Judge Lynch, as was recently the case with the unfortunate negroes in Tennessee and Texas.

THE daily papers treat us to another horrible atrocity in the Southern States—the roasting to death of a negro for the alleged murder of a white woman. The citizens of the “most enlightened nation on the earth” stand by and see things done with impunity by men who are citizens of that great nation, and largely of the same blood as ourselves, which would disgrace savages in the centre of Africa. This may be said to be no business of ours, as a legal journal; but the whole profession is interested in the due administration of justice, and every lawless act is not only a menace to the state where it is committed, but also to every adjoining community, and this is especially the case in regard to the United States and Canada, where we have so much in common—similarity in race and in laws. If this horrible murder were an isolated case, there would be not much harm done; but