

telegraph, and to have been transmitted by telegraph to a certain other post office, with intent to defraud.

The defendant pleaded guilty to the charge.

The telegram was sent out from the Manchester Head Post Office to a firm of bookmakers about 3.15 p.m., on June 27. Upon its face the telegram appeared to be addressed by a third person to the firm of bookmakers, and to have been handed in at a branch office in Manchester at 2.40 p.m., and received at the head office at 2.51 p.m. The words of the body of the telegram were 'Three pounds, Lord of Dale.' Lord of the Dale was the name of a horse which ran in and won the Newcastle Handicap at 2.45 p.m. on that day, and the bookmakers accepted the telegram as a bet made by the third person on Lord of the Dale, and accounted to him for 9*l.* in respect thereof. The telegram was a forgery, and was not sent from the branch office, but was dispatched from the head office after the race had been run.

In view of the requirement of section 38 of 24 & 25 Vict., c. 98, that the document forged must be an instrument, the learned judge stated a case for the opinion of the Court.

The questions for the opinion of the Court were whether the indictment could be supported, the only statement of the 'instrument' therein being that it was a 'telegram,' without any averment as to the contents to show that it constituted an instrument within the meaning of the section; and whether, if the indictment could not be so supported, the conviction could, the prisoner having pleaded guilty, be upheld.

The Court held that the word 'instrument' in section 38 of 24 & 25 Vict., c. 98, was not confined to any definite class of legal documents, but was used in its ordinary meaning; that a telegram was an instrument within the meaning of the section; and that the indictment was good and the conviction must be upheld.

Conviction affirmed.

THE MUNROE DOCTRINE.

Lord Salisbury has several times expressed his agreement with the Munroe Doctrine as first enunciated by President Munroe, in his Message of Dec. 2, 1823. It is only against the Cleveland extension of it that he energetically protests. It may, therefore, be of interest to quote the actual words of the Message, which,