

men were placed in cages, and yesterday morning the leader, who could not walk, was carried before the magistrate, who is preparing a special cell for his detention. The leader is, we are informed, the same man who was put in a cage in the city to be starved to death a few months ago. The above punishments were, the Chinese say, inflicted by orders of the superior officials at Soochow. No doubt all the men were thorough-paced rascals, and their chief, or leader, had not only broken every law that it suited him to break, but had made his authorities ridiculous by setting them at defiance. Nevertheless the sentences on them were barbarous in the extreme. It does not matter that the men were probably able to obtain some mitigation of the severity of their punishment by bribing the executioners to lay the blows on lightly, and that therefore they did not suffer much from the bamboo and rattan. It is the iniquity of the punishment which foreign nations will bear in mind when considering Chinese claims to be on an equality with them."

Turning from China to Africa, we find in *The African Times* of Nov. 5 the following:

"Last September a section of the Ogoni tribe, once a powerful people but now split up into factions, appealed to the king and chiefs of Okrika to intervene in a dispute between themselves and another faction. This quarrel originated at the oil markets, which it is to the interest of the Okrikans, as middlemen, to keep open and free. The Okrikans sided with the appellants, and warned their opponents that in the event of hostilities they would assist them and put a stop to the feud. The warning was without effect, and the hostile Ogonis attacked the allies of the Okrikans while they were returning from the markets, killing a chief and taking a number of prisoners and a quantity of property. The Okrikans, on being informed of this raid, planned with their friends a terrible scheme of revenge, which they proceeded at once to carry into effect. Under the pretext of an invitation to a friendly palaver for the purpose of settling the differences between the parties, the Ogonis concerned in the attack, accompanied by eighty of their chiefs, were treacherously lured into a trap, captured, and taken to Okrika, where they were butchered and eaten. The reports received as to the condition of the town during the tragedy are too revolting for publication. Mangled remains and remnants of human beings were strewn in all directions, while mutilated bodies were observed floating down the Bonny river. After the capture of the party invited to the palaver, a raid was made upon the virtually undefended villages

whence they came, and the result was further atrocities. It is difficult to estimate the number of killed and eaten, but reports to hand put the number at 150."

But now comes the rub. What we have been quoting is about non-Christian lands. We venture, with deepening shame, to refer to our Alaska possessions. The following quotation from the *New York World*, of a part of a letter written to that journal by Mrs. Voorhies, a well-known lady of New York city, is simply startling:

"In all that country there is no law—there can be no restraint—and the lowest animal passions of the rough miners, trappers, hunters, soldiers, and sailors' rage unchecked. The Indian woman is considered the lawful spoil of these men. They steal them if they can; if not, they buy them from their parents for a knife, a jug of rum, or a string of beads. If these considerations do not weigh, then they make the old people drunk and carry off the girl. A miner will come and dicker for a child of fourteen, and bear her off shrieking with terror. She becomes the slave of the whole camp, and is finally sent back to her people to die. A lady with whom I talked of these horrors at Sitka told me of a case which had come under her own observation, so she could vouch for its truth in every revolting particular. This lady, by the way, is the first white woman who ever went to Alaska. Of course there may have been some Russian women there before, but I mean the first woman from our country or England.

"Well, she knew of a little girl having been carried off forcibly by some soldiers, and one day, a few months after, an Indian woman came to her exhibiting signs of great grief, and begged the white mother, as she called this lady, to go and look at her daughter, who was dying. The lady went to the place where the girl lay on the ground, a mass of rags, filth, and corruption. She had been returned to her people by her captors to whom she was no longer useful. Such horror is felt by the Indians at the approach of any one afflicted as she was, that they avoided the victim as though she was plague-stricken. In the case of this poor child, who was only fifteen years of age, they had built a stockade about the place where she lay, completely inclosing her. A small aperture had been left on one side close to the ground, through which food and water were thrust to her. The 'white mother' crawled through this hole to reach the sufferer, and did what was in her power for the wretched young creature. One ear was entirely gone, and the girl's face horribly disfigured. Because she had been kidnapped by soldiers, the brave white lady sent word to the garrison that they must give medical aid. A physician came, through whose efforts the child's life was saved."