

named O'Neil until he became insane, and then falsified the prison records to hide the tragedy. The story is that O'Neil was confined in the dark cell for 72 hours, wearing irons for 43 of them; and that he was then placed in his own cell, and kept there without a bed, on a diet of bread and water, for 103 days. It is added that while the prison books show the amount of the dark cell punishment which O'Neil suffered, they contain no reference whatever to the three months' torture which destroyed his reason; and further, that Mr. Massie took no steps, as required by law, to have the prisoner formally declared insane by the County Judge, the inference being that he was afraid to produce his victim in court. It is impossible, as we have said, to believe that the Warden, or any other of his subordinates, could be guilty of so monstrous an outrage upon a fellow-creature; yet, on the other hand, our correspondents declare that they are ready with the proof. * * * Let the Commissioners open the investigation without further delay, and pursue it fearlessly. If Mr. Massie is innocent, and we hope and believe he is, it is only fair to him that the hideous charges that have been floating about so long, and have at last taken definite shape, should be sifted to the uttermost."—(*Mail*, 6th June, 1886.)

Speaking of the correspondents whose letters the *Mail* had published, the following statement is made:—

"Their only object in putting themselves to the immense trouble of preparing an indictment against him is to rescue human beings from inhuman treatment, as they believe. They say that they can prove every word that has been published in these columns concerning the internal economy of the prison, and the manner in which certain prisoners have been tortured, and the proofs they have laid before us certainly make out a strong *prima facie* case. They have also given us the names of responsible witnesses who are familiar with the facts, and who will be able and willing, as our correspondent believes, to substantiate each and every word of the charges, and we have confidence in the veracity and integrity of our correspondents, as they are gentlemen who occupy positions of no ordinary consequence, and who would not make these charges were they not actuated by most honourable and benevolent motives. The *Mail* has therefore deemed it to be its bounden duty to lay the whole case before the public, not with the view of injuring Mr. Massie, but in order that attention having been directed to the alleged abuses a thorough inquiry might be made without delay into a matter of such momentous importance to the community."—(*Mail*, 8th June, 1885.)

Up to this point, therefore, it is manifest that whatever had been done by either party to "squeeze out" the Warden, as the *Review* writer expresses it, was done by the Conservative party, and not by the Government. Now the Conservative press are charging us with an endeavour to "squeeze out" that officer; the *Presbyterian Review* has, under its Conservative manager, joined