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WHOLE NO. 363.

## LITERATURE.

### Boston's Latest Disgrace.

[From the N. Y. Sun.]

There has opened at Boston the trial of a cause which may take its place among the celebrated actions at law. The parties involved in it are conspicuous in social war, and the facts which will be brought out are of unusual interest. What is alleged by the female plaintiff in the case is that some men and women of great consequence in Boston society, rich and otherwise highly favored, have conspired together to ruin her good name.

In the year 1851, Miss Laura Coolidge, the daughter of one of the best known families of Boston, living on the charmed heights of Beacon Hill, married her cousin, Mr. Joseph Coolidge, a well-to-do lawyer, and by her marriage, changed her name to Coolidge. The following year the happy couple went to Europe, and were apparently still happy when they returned in 1853 to occupy a house adjoining that of the parents of the bride. They had three children, whom Mrs. Coolidge took to Europe with her when she again went there in 1854. Mr. Coolidge then united with a friend of his in Boston, a Mr. Dexter, another well-known Boston name, in renting a house and engaging a Mrs. Rice, a boarding-house keeper, to look after their domestic affairs. Mrs. Rice, in seems, not only acted as house-keeper for these two men, but also ran her boarding-house in Tremont street, which shows her to be a business woman.

Mrs. Coolidge for a considerable period wrote dutifully to her husband as a faithful wife. But after two years the ardor of her soul began to cool. In fact, she told him that his conduct to her had been harsh and that she would no longer live with him. Returning to the United States in 1858, her estrangement continued, and in 1871 she began a suit for divorce on the grounds of cruelty and desertion. She seems to have had a weak case, for her suit was withdrawn; but two years later she began one in Iowa, whether she had gone to establish herself there for any purpose, on new charges of cruelty and adultery. Her Boston lawyer was George Putnam, the son of a Boston Unitarian minister, and a man of high reputation. Her lawyer in Iowa, was a Mr. W. J. Knight. The charges were for adultery and desertion, and the action for defamation of character, in which \$50,000 damages are claimed, is that Putnam conspired with one Scanlon, a Chicago detective, to manufacture stories that Mrs. Coolidge had committed adultery with her, and that she was a woman of low character. Scanlon was hired to shadow Mr. Coolidge, which function he performed with assiduity, following him as he travelled, even as far as Texas, but unable to find any lapses from conjugal fidelity on his part. Scanlon then went for him at the Tremont House, opposite Mrs. Rice's dwelling, and kept his lynx eye across the street; and he also paid a waiter at the hotel to watch and get into his interest a colored servant of Mrs. Rice's named Parish, all with a view to discovering improper relations between the boarding-house keeper and Mr. Coolidge.

The evidence of these people and of certain other servants of Mrs. Rice was taken by deposition. We gave in *The Sun* of last Wednesday the main points of their averments, which were that Mrs. Rice was a hard drinker, and was in adultery with Mr. Coolidge, Mr. Dexter, and a Mr. Tisdale; indeed a woman of a very bad character, who had prostituted her own daughter. Out of this testimony was made up the main charge in the divorce suit, and farther witness were brought forward to prove the cruelty alleged. The answer was a specific denial of the charges, and Mr. Coolidge, Mr. Dexter, and Mr. Tisdale testified to the good name of Mrs. Rice. When Mr. Tisdale did not deny that he was in the habit of kissing her, though he left Boston or returned to it, and acknowledged that she drank liquor, though not to excess, and smoked. A servant of Mrs. Rice's had sworn that her mistress sometimes had the horrors.

Though she had secured so great an array of testimony against her husband, and at an expense which must have been heavy, Mrs. Coolidge failed to obtain the divorce, and now her father, her mother, her lawyers, and several of her witnesses are defendants in a suit begun by Mrs. Rice for conspiracy to blacken character by perjured evidence. Behind the plaintiff, it is well understood, stands a Bostonian of large means, and the lawyers retained by both parties to the suit are among the most eminent at the Suffolk bar, at which practise many bright lights of the law.

It is alleged that some of the most important witnesses for Mrs. Rice, and that it was false, are already confessed. Mr. Putnam, Mrs. Coolidge's Boston lawyer, is claimed to have organized the conspiracy, and therefore he is one of the chief defendants in this suit. It seems that while his detectives were shadowing Mr. Coolidge, Mrs. Rice's detective was working under the following: So dangerous it is to trust a scandal!

This is the outline of the strange case now proceeding, which involves the name of people who are at the summit of Boston society. Rarely does the law have to deal with a more complicated and far-reaching suit than that of Mrs. Rice against the Coolidge family and the instruments she claims they suborned.

### The Mollie Maguire.

THE STORY OF THE MURDER OF JONES AND POWELL.

McParlan had received information that Mr. Jones was to be murdered, but was unable to communicate in time with Captain Linden. On the morning of September 3rd, 1876, John P. Jones left his house, which was in Lansford and contained his wife and seven children, at about 7 o'clock in the morning, bound for the breaker, where he was employed, carrying his dinner-pail in his hand, and following the pipe-line towards the old railway embankment, which had been, by Mr. Zehner, repeatedly urged not to take, as he was aware that his life was by no means safe. The assassins, Jas. Kerrigan, Mike Doyle, and Edward Kelly, were in waiting for him. He saw them not, but continued his walk as though nothing more than usual was before him. Not a promise of impending evil; not a thought of coming death; not a glance around, to see if the cowardly assassin was in ambush prepared to kill him.

Jones left his home by a rear door and moved down the pipe-line. The trio of murderers reached the top of the path, and by this time he was some yards from the same position. He heard their footsteps and turned aside, patiently pausing for them to pass. Still no suspicion could have crossed his mind that he stood at the gateway of death. The men had no intention of permitting him to obtain a hint of their design. They halted when close to him, and then Doyle and Kelly drew their pistols and fired on Jones. Each discharged one shot. Their victim made a spasmodic effort with his assassins with the tin dinner-pail, which Doyle fired against. Jones turned off towards the bushes, raised his hands and cried out: "I'm shot! I'm shot!" In a moment he fell forward upon his face. After this, Doyle fired two more bullets into his already rigid body. The Superintendent had not time to draw or think of a weapon, and in a few minutes the life of the man was ended. His heart beat no more. While Doyle was finishing the savage job, his companions were running away across the mountain. The report of the pistol brought many workmen on the railroad to the spot, and Jones' corpse was immediately taken to his home. Several persons had seen the assassins retreating over the hill, and one man was so near them as to be frightened, thinking his turn would be shot would come next. He had rapid progress in placing himself out of harm's way.

The citizens of Tamaqua were not long in ignorance of the incidents attending the killing of Jones, and the excitement, which before had been confined to the streets, now verged of general madness. People procured arms and went upon the streets in numbers. Men, women and boys were aroused, and every one appeared intent upon arresting or killing somebody. The Mollie Maguire case is not yet quiet. King, who without warning, deliberately shot him in the bowels; then ensued a tussle, during which King shot him in the breast and twice in the neck. The victim threw an old corn-cutter and struck King in the hand, and the man over the corner, struck the old man over the head, leaving his skull, then finished the work with a club. They then proceeded to the house. King took an axe, and presently came out with the old lady. They walked together a moment, when without warning he struck her on the side of the head, nearly cutting it in twain. She fell, and he struck her across the neck, severing the jugular vein. He then ran into the house, and the young lady, seeing the bloody weapon, ran out. The woman, when she saw the blood on her shoulder, sinking the axe to the handle, then struck her on the back of the head, splitting it wide open; also across the neck, almost severing her head. The latest developments show King is not concerned in the crime, having been in Logan at the time of the murder. The opinion begins to prevail that Terrell alone committed the murder. At 10 o'clock at night five hundred men reported on the road to Logan to lynch the murderers at midnight. The Mayor has arranged to take the prisoners to Lancaster, by special train immediately, if they can be got to the station safely.

ARKANSAS furnishes this strange tragedy: Embery Cannon and his two sons went on a spree in Rockwell, and made so much trouble that Sheriff Starks decided to arrest them. The drunks resisted, and were savagely whipping the Sheriff, when shot, and killed one of the sons. This happened three years ago. Cannon declared that he would retaliate for the death of his son, and he offered several desperadoes the job, at 2000 pay, of killing Starks, and he advertised his farm for sale, intending to move to a safer part of the country. Last September, Geo. W. Garner, a fugitive from Texas, but a stranger in Rockwell, called on Starks and proposed to buy the farm. He asked to be shown the premises. Mrs. Starks noticed that Garner carried a revolver, and she warned her husband not to accompany him. Her fear was well grounded. Garner was under engagement to assassinate Starks, and Cannon had agreed to pay \$25 for the deed. Starks was found dead, with several bullet holes in his head. Garner and Cannon were both convicted of murder, and were hanged on the gallows on the 21st of July. On the day before the one appointed for the execution, Garner and his wife, who had been admitted to his cell, were discovered dead. The woman had gone in with her mouth full of morphine, with which they had poisoned themselves. Thus over 4000 persons, who gathered to see the execution, were disappointed.

Awful Murder. CINCINNATI, O., June 25. A Logan, Ohio, special says one of the most atrocious crimes ever perpetrated was the murder near Gore, of John Weldon, his widowed sister, Mrs. Susan McClurg, and Miss Nancy Hite, daughter of Mrs. McClurg. The murderers were arrested. Wm. Terrell confessed, throwing the crime on Joseph King, who denies the charge. The murdered man was a thrifty farmer supposed to have money. Terrell says they met him at his home in Logan; that King, without warning, deliberately shot him in the bowels; then ensued a tussle, during which King shot him in the breast and twice in the neck. The victim threw an old corn-cutter and struck King in the hand, and the man over the corner, struck the old man over the head, leaving his skull, then finished the work with a club. They then proceeded to the house. King took an axe, and presently came out with the old lady. They walked together a moment, when without warning he struck her on the side of the head, nearly cutting it in twain. She fell, and he struck her across the neck, severing the jugular vein. He then ran into the house, and the young lady, seeing the bloody weapon, ran out. The woman, when she saw the blood on her shoulder, sinking the axe to the handle, then struck her on the back of the head, splitting it wide open; also across the neck, almost severing her head. The latest developments show King is not concerned in the crime, having been in Logan at the time of the murder. The opinion begins to prevail that Terrell alone committed the murder. At 10 o'clock at night five hundred men reported on the road to Logan to lynch the murderers at midnight. The Mayor has arranged to take the prisoners to Lancaster, by special train immediately, if they can be got to the station safely.

THE MURDER OF MORGAN POWELL. But the crowning act of the Mollie Maguire was the unpurged killing during the early evening of Dec. 2, 1871, of Morgan Powell, Assistant Superintendent of the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal and Iron Company, at Summit Hill, Carbon County. The murder was done at about 7 o'clock on the street, not more than 20 feet from the store of Henry Williamson, which place Powell had but a few moments before left to go to the office of Mr. Zehner, general superintendent of the company. It seems that one of three men, who had been seen waiting near the store, approached Mr. Powell from the rear, near a gate leading to the stables, and fired a pistol into the left breast of the victim, leaning toward and reaching over the shoulder of Powell in order to accomplish his deadly purpose. The bullet passed nearly through Powell's body, lodging in the back near the spinal column, producing immediate paralysis of the lower limbs, and resulting in death two days afterward. The wounded man was carried back to the store by some of his friends and his son Charles, the latter then being but 14 years of age, and there remained all night. The next day he was removed to the residence of Morgan Price where his death occurred as stated.

Hardly had the smoke from the murderous pistol melted into and mingled with the air of that starlight winter evening, when the assassins were covered up by making their way from the store of their savage deed towards the top of Lane No. 1. They were met by Rev. A. J. Morton and Lewis Richards, who were hurrying to the spot to learn what had caused the firing. Mr. Morton asked them what was the matter, when one of the three strangers said: "I guess a man has been shot!" One of the men was described as a short person, wearing a soldier's overcoat, and the second as also being tall in stature, but the third seemed taller and had on a long black coat. On Jones' testimony, John Donohue was convicted of this last murder.

### Rapid Conversion.

[From the Detroit Free Press.]

Brother Gardner was yesterday whitewashing the back end of a house on Catherine street when the staggings gave way and he had a fall of about fifteen feet. He was senseless when he was picked up, but a man poured about a gallon of water down his back and brought him to. He thus explained matters to the reporters: "I was on my feet, and an 'dar was de house, and dar was de scaffold, and dar was I. I was just drawin that brush aroun' to kill, when I felt a goneness. Seemed I was prancin' aroun' on de air, wid no chance to dig in my toes."

"Why didn't you fall at once, and have the affair of your mind?" asked a policeman. "I was fallin' all de time. I went down about fifty feet head first, an' den I chanted my mind an' went sideways, an' I was on my feet, an' dar was de house, and dar was I. I was just drawin that brush aroun' to kill, when I felt a goneness. Seemed I was prancin' aroun' on de air, wid no chance to dig in my toes."

"I do," said the man. "I was in the group was a colored man whose face brightened at these words and he softly asked: "Brudder Gardner, don't you member de two dollars you borrowed from me?" "I does," said the man. "I was in the group was a colored man whose face brightened at these words and he softly asked: "Brudder Gardner, don't you member de two dollars you borrowed from me?"

"The Luthians" used to be regarded as the agricultural paradise of Scotland, but times seem to be as bad there now as elsewhere in Great Britain. It is estimated that in the past forty-two years the price of labor has increased in England for male servants and 100 per cent. for women; farm horses, 200 per cent., and the work of smith and carpenter, 100 per cent.; and on the other hand, the increase in the value of what is raised offers no adequate compensation. A farmer who has lived sixty years in East Lothian says that a great many farmers are wishing to give up their farms because they do not pay, and that he would give a large sum to quit of his, but his landlord will not consent. He thought it might be in the fall as strong; numbers of landlords have lately had to take hundreds of acres into their own hands, being unable to find tenants, and the end must be further reduction in the rent of land as will tell very heavily on the landed interest. An investment of \$200 in land in England to-day would not be likely to yield more than \$4,500 a year. This is why none but the very rich can indulge in the luxury.

MR. G. H. BORNAN, advocate of Montreal, has gained his suit against the St. Lawrence Steam Navigation Company for injuries received by him, through falling, when landing at Murray Bay on their steamer "Union," the accident being attributed to the insufficient lighting of the wharf. Damages awarded \$1,000, with interest from the date of judgment, and costs of the suit. In delivering judgment, Judge Cass said that he thought it necessary to impress on all public carriers of passengers that in the pursuit of gain they would not be allowed to neglect any precaution requisite for the safety of those who entrusted themselves to their care.

The English people continue to be uneasy about John Brown, "Her Majesty's body-servant." One wrathful correspondent writes to *McGuffin*:—"I was in Bremen last week and saw the following edifying sight:—The Earl of March trudging along the road to fish for salmon; John Brown, driven by one flunkie and attended by another, along the same road, also bent upon salmon fishing. This is the sort of thing simple Majesty encourages on the upper reaches of the Dee."

The Rev. T. McNally, late curate of Inghilly, England, has been fined for having drunk, and sent to jail for not paying his fine. It was his conduct at a funeral which created the greatest scandal, for he stood at the foot of the grave instead of the head, misread several sentences out of the prayers, and, while saying the last prayer, ran into part of a previous one. Twenty-eight days in jail seems a light sentence for such conduct as this.

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