

UNITED STATES.
(From the New York Herald, July 26.)

THE DOUBLE EXECUTION.

The Hanging of Edward F. Douglas and Thomas Benson, for Murder on the High Seas—Scene in the Tomb Yard.

In accordance with the United States law, Edward F. Douglas and Thomas Benson, convicted of the murder of Asa Haven, were hanged on the 25th of July, between the hours of ten and twelve o'clock, upon the gallows erected at the tomb yard of the prison at Sing Sing, New York.

At an early hour the streets and courtyards leading to the city prison were densely crowded by anxious persons, some with tickets of admission, but a much larger number without, awaiting with anxious expectation to see the execution.

The scene became one of intense anxiety as the hour approached for the doomed men to appear under the gallows. The Marshal in the prison cell, read the death warrant to both, in the presence of Mr. Hugh Maxwell, J. T. Hall, Z. Ring, and special deputies Tallmadge and Thomas. The execution was then led from the cell by Deputy Marshals Brown and De Angelis, preceded by Marshal Tallmadge and his two special aids, and in the procession were the clergyman and the two men who were to be placed under the gallows.

When he concluded, his countenance assumed a deathly pallor, his forehead and face were drenched with perspiration, and his frame shook violently for about a minute.

Douglas, in a somewhat tremulous voice, spoke briefly as follows:—

"All I have to say is, that the wages of sin is death. I want to tell you all my friends, and people, that the wages of sin is death. I am now getting my wages; you see an example before you. Let me warn you all against beginning with small things of evil, but let you end in large ones. Again I say, you have an example before you. Take warning, I entreat you. I have one thing more to say to all the United States Marshal, and to all you people—James Clemons is innocent of the crime with which he is charged; he is not deserving of death. I have no more to say."

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It is said that Jenny Lind will visit Quebec during the first and middle of October, and that she will give a concert, provided a room of sufficient size can be obtained.

Tenders for \$2,000,000 canal-enlargement script were opened at Albany on Tuesday afternoon, when it was found that bids for upwards of four millions were made at par. J. Thompson, of New York, bid for two millions; Wm. B. Astor, for \$4,000; King & Son, for \$25,000, and others for lesser sums.

REMARKABLE DEATH BY LIGHTNING.—At New London, Pa., Sunday afternoon, the Methodist church was struck by lightning, the pastor, and the Rev. Jonas Beady, who was in the pulpit, almost instantly killed. Several of the audience were stunned. Mr. B. leaves a wife and two children.

CURIOUS PHENOMENON.—A SPOWER OF FROGS.—Captain Brewer, of brig Helwara, of Philadelphia, from Cardenas (Cuba), writes to us, that while at that port, on the 25th ult., during the afternoon, a copious shower of rain fell in and about the town, after which could be seen not hundreds, but thousands of small frogs in all parts of the streets,—an abundant indeed, that one could scarcely walk without trampling them under foot. The Captain says as the place is not subject to that kind of fish, he would like to know where they come from.

Perhaps some of the learned gentlemen of the scientific association, now in session at Albany, can tell.—New York Express.

THE POTATO BLIGHT.—The potato crop in this State is likely to suffer from the blight. Accounts of the disease have already been received from nine counties, viz: Madison, Ontario, Erie, Livingston, Seneca, Yates, Hamilton, and Cornwall.

In the three letters, the Syracuse Journal says the rot is extensive, and the farmers are generally giving up and sending to market. The Daerville (Livingston Co.) Herald of Aug. 20th, says:

Accounts from nearly every section represent the potato blight as prevailing in great degree throughout the State.

In this and the surrounding localities, we hear increasing complaints, and indeed we shall not be surprised if we shall prove to be an entire failure.

PRESENTATION OF PLATE TO HON. DAVID TOD.—The following letter, addressed by citizens of the United States and other merchants of Rio, to Hon. David Tod, late United States Minister to Brazil, is a merited testimonial of the regard in which the Minister's services there were held, by those most interested in their prompt and faithful discharge.

Five boys, all of a family named Ocker, aged respectively 16, 14, 12 and 11, were born to death at Brighton, O., on the 19th; their panic-stricken parents looking no higher to render them assistance.

SAN FRANCISCO, JULY 17.—BULLION EXPORTED.—The Custom House books show, that there has been exported from that port to San Francisco for the quarter ending June 30th, the sum of \$9,000. This is of course not near all the gold that has found its way out of the country.

TRENDINOUS TORNADO NEAR BOSTON.—We learn from the Boston papers that a terrific tornado passed over the villages of Weston, Waltham, Watertown, West Cambridge and Medford, on Friday evening last, about half-past 6 o'clock, leveling in its course dwellings, barns, &c., and tearing by the roots trees of twenty to thirty years standing.

The accounts from Havana are of the most serious nature. We are indebted to the Purser of the Cherokee for the following fearful narrative:—The Hibernian, Spanish Government steamer, while cruising off a place called Bahin, forty miles west of Havana, captured a party of 50 patriots, who were in four boats, unarmed, and report says were steering for New Orleans.

They were taken from under the ruins of his store, in an insensible state, with his head and face much bruised and cut. Andrew Wilson, who was at work in Mr. Russell's orchard, was lifted up, and carried about 200 feet, and buried in the fall.

No lives were lost in West Cambridge, a German farmer, was completely riddled, and he was found buried under the fragments, having received a violent contusion of the brain, which proved fatal. He died on Saturday night, and was buried on Sunday.

The windows of the railroad depot were all broken, and a heavy baggage car was lifted from the track and rolled a distance of 150 yards.

Several persons were more or less injured by flying timbers or bricks. The wife of Mr. Baldwin, reading on the hill, while standing in the doorway, was caught up and carried across the field and over fences about 500 yards, and fell in a broken state.

The damage done to buildings, gardens, orchards, &c., has been estimated at \$100,000, and it will probably quite reach that sum. It will take a large sum to replace the fruit trees alone.

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will also be ordered to Cuba. Whatever interest Great Britain may have in preserving the peace in Cuba, one thing is quite certain, the yoke of Old Spain cannot, by any possible means, be much longer imposed on the down-trodden inhabitants of that splendid island; at least such is the opinion of persons informed on the subject.—Venezuela.

We hope there may be no necessity for the presence of the Naval Squadron in Cuba, although officers in that quarter are in a very threatening condition.—We apprehend trouble in Cuba for a long time to come. Spain will give up her hold upon the "Gem of the Antilles" without a struggle. It is the last of those noble possessions which once made her the boast and envy of Europe. Her political existence is identified with retaining this, and to do this she will raise up all her strength and pride. That the spirit of the age is opposed to her there can be no doubt; and insignificant and despicable as may be the handful that now make war upon her, the day will come when she will be a constitution for Cuba, or lost to the world.

The cloud, which at rising is "an bigger than a man's head," will yet cover the horizon, and fearful will be the tempest that restores harmony and equilibrium to her political atmosphere.—Atlantic Recorder.

Cuba.—We learn that the Admiral on this station will not leave for Cuba until further advice is received from England. We are glad of this, for the presence of the Navy is absolutely essential to the successful issue of the proposed Regatta.

By the English Mail on Thursday last,

The Royal Mail Steamship America, arrived at Halifax, on Wednesday morning last, in 101 days.

LIVERPOOL, AUGUST 23.

We regret that our accounts of the general state of trade are this week not so cheering as we have for some time past had to record. The depression, which seems to have entered into all branches of commercial enterprise is more than merely temporary we cannot for a moment believe. And no doubt when the harvest shall have been fully secured, and the monetary operations of the leading nations, on account of the extension of the principal mercantile houses have thrown an additional gloom upon trading operations, and rendered a feeling which previously amounted to customers, almost akin to suspicion. In Manchester, the old and respectable houses of Richard Gould and Co., whose liabilities amount to £20,000, and Messrs. Farnley and Lightfoot, whose liabilities are £20,000; and that of Castell and Giustiniani, formerly of Manchester, but recently chiefly engaged in the Greek trade, the liabilities of whose houses and variously estimated at between a quarter and half a million sterling; and that of Messrs. Harrison of London, seriously affecting some houses, have each and all tended to augment the depression to which we have adverted.

The harvest is progressing favorably, and our corn market is more depressed than ever, business being limited to a decline of 6d per barrel on flour, and 2s per 70 lbs. on wheat; the 5d, is not the price for American flour, and about 300 barrels of Western Canal, out of condition, were sold to day at 10s 9d to 11s 6d per barrel.

TRADE WITH AMERICA.—A Parliamentary return has been issued, showing the trade of the United Kingdom with the United States of America for the five years ending 31st Dec. 1847. The total value of British and Irish produce and manufactures exported to the United States of America was £10,574,161; in 1848, £9,564,509; in 1849, 11,971,028; and 1850, £15,191,961. The imports from the United States have increased. In the three years, (last year) amounting to £20,348,882; £23,916,855; and £28,554,941.

The St. James' Theatre, London, will be opened on Monday next, by Mr. Barrow, of New York, for the purpose of introducing the youthful drama of Miss Ellen and Miss Kate Bateman, who created an immense sensation throughout the United States during the last two years.

HIGHLAND REGIMENTS.—An Order has been issued for the five lighted Regiments viz.—the 42nd, 78th, 79th, 92nd and 93rd Highlanders, to wear in future, as a foreign cap, the Ghieghie bonnet, instead of the one hitherto worn. The Ghieghie bonnet is described as being a large wreath-like bonnet, 45 feet long and weighing nine tons, was conveyed through Wigan, from Haigh Foundry, on its way to the colliery at Mostyn, North Wales.

Some of the French factories established in London have announced their intention of selling wheat and barley by auction. The last was a large wrought-iron beam, 45 feet long and weighing nine tons, was conveyed through Wigan, from Haigh Foundry, on its way to the colliery at Mostyn, North Wales.

The authorities of the stamp office have announced that paragraphs of arrivals at hotels and on the duty on advertisements, and will be charged accordingly in every case.

UNITED STATES.—The R. M. Steamer Canada arrived from Boston yesterday morning, bringing accounts to Wednesday.

An intense summer pervades the Republic, from Ontario to Boston, on account of the extension of a number of citizens of the United States by the Spanish Government at Havana.

WILMINGTON, N. C. Aug 27.—Yesterday we were informed by a passenger from Smithville, that a brig with signals of distress flying, was wrecked on the outer shoals. She is supposed to have been laden with a cargo of molasses, estimated at three hundred hogsheads, and is said to be the Br. brig Annalee. Capt. Irwin, from Matanzas, bound to Halifax. The crew have left the wreck, with three feet water in the hold.

It will be in the recollection of our readers, that about a month since His Excellency was pleased, as it is stated in the Gazette of the 24 August last, to propose to the services of the members of the old Board of Firewards, and appoint others in their stead. Now the object of this article is to enquire into the validity of the right thus assumed by the Executive, to displace from their offices a body of men appointed under and by virtue of an Act of the Provincial Parliament. Before entering, however, into any critical examination of the correctness of the order, we must be reminded by the law advisers of the Crown, belonging to the present Administration, to the "Act for better preventing Accidents by Fire within Charlotown," we think it expedient to take a cursory view of the law as it stood prior to the passing of that Act—12 Vic. c. 8—in the year 1849.

The first mention of "Firewards," on the statute book, is found in the 54 G. 3. c. 2. s. 1, by its first section, which gave power to the Governor to appoint not more than four persons annually, to act as Firewards. This Act, together with the 11 G. 4. c. 6, which was an amendment of the former, were both repealed by the 4 W. 4. c. 10, A. D. 1834, which gives the Lieutenant Governor and Council power to appoint eight persons, who are to be sworn to the faithful discharge of their duty, and to receive their office during the continuance of the Act. The Act was limited to three years, but continued down to the year 1844, when it was repealed by the 7 Vic. c. 6, which gives the Lieutenant Governor and Council power to appoint sixteen, who are to receive their office during the continuance of the Act, which Act, having no clause of limitation, is a perpetual Act: it is amended by 11 Vic. c. 15, and both were repealed by 19 Vic. c. 8. s. 1, which gave power to the Governor to appoint not more than four persons annually, to act as Firewards. This Act, together with the 11 G. 4. c. 6, which was an amendment of the former, were both repealed by the 4 W. 4. c. 10, A. D. 1834, which gives the Lieutenant Governor and Council power to appoint eight persons, who are to be sworn to the faithful discharge of their duty, and to receive their office during the continuance of the Act. 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