

SEVERE ANCIENT LAWS.

HOW CRIMINALS WERE DEALT WITH TWO CENTURIES AGO.

Hanging, Torturing, Deportation and Long Imprisonment for Offences That To-day Are Met with Nominal Fines and Reprimands—Some Instances of Punishment in England.

The punishment meted out to offenders against the various laws of the present day are mild in the extreme when compared to the manner in which criminals were dealt with in England a couple of centuries or so ago. Violators of the law then had considerable to fear; now, unless for murder they have only confinement in prison staring them in the face. Really until comparatively modern times the punishment consisted of branding, mutilation, dismemberment, whipping and degrading public exposure.

Branding was often carried on with circumstances of atrocious barbarity. Vagabonds were marked with the letter V, idlers and masterless men with the letter S, betokening a condemnation to slavery; any church wrawler lost his ears, for a second offence might be branded with the letter F, as a fraymaker and fighter. Sometimes the penalty was to bore a hole of the compass of an inch through the gristle of the right ear.

THE PILLORY OR STRETCH-NECK.

The pillory or stretch-neck was first applied to fraudulent traders, etc., afterwards to rash writers who dared to express an opinion, such as Pryune, Leighton, Barton, Warton, Bostwick, John Lilburne and Daniel Defoe.

In 1705 Mary Coole, who had been convicted of parricide in York was deprived of her tongue and hands and condemned to the stake.

The last stocks in London were those of St. Clement's Danes in Portugal street, which were removed in 1826 to make way for local improvements.

The ducking or cucking stool, "a scourge for scolds," was once as common in every English parish as the church. It was also known under the name of tumbrell, the gumstole, the triback, the trebucket and the reive. This instrument was used by the Saxons, by whom it was called "athedra in qua rixose mulieres, sedentes aque demergebantur."

It was not until 1817 that the whipping of females was abolished.

Until the thirtieth year of George III. the burning of women for petit treason was inflicted upon women convicted of murdering their husbands. In the reign of Mary this death was commonly practised upon Bishops and others who had religious opinions contrary to law.

History has it that on June 16, 1600, Robert Weir was broken on a cartwheel with the coulters of a plow in the hand of a hangman, for murdering the "Guid man of Warriston."

Mary Jones was executed under the shoplifting act, about the time when press warrants were issued on the alarm about the Falkland Islands. Her husband was pressed, their goods seized for some debts of his, and she, with two small children, turned into the streets to beg. The woman was under 19 years of age, and remarkably handsome. She went into a linen draper's shop, took some coarse linen off the counter and slipped it under her cloak. She was detected in the act, and returned the goods; nevertheless, she was arrested, convicted and sentenced to be hanged.

HER PLEA OF NO AVAIL.

The defense of Mrs. Jones was that she wanted for nothing till a press gang came and stole her husband from her; but since then she had no bed to sleep on, nothing to give her children to eat, and they were almost naked. Perhaps, she said, she might have done something wrong, for she hardly knew what she did. It happened, however, that there had been a good deal of shoplifting about Ludgate at the time, and it was concluded that an example was necessary, and Mary Jones was hanged for the comfort and gratification of some shopkeepers on Ludgate street.

When condemned to death Mrs. Jones behaved in such a frantic state as proved her mind had gone. On setting out for Tyburn her youngest child was torn from her arms by the legal officials.

According to the ancient Saxon laws, arson was punished by death, and in the reign of Edward I. this sentence was executed by a kind of lex talionis, for the incendiaries were burned to death, as they were by the Gothic constitutions.

In 1781 it was no longer death to take a falcon's egg out of the nest, nor was it a hanging matter to be thrice guilty of exporting live sheep.

A man named Mynard was the last person hanged for forgery, in 1825.

In 1835 sentence of death was passed on a child of 9 years who had thrust a stick through a mended pane of glass in a shop window, and putting his hand through the hole had stolen 15 pieces of paint valued at twopenny. This was construed by the lawyers as housebreaking, and the principal witness against the offender was another child of 9 years, who was angry because he did not get his share of the paint.

PRISONERS CHAINED TO BED.

Prisoners for assize at one county gaol in 1823 were double ironed on first reception, and, thus fettered, were all night chained down in the bed, the chain being fixed to the floor of the cell and fastened to the leg-fetters of the prisoners. The chain was of sufficient length to enable them to raise themselves in bed. The cell was then locked, and the prisoners continued thus chained down from 7 in the evening until 6 the next morning. The doubled irons for the untried prisoners varied in weight from 10 to 14 pounds.

Old books tell us of a man named Fian, who was supposed to be a male wizard. He was put to the most severe and cruel torture and pain in the world, called the

"boots." As he could not confess after three strokes, the King's Judges commanded him to have a strange torture, which was done in the following manner: The nails upon all his fingers were riven and pulled off with an instrument called in Scottish "turkas," which in England is called a pair of pincers, and under every nail there were thrust in two needles over even up to the heads. Even after this torture the victim did not confess.

An instance of undue severity was the sentence on a poor young woman, who was ordered to be transported for having, in a sort of just, stolen one of her companion's bonnets. After spending considerable time in captivity, she made her escape with some daring exiles to the port of Timor, in China, in an open boat, after a passage of 7,000 miles through a most stormy sea, and enduring the most unparalleled suffering.

A cobbler of Highgate, London, was seen in mourning on the King's birthday, and as a consequence he was whipped up Highgate Hill and down again. In addition, he was sentenced to Newgate Prison for one year. In those days people went to the prisoners in Newgate just as they would to the lions in the Tower or the lunatics in Bedlam.

In December, 1777, two men named Holmes and Williams were whipped twice on their bare backs from the end of Colgate street, Holborn, to Dyo; street, St. Giles, a distance of half a mile, for stealing a corpse.

Henry Justice, of the Middle Temple, was sentenced to death for stealing books from the library of Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1757, and Peter Burchet, of the Middle Temple, was hanged for barbarously murdering his jailer November 12, 1573, his right hand being stricken off and nailed to the gibbet.

For killing a supposed ghost by accident Francis Smith was condemned to death and his body given to the surgeons to be dissected. Four learned judges acquiesced in this sentence, although the jury attempted to bring in a verdict of manslaughter.

About 300 years ago hanging in chains alive was frequent in different parts of England and in a few instances within the last 200 years.

A FRIGHTFUL SENTENCE

was that carried out on Tuesday, October 16, 1660, between 9 and 10 o'clock in the morning, when John Cook, the solicitor for the People of England, and Hugh Peters, the fanatical preacher, were carried on two hurdles and executed, hanged until half dead, cut down by the common executioner, and their intestines burned. The head of Cook was set on a pole on the northeast end of Westminster Hall, looking toward London, and the head of Peters on London Bridge. Their quarters were exposed in like manner upon the top of some of the city gates.

Daniel Dawson was hanged at Cambridge in July, 1810, for poisoning thoroughbred horses.

Charles S. Caldwell was transported for 10 years for stealing two live tame ducks at the Old Bailey, July 23, 1796; John Lawley for stealing a pint pewter pot from the Cart and Horse, Tooley street, 1810, to three months hard labor and to be publicly whipped once during that time from the end of Horsemonger lane to the end of Lant lane in the borough.

The last witches put to death in England were three poor old women of Bideford—Mary Trembles, Temperance Loyd and Susannah Edwards. They were executed at Exeter, in 1682.

Ann Williams was sentenced to be burned alive at the stake, and the sentence was carried out at Gloucester, April 13, 1753, in the presence of a large number of spectators.

Lydia Adler, convicted at the Old Bailey in June 1744, for kicking her husband until he died, was found guilty of manslaughter, in consequence of which she was burned in the hand.

On March 14, 1817, a woman named Grant, was flogged through the streets of Inverness for bad behavior on the streets.

A woman by the name of Greene, after being hanged, was resuscitated by Sir William Petty. The time of suspension was about half an hour. This, however, was a legal mistake, as the woman was afterward found to be innocent of the crime for which she suffered.

Tokio, Japan.

According to the Tokio official sanitary report recently issued, its population last year was over 1,858,000. In the last four years Tokio has gained over half a million in numbers. Tokio is now the fourth largest city in the world, larger than Vienna, if not than Berlin, larger than Canton, and surpassed only by London, Paris, and New York. It is a city of high civilization, of exceeding enterprise and industry. It is an extraordinarily healthy city, the death rate for the last year being a fraction less than 20 in the 1,000. The latest report of its "health director" contains a very satisfactory account of its sanitary condition. The growth and improvement of Tokio within recent years may be largely attributed to the liberalization of the political institutions of the country, and to the vast increase of the city's industries and commerce. As the residence of the Emperor, the place of assembly of Parliament and the headquarters of the Imperial Government offices it is a place of great political activity. As the seat of an illustrious university and numerous other educational institutions it is a centre of learning. It has a serviceable harbor, which has been improved. It is a city of theatres, temples, and groves, railroad, electric lights, newspapers, and all the other modern things. There is no any reason to doubt the continued growth of the progressive Japanese city of Tokio.

Forgot His Name.

Magistrate—Why didn't you answer to your name?
Vagrant—Beg parding, judge, but I forgot wot name I gave las' night.

Magistrate—Didn't you give your own name?
Vagrant—No, judge, I'm travelin' inoog.

Another New Industry.

Visitor (at blind asylum)—I thought this institution was for both sexes, but I see only men here. Have you no female inmates?
Matron—Oh, plenty of them; but they've all been rented out for chaperons.

ROUND THE WHOLE WORLD

WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE FOUR CORNERS OF THE GLOBE.

Old and New World Events of Interest Chronicled Briefly—Interesting Map Penings of Recent Date.

Saxony has the deepest mines. A Spaniard, Me., man has nearly finished a robe made wholly of cats' skins.

A Berlin dry goods house has a regular physician for its employes.

The soap duty in Holland brings \$750,000 a year to the government.

The better class of the Philippine Islanders smoke cigars a foot long.

In marriage announcements in Spain the ages of both parties are given.

A Russian can plead infancy for a long time as he does not come of age till he is 25 years old.

Lamp posts are let for advertising purposes by the Shoreditch Vestry in London. The money received goes to a support technical school.

It is claimed that the pheasant of the English preserves can trace its pedigree directly to the brilliant bird of the same species in Japan.

J. C. Tasker, of London, who recently inherited \$3,500,000, has sued Streeter & Co., gem merchants of that city, for \$86,500 overcharge on jewels which he bought while intoxicated.

Delegates from a church society recently sent to Northumberland refused to deliver addresses illustrated with lantern slides on the ground that "Paul and Barnabas never carried magic lanterns about with them."

The proprietors of ten gambling houses in Memphis, Tenn., were arrested and their places closed on complaint of E. A. Harris, who says that he has lost more than \$100,000 in gambling in the city during the last two years.

The judge advocate general of the army at Washington is the official custodian of the pistol used by Booth in the assassination of Lincoln, and the bullet that went from that pistol into the body of the president.

Lansing, Mich., has a matrimonial club, whose members at intervals choose one of their number, whose duty it is to get married within a year. The club claims that in every instance the chosen one carried out his orders faithfully.

Rev. Dr. Saunders, colored, a man of learning and culture, is the editor of the Afro-American, of Charlotte, N. C., the president of Biddle University, of the same place, and a member of the Presbyterian Freedman's Board.

Niblo's Garden, famous as a place of amusement in New York for more than 60 years, closed its doors forever Saturday night, and the work of tearing down the house, to make way for a big office building, has already been begun.

The highest salaried employe in the United States is supposed to be the president of the Equitable Life Assurance Society, Henry B. Hyde. He receives annually \$100,000. John A. McCall gets \$75,000 to be president of the New York Life.

The union glassworkers of the country are reviving the plan to amalgamate their organizations in order to present a solid front against the possible demands of the combination of glass manufacturers now being rapidly organized in all branches of the trade.

Senator Gordon, in his eloquent lecture, "The Last Days of the Confederacy," is lavish in compliments and profuse in praise of nearly all the leaders on both sides of the great war, excepting Jeff Davis. The name of the president of the confederacy is not mentioned.

There has been an increase of 1,722 paupers and their dependents in Scotland between 14th January, 1894, and 14th January, 1895. The total number of paupers and their dependents in Scotland at 14th January last was 96,918.

M. Hertz, whose name is well known in connection with the Panama scandals, began life as the holder of German patents for the incandescent lamp, and although a German by birth has served as a surgeon in the French army.

The Balloon Society has presented the Hon. George Nathaniel Curzon, eldest son of Lord Searle, and member of Parliament for the Southport division of Lancashire, with a gold medal, in recognition of his notable achievements in Asia.

When Casimir-Perier resigned, France might have had the novelty of a revolution by telephone. The Duke of Orleans, who was in readiness at Dover, hired the exclusive use of the telegraph one between England and Paris for twenty-four hours.

The long illness of Lieut.-Col. Francis Burings, of Her Majesty's Yeoman of the Guard, has terminated fatally at St. James Place. Col. Baring was the third son of Henry Bingham, M. P., and of Lady Augusta Baring, daughter of the seventh Earl of Cardigan.

Jules Verne is 78 years old. His first novel was published when he was 35, and he has been producing them at the rate of nearly two a year ever since. Verne is very fond of English literature, and he thinks Charles Dickens the greatest of all British novelists.

William H. Tozer, secretary of a Plymouth, Eng., lodge of Oddfellows, was recently sent to prison for three months for stealing the lodge funds. By his conviction he forfeited a good position as storekeeper in Davenport dockyard and his chances of a pension.

In fitting the wires for electric lights in the hall of the Middle Temple in London, recently, the workman came on a box in a recess of the wall near the roof, which contained a skeleton in a perfect state of preservation, but from its appearance at least 200 years old.

Mlle. Tartonovski, of Odessa, a Jewess, learned at Kiel the business of a watchmaker, and having been awarded the diploma of master watchmaker by the Trades Council in Odessa, has come forward as the first Russian woman to adopt a trade hitherto monopolized by men.

The oldest secret trade process now in existence is, in all probability, either that method of inlaying the hardest steel with gold and silver, which seems to have been

practised at Damascus ages ago, and is still known only to the Syrian smiths and their pupils, or else the manufacture of Chinese red or vermilion.

While alterations were being made in the Church of the Assumption at Spacafermo, Syracuse, the remains of the Sicilian painter, Olivio Sozzi, who died about a hundred years ago, were discovered. The body was intact and dressed in the costume of 1700. A rosary was wound round the hands, which were crossed on the breast.

Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone were sitting in a church at Caanes the other day. They were near the pulpit, but when the sermon began Mr. Gladstone turned to his wife and said, irritably, "I can't hear!" "Never mind, my dear," she replied, in a whisper loud enough to reach the pulpit, "never mind; go to sleep. It will do you much more good."

Robert Louis Stevenson was a slave to the cigarette habit, and undoubtedly died from its effects. From 100 to 150 cigarettes a day was his requirement. When he started on a slow sailing vessel from England for Samoa he carried 200 boxes of cigarettes with him, and then, fearing that he might run short, he had a large reserve of tobacco and pap.

Queen Victoria in person conferred the medal for conspicuous gallantry recently on a stoker and a gunner's mate of the Alceste, engaged in the attack on Chief Nana on the Benue river in Africa. Joseph Perkins, the stoker, after having his foot shot away, ran the engines of the ship's launch, which had been drawn into an ambushade by the enemy, till it got back to the ship in safety.

Some curious manners appear to prevail in the market at Berne. A cattle dealer was charged with slander before the supreme tribunal last week. He had publicly called another cattle dealer "a swindler, a dirty dog and a convict." The court held that these were merely current expressions in use among those frequenting the market, and gave judgment for the defendant.

Few people know that among other titles to fame possessed by the pugnacious Marquis of Queensberry is that of being a poet, and one too of no mean order. He published a volume of really very good poetry in 1880, and perhaps the best one of all is that entitled "The Spirit of the Matterhorn," the commencement and the conclusion of which contain lines of singular merit, delicacy and spirit. Lord Queensberry was formerly on the turf, and his racing colors were green, with salmon sleeves.

THE SHOE STRIKE IN ENGLAND.

Shoemaking Machinery Will Soon Take the Place of Thousands of Men.

By the lock-out in the shoe trade in England 200,000 men, it is estimated, have been thrown out of employment. The lock-out is all the more astonishing, or, it might be said, disappointing, because this was one of the trades in which the system of voluntary Arbitration Boards had been tried. The trade was provided with a local Arbitration Board in all manufacturing centres, and a main board which acted as a court for appealing from the decisions of the smaller bodies. The system worked admirably for four years. Disputes were settled and trouble of various kinds averted by the intervention of the boards. It is unfortunate, however, that recent events demonstrate that they have their limitations when difficulties of unusual magnitude arise.

The real origin of the present trouble dates from the meeting of the Manufacturers' Federation in December last. At that meeting the masters adopted certain principles for their governance, which, being contained in seven clauses, have been dubbed by their employes

THE SEVEN COMMANDMENTS.

The effect of these "commandments" was that certain subjects should be deemed outside the sphere of arbitration. Among them was that there was to be no advance or reduction of the present minimum rate of wages for piecework statements within two years of December, 1894. Every employer was to be entitled to introduce machinery at any time without notice, to have his work made in any town or place he chose, provided he paid the recognized rate of wages, and to have the sole right of determining what men he should employ. There was to be no interference with the output either from machine or hand labor by the union. Previous to the adoption of these principles the employes of six firms in Leicester had had on file an application for an increase in wages. This application they expected to come before the Arbitration Court, but the resolution of the masters that such applications could not be considered sent the men in these six shops out on strike, and the masters represented in the federation retaliated by locking out their men to the number of 200,000.

Those who are familiar with the situation know, however, that the ostensible cause of the strike is not

THE REAL CAUSE.

The inventors have been at work on shoemaking machinery, and we are on the eve of an experience which is not at all uncommon in these days of machinery—the old is to be replaced by the new, and in the process that cruel but most unavoidable of occurrences, the displacement of skilled labor, is about to take place. The men whose livelihood is threatened naturally enough dread the arrival of the inevitable, and seek to avert or postpone it by means of their union regulations. They are endeavoring to fix the price for machine-work at the rate that would be a fair remuneration for handwork, which would, of course, render it of no advantage to their employers to put in the new machinery. However keenly we may feel the sad case of the men whose arms of flesh and bone are about to be supplanted by arms of steel, it is impossible to avoid the conclusion that a strike founded on such an impossible basis is doomed to failure, and it is to be hoped that better counsel will prevail, for, cruel as may be the fate of the men who will be displaced, their position will not be improved by a preliminary period of short commons, ending in the inevitable day of failure.

CHRONIC IRON IN QUEBEC.

Discovery of Remarkable Deposits of the Highly Prized Ore.

There is considerable excitement among Canadian miners over discoveries of phenomenal deposits of chronic or chromite iron in Coleraine on the line of the Quebec Central Railway. It is not considered very surprising that these deposits should be quite close to the rather famed asbestos mines of Thetford and Coleraine, for both chrome iron and asbestos must be looked for in the same serpentine formation of rock. Some of the proprietors of the new mines have been quietly shipping the produce for some time to the United States, but the latest discoveries of rich deposits will give a wonderful impetus to the industry.

In one instance, instead of sinking shafts for the mineral, it is only necessary to blast it from the side of a mountain, and four or five blasts suffice to furnish a hundred tons of iron. All thus far shipped from Canada has been taken by the Carnegie Steel Works of Pennsylvania. The ore averages for the most part over 50 per cent. of metal, costs little or nothing to mine, is found close to a line of railway which carries it to its destination for \$5 per ton, and when delivered it is worth \$25 to \$35 per ton, according to its assay. The enormous importance of the discovery and the large demand existing for it are shown by the fact that of this best quality—the manufacturers of Baltimore and Pennsylvania consume annually from 4,000 to 6,000 tons, besides a vast amount of inferior quality.

The total production of the ore in the United States for 1893 was 1,620 tons and the importation 6,354 tons, but by far the larger part of the imported ore came from Asia Minor. Under the McKinley tariff there was a duty of 15 per cent. ad valorem, representing some \$3 per ton, which was removed by the Wilson tariff.

About a hundred men are now employed at Coleraine and Black Lake, working and prospecting for the ore, and this number is certain to be very largely increased.

Chrome enters into the composition of the ferro-chromes used in making chrome steel which is of extreme hardness, and is used in armor plates for ships and forts, for shells, for tools to cut iron dies and shoes in ore crushers, for safes, etc. Ferro-chromes are made of various proportions containing from 4 to 90 per cent. of chrome. Chrome steel may contain from 1 to 10 per cent. of chrome. This latter communicates to the metals with which it is alloyed great hardness and durability and increases their elasticity, which properties may vary according to the proportion of chrome.

Chrome steel is manufactured in the United States by the Brooklyn Chrome-Steel Company, the Carnegie Steel Works and the Bethlehem Steel Company, but the most important centre of the industry is Glasgow, Scotland.

Chrome iron is also largely used in the manufacture of bichromates of potassium and sodium, which are used in dyeing and printing calico, and these products constitute the base of the chrome, yellow, orange, and green colors. The consumers of the ore for the manufacture of the bichromates of potassium in the United States are the Baltimore Chrome Works and the Kallion Chemical Company of Philadelphia.

It is worthy of note that almost simultaneously with the recent discoveries in Coleraine of chrome iron quite a little boom has occurred in the asbestos industry along side of it, in consequence of an improvement in the European market. Several mines are now again opened which had been closed for a time. Mica, too, is in much greater demand, and the proprietors of a mine in the vicinity of Tadoussac, at the mouth of the Saguenay, have received orders from the United States for its entire output during the coming summer, and are preparing to set a hundred men at work upon it.

Well Punished.

The Pittsburg Despatch tells how a "railroad hog" was punished the other day. He had piled the space next to him in a car seat with his bundles, and when a gentleman asked him if anyone was to occupy it, he replied that the bundles belonged to a man who was temporarily in the smoking car. "All right," said the gentleman, "I will sit in the seat till he comes," and he proceeded to remove the bundles. Pretty soon the owner of the bundles arrived at his destination, and he started to gather up his effects. But the gentleman at once put a veto on this, with the remark, "You can't take these bundles; you yourself said they belonged to a man in the smoker." The fellow got mad and abusive, but the gentleman was inexorable. Finally the conductor was called in, who delivered his dictum as follows:—"If the bundles are not claimed by anyone on the train, then, by coming around to the depot to-morrow, and identifying them satisfactorily, we will give them to you." The man's face was as red as fire with rage, and he shook like gelatine, but he could do nothing. So, amid the laughter of the passengers, he rushed out of the car to jump off just as the train was pulling out from the station. And he meekly came around to the depot on his bundles the next day, but swore revenge upon the man who played such a practical joke upon him.

Tons of Papers.

A statistician has learned that the annual aggregate circulation of the papers of the world is calculated to be 12,000,000,000 copies. To grasp any idea of this magnitude, we may state that it would cover no fewer than 10,450 square miles of surface; that it is printed on 781,250 tons of paper; and, further, that if the number, 12,000,000,000, represented, instead of copies, seconds, it would take over 333 years for them to elapse. In lieu of this arrangement, we might press and pile them vertically upward to gradually reach our highest mountains; topping all these, and even the highest Alps; the pile would reach the magnificent altitude of 490, or, in round numbers, 500 miles. Calculating that the average man spends five minutes reading his paper in the day (this is a very low estimate), we find that the people of the world altogether annually occupy time equivalent to 100,000 years reading the papers.