

VOL. XX WEDNESDAY MORNING, MARCH 23, 1870. DEVOTED TO LITERATURE, MORALITY AND GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

MURDER MOST FOUL.

With her parents upon the pretext that his home was not quite prepared for her. He was absent two months, corresponding regularly with her, however. At the end of this period he came again, staying some weeks, and again leaving her on the same plea. These comings and departures were repeated several times, until Mary and her parents began to suspect that Randall, for some reason was either ashamed or afraid to introduce his wife to his own family. Mary had been shocked to hear the gossiping whisper that her husband had sought out a wife in Virginia, and she had to acknowledge that his conduct was not above suspicion, notwithstanding his plausible assurances. On his last visit the old farmer insisted that Randall should at once decide either to settle down there with his wife or to take her with him. Irritated by the apparent lack of confidence in him, he at once avowed his determination to carry her to Virginia, and making hurried preparations for the journey, they soon went south together. It was during the trip that Mary first found resolution to show her husband a letter which she had received some months before from his home in Virginia. It ran as follows: "MARY: I have chanced to see a letter addressed to Mr. John Randall, Beeville, Virginia, by you, in which you claim that gentleman as your husband. As I am an intimate acquaintance and near relative of his, I am surprised at your pretensions (whether well or ill founded), for he is still considered a single man here, where he was born and reared, and passes himself as such. If he is married to you or anybody else, I assure you that he keeps the matter a secret here, and I am certain that neither his father or mother knows anything of it. Tell me all about it, and you will oblige me very much. IYDIAA.

Another or others. The man who first found the body said that he saw no tracks of a man near it, only the tracks of a woman or of women. Not distant from the spot was an old well into which the body would have been thrown by the condemned had he killed her; the presumption is that he did not kill her, but that she was killed by some one unable to convey her corpse to that place of concealment. A freedman testified to seeing two females pass that way on the Sunday in question. Mr. Tinsley found a coal-black chipman near the scene, which was not claimed as Mrs. Randall's. A certain young lady witness, with raven tresses, possessed of a motive quite equal to that alleged against Randall, admitted that she knew Randall was married, had seen a letter from his wife to him, had written to her etc. Is it not barely possible that her information of the marriage may have been derived from the very letter found by Tinsley, dropped there by some one - not Randall? "These things which I have briefly mentioned, are, of course, inconclusive, but they are terribly suggestive, and I could not let John Randall die before bringing them to public notice. On the day of execution Randall's counsel published a card, in which they said: "The communication in yesterday's Gazette, signed 'Justice,' indirectly imputes to us a gross negligence in the defence of our client. We can only say, in self-justification, that the line of argument indicated and the course of investigation suggested by the facts alluded to, were promotorily objected to by Mr. Randall himself, and were accordingly abandoned by us." Randall was hanged in accordance with his sentence - dying without confession or denial. III. After the execution the sheriff forwarded to Mr. Ordolf a sealed letter from Randall, written on the eve of his death. We give an extract: "I did not do it, nor consent to it, nor know of it until the awful deed was done beyond remedy. I would willingly have sacrificed a thousand lives for her, as I now sacrifice life and reputation to screen the one who is really guilty. With Mary I longed for every even in me for life. I longed for death - even the death of the gallows. But I would not die leaving you forever under the horrible belief that I am the murderer of your darling. Oh! I adjure you to credit me when I swear here, in the presence of God and eternity, that I am innocent. Mary, who knows me guiltless, will meet me joyfully beyond the tomb." Indiana Randall was said to be a raving maniac. From the first arrest of John Randall she had exhibited symptoms of a mind unsettled by the weight of sudden and overwhelming grief. Her family gave out that the loss of her loved under such fearful circumstances had temporarily affected her physical and mental health, and friends and acquaintances were requested to forbear their visits until her recovery was announced. She was seen rarely, and then under the closest surveillance. As the day of Randall's execution approached, it was rumored that she grew worse, and on that day it was whispered that she was so violent as to require strong restraint and constant watching. And it was so. She was mad, but there was a terrible method in her madness. - She sought to break from her confinement, but she believed to be the true story of her daughter's end. All Beville and the country around was amazed when it was announced that John Randall had been arrested for the murder. It was incredible. His character was excellent, both as a citizen, and soldier, and he was noted for his abstinence, not only from the vices but from the follies into which young men commonly fall. Yet when all the damning developments appeared, it seemed impossible to doubt his guilt. As he had once been high in public estimation, and from head to foot she had been beaten and bruised in the most cruel manner. The jury of inquest was not able to identify her, nor was there found any likely clue to lead to the detection of her murderer. Descriptions of the murdered woman and her dress were published, and rewards were offered for the apprehension of her murderer, but all in vain. The body was buried, but within a few weeks the excitement occasioned by the dreadful horror had completely subsided. It seemed a hopeless mystery, forever impenetrable. Meanwhile the Ordolfs heard regularly from Randall. His first letter explained why Mary did not write: "You will understand why Mary employs me as her amanuensis when I inform you that she was so unfortunate as to have her right hand severely bruised by a slamming car door on our way here. - She can not use it at all at present, but we are in hopes that it will soon be well. With this exception we are enjoying ourselves here, and have every prospect of doing well. Mary is delighted with her reception by my relations and friends, and desires me to assure you of her content."

Spice Box. - A ringing machine - the income tax. - Why is it easy to break into an old man's house? Give it up? Because his gain is feeble and his looks are few. - The greatest luxury of wealth is one the rich but little avail themselves of, - the pleasure of making the poor happy. - "Tom, said a girl to her sweet-heart, 'you have been paying your dis-tresses to me long enough. It is time you make known your contentions, so as not to keep me in expense any longer.'" A dandy swell in New York is in a bad fix. His pants were made so tight for him that he can't get his boots on, and if he puts his boots on first, he can't get the pants on. - Whittemore, like one of his illustrious predecessors of Congress, knows no North or South - in fact, no point in the compass, except one, on which he is particularly strong - West Point. - Over three thousand invitations were issued for a marriage ceremony at St. Paul's M. E. Church, in New York, the other evening. It took a bishop and three ministers to "tie the knot." - Habit is like the dropping of water upon a rock, - it wears into the life, and the marks it makes can never be effaced without the chisel and hammer of self denial and self discipline. - We are constantly hearing new names for the villainous compound at present sold for whiskey. The last comes from Iuka, Mississippi, and hits the nail on the head. "Rippigissard" is the word. - Advertising is the financial railway to success. It is an art possessed by a few; but these few are the merchant princes of to-day. - Sidney Smith once said: "Philanthropy is a universal sentiment of the human heart. Whenever A sees B in trouble he always wants C to help him." - The executioner of Paris has been by turns a navy surgeon, a bill broker, a commission merchant and a guillotine. First he lanced, then he shaved, then he scalped, then he beheaded. - A certain amount of opposition is a great help to man. Kites rise against the wind and not with the wind; even a bad wind is better than none. No man ever worked his passage anywhere in a dead calm. Let no man wax pale therefore, because of opposition; opposition is what he wants, and must have, to be good for any thing. Hardship is the native soil of manhood and self reliance. - The annual report of the New York commissioners of immigration is in course of preparation. There have landed during 1869, two hundred and fifty eight thousand nine hundred and eighty-nine aliens, a greater number than has been registered in any one year since 1854. Of these the majority settled in New York, while the remainder were almost entirely absorbed by Illinois, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania. The Sun states that the class of immigrants now coming in seeks employment rather than land. - The very pretty optical illusion by which gold fishes and canary birds are made to appear to be joint occupants of a huge vase of water is getting to be popular. It is very simple. The bottom of the vase is concavo-convex, the apex rising about fifteen inches above the base of the circumference. This dome forms the superstructure of the bird cage, and the bottom supplied with drawers and properly ventilated, serves as a pedestal for the vase. Until recently this pretty arrangement has not been seen outside of museums. It is now getting to be a part of household ornamentation. - A letter from New York, says, to sell real estate. Houses of almost every description in the upper part of the city, as well as in Brooklyn, can be had on very easy terms. In many cases sales have been effected by the purchaser paying down only a year's rent. This would seem to indicate that holders have no confidence in maintaining existing prices. In Jersey city there is a great deal of property advertised, without finding a solitary bidder thus far. The effect of this state of things on rents, as May day draws near, is anxiously looked for. - How inconceivable would the tone of a conversation be improved if it offered no exceptions to the example of Bishop Beveridge: "Resolve never to speak of a man's virtues to his face, nor his faults behind his back;" a golden rule, the observance of which would banish flattery and defamation from the earth. Conversation stock being a joint and common property, every one should take a share in it, and yet there may be societies in which silence would be our best contribution. When Isaacates, dining with the King of Cyprus, was asked why he did not mix with the discourse of the company, he replied: "What is reasonable I do not know, and what I know is not reasonable."

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STONEWALL JACKSON IN ROMAN INTERESTING INCIDENT. Miss Sallie A. Brock of Virginia, who is now on a visit to Rome, is furnishing a series of interesting letters from the Eternal City to the New York Metropolitan Record. From her last letter, dated February 15th, we make the following interesting extract, which will be read with pleasure by every admirer of that great and good man Stonewall Jackson. After describing her visit to the church of St. Maria di Ava Costi, Miss Brock writes as follows: From the Church I continued my walk towards the palace of Caesar, and as I stood attempting to read an inscription on the arch of Septimus Severus an incident occurred which I think well worth relating - at least that sent me onward with a feeling of pride in my heart which must have been akin to that which many a Roman woman has experienced at mention of certain names that gave a brighter glory to Rome. Wishing some information, I ventured a question to a friendly priest who passed me. At that moment a French soldier, in the uniform of the Pontifical Swiss Guards, approached, and politely lifted his hat. When the priest had given me an answer, he said: "Are you not an American lady?" "I am," I replied. "Are you not from the States of the South?" I proudly confessed my nativity in Virginia, and a gratified smile lighted up his sunburnt visage. "I thought so!" "I thought so!" he exclaimed. "I cannot mistake the accent. I was a soldier in the Confederate army! I fought for the South under Stonewall Jackson." You may rest assured I was not slow in extending to him my hand, and in expressing gratitude in all the language I could at the moment command. The priest stood by in astonishment, not understanding the remarkable demonstration. "A great man! - a great man Stonewall Jackson!" he continued the soldier, while a shade of the deepest sadness settled over his countenance, and he touched his hat and passed on. As I looked forward to the Arch of Septimus Severus, and further on to that of Titus, and still further on to that of Constantine, I could not help thinking that in generations yet to come some one might stand, as I did then, and ponder over an inscription engraven upon some monument somewhere on the soil of my own dear mother State recording the name and deeds of Stonewall Jackson - not less great, and far more good, than those which won for Rome's mighty men crowns and arches, and immortality for all future ages. This episode of the morning almost unfitted me for research. I found myself as I walked on, seeing and yet scarcely seeing. In imagination I was back again in the capital of the South. The place was desolate and lonely. There she was, - a few feet in front of me, all unconscious and at my mercy. It was a mad impulse, but in a moment I drew the pistol and fired! She fell, but attempted to rise. I sprang upon her in a frenzy of excitement, and kicked, beat, bit, and choked her until she lay quite still - dead!" "My child," said her pale and trembling father, "these are but the dis-tempered fancies of fever. You have brooded over this unhappy matter until it has quite upset you. Doubtless you wish to save John - so do we all - but it is folly for you or any of us to seek to

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with her parents upon the pretext that his home was not quite prepared for her. He was absent two months, corresponding regularly with her, however. At the end of this period he came again, staying some weeks, and again leaving her on the same plea. These comings and departures were repeated several times, until Mary and her parents began to suspect that Randall, for some reason was either ashamed or afraid to introduce his wife to his own family. Mary had been shocked to hear the gossiping whisper that her husband had sought out a wife in Virginia, and she had to acknowledge that his conduct was not above suspicion, notwithstanding his plausible assurances. On his last visit the old farmer insisted that Randall should at once decide either to settle down there with his wife or to take her with him. Irritated by the apparent lack of confidence in him, he at once avowed his determination to carry her to Virginia, and making hurried preparations for the journey, they soon went south together. It was during the trip that Mary first found resolution to show her husband a letter which she had received some months before from his home in Virginia. It ran as follows: "MARY: I have chanced to see a letter addressed to Mr. John Randall, Beeville, Virginia, by you, in which you claim that gentleman as your husband. As I am an intimate acquaintance and near relative of his, I am surprised at your pretensions (whether well or ill founded), for he is still considered a single man here, where he was born and reared, and passes himself as such. If he is married to you or anybody else, I assure you that he keeps the matter a secret here, and I am certain that neither his father or mother knows anything of it. Tell me all about it, and you will oblige me very much. IYDIAA.

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