

MARIE AGUTANT'S MURDERER.

A ROMANTIC STORY.

The horrible circumstances of the Rue Caumartin murder, two years ago, caused a great sensation in France, and even in England. It may be remembered that the police failed to obtain any clue of the murderer of Marie Agutant. They have, however, now secured a person whom they firmly believe to be the murderer of Marie Agutant. His discovery was made under some extraordinary circumstances, which are related by the Paris correspondent of the Daily Chronicle. In 1887 a man calling himself Prado, and a woman going by the name of the Countess of Linska, put up at the Hotel du Palais, near the Champs Elysees. The man was caught robbing a safe, but managed to effect his escape. Later he was caught committing another crime, and sent to prison. About the same time the false Countess of Linska, whose real name is Marie Renaud, was arrested at Marennes, while endeavouring to dispose of some jewels, proved by the police to have been stolen from the hotel in the Champs Elysees. M. Guillot, who had not lost hope of discovering the murderer of Marie Agutant, had his suspicions aroused by the discovery, on this woman, of a letter from Prado, warning her "not to betray the origin of the jewels she had, and above all not to speak about the others." Preserved with question by M. Guillot, Marie Renaud at last admitted that "the others" were those stolen from Marie Agutant, who had, in fact, been murdered by Prado. They had been sold in Spain. She gave the addresses of the purchasers, and French detectives were sent at once to that country. The jewels were recovered, and proved to be part of those stolen from Marie Agutant. Prado has now been arrested by the police, and recognised by them all as being the woman's lover. He was known as "the American," and had been seen in Marie Agutant's company the night before her murder. As soon as the jewels arrive from Spain he will be confronted with his accuser, Marie Renaud, and the jewels shown him. M. Guillot hopes that he will then, in the presence of such evidence, confess to the murder and robbery.

THANET ELECTION.

Although there was a good deal of excitement over the polling for a successor to the late Colonel King-Harman as Parliamentary representative of this constituency, all passed off quietly. The counting of votes proceeded next morning, and the result was as follows:—

Table with 2 columns: Candidate Name and Majority. Includes Mr. J. Lovther (Conservative) with 3547 majority and Mr. E. Knatchbull-Hugessen (Gladstonian) with 2889 majority.

SINGULAR TORPEDO ACCIDENT.

A strange accident occurred in Portsmouth Harbour about half-past eight on the morning of the 30th ult. The Fire Queen, a vessel of 466 tons, commanded by Captain Philips, and serving as the Port Admiral's yacht, was lying at her usual moorings off the Gosport pier. The stern of the Fire Queen is a King's Staircase some 700 or 800 yards from the Fire Queen. The stern is a protected cruiser of the Mersey class of about 4000 tons. She was on Saturday morning preparing for a trial of her torpedoes in Stokes Bay, under the supervision of Captain S. Long, of the Vernon Torpedo School. Probably to save time at the trial, the stern's torpedo tubes had been loaded, with of course uncharged torpedoes. The ordinary mode of discharging a torpedo from the tube is by the pressure of a button on the conning tower. It is possible, however, for the mechanism by accident or design to be touched at the end of the tube and the torpedo thus discharged. Whether this was so on the occasion of the accident will, of course, be a matter of searching inquiry. But whatever the cause of the discharge the result was a serious one. The captain of the Fire Queen was not on board, and the boatswain was the officer then in charge. The crew were engaged in their ordinary occupations, and a few joiners and painters were completing the work in hand when they were startled by a violent shock, the result of a heavy blow near the ship's stern. It was soon discovered that a hole had been made, and that the ship was taking water rapidly. Signals for aid were promptly answered. A party from the Duke of Wellington flag-ship, lying close by, soon put off under Commander Cook, with a manual pump, and the Grider and Manly tugs got to work with their suction hose. By this means the seamen's deck was relieved of a considerable body of water. A diver who had been hastily summoned was also sent down. He discovered that immediately under the conning tower (which is near the stern), and some four feet below the water line, a hole about four or five inches in diameter had been made in the iron bottom of the ship, bulging in the outer plate some three-eighths of an inch thick; tearing through the woodwork and breaking away the inner casing. The hole, through which the water was of course pouring, was plugged with raku, and a mat was hung over the ship's side. The hole had been beyond doubt made by a dummy torpedo discharged from the stern's tube. The discharge of a torpedo under such conditions is unprecedented, and not a little astonishment has been created at the amount of damage which even a dummy can by mere punching inflict on the iron bottom of a ship. The monetary loss will not be very serious, but had the Fire Queen been at Spithead, where aid would not have been so accessible, it is more than doubtful if she could have been kept afloat. As it is, the vessel was in the course of the day got safely into dock, where her bottom was carefully examined, and where her repairs will once more be carried out. The Port Admiral and the Vice-Admiral of the Channel Squadron were absent on duty in London at the time of the disaster, but on their return a court of inquiry will immediately be summoned.

We are behind the Antipodes in courtesy! The proprietor of a New Queensland journal has, as we see by the mails, put up for Parliament. His local rival mentions the fact. In the process of mentioning it, it cursorily alludes to the candidate's paper as the Champion Turncoat, the Judas Oracle, the Great Mormon Liar, the Sodom and Gomorrah Evangelist, and the Brigham Young Advocate, and adds that it doesn't want to create ill-will. Mr. McNeill is Superintendent of the Arbroath police. Mr. Baillie Cargill is a solicitor of the town. Here (says the London Echo) is a little discussion which occurred between the two in the Court-house the other day. "Mr. Cargill: An officer who cannot lift his hat from the ground, and has to be led home. Mr. McNeill: You should be ashamed of yourself. You are a disgrace to your profession. Mr. Cargill: The idea of a poor, petty creature like you, who never should have been here. You are worthless." Mr. McNeill: You should go and hide yourself among the rocks.

Mr. C. H. E. BROOKFIELD, the actor, has been summoned before the magistrates at Marlborough-street for assaulting Mr. A. M. Moore, the editor of a paper called the Hawk. It was alleged that Mr. Brookfield attacked the defendant in a cafe, and it was said on his behalf that he had done so on account of a statement which appeared in the paper named. In the result, Mr. Brookfield was bound over in £10 to be of good behaviour. At the last meeting of the School Board for London, a resolution carried last December, directing that in all cases where more than two weeks' school fees are in arrears the teachers should be called upon to pay the amounts due for any period beyond the two weeks was rescinded. A letter was read from University College, stating that it was intended to found six scholarships conferring free education on certain pupils of Board Schools.

THE JOCKEY'S LIBEL SUIT.

A PARTING DAMAGES.

After a hearing extending over nine days, the turf libel case of Wood v. Cox has been brought to a close in the Queen's Bench Division, before the Lord Chief Justice and a special jury. The action was brought by Charles Wood, jockey, to recover damages from Mr. W. H. Cox, proprietor of the Licensed Victuallers' Gazette, for imputing that he had unfairly ridden General Owen Williams's Success both at the Lewes and Alexandra Park meetings. The defence was one of justification, and after a prolonged consultation the jury found for the plaintiff, with a farthing damages. His lordship, in giving judgment, declined to exercise his discretion in depriving plaintiff of costs, but granted a stay of execution for a month in order to give defendant's counsel an opportunity of applying to the Court of Appeal on the subject. A farthing (says the London Daily Chronicle, commenting on this case) is the sum at which a patient jury estimated the damage done to the character of Wood the jockey, by a sporting publicans' newspaper, which accused him of "pulling" a horse named "Success" at the Alexandra-park and Lewes races last year. To accuse a jockey in the sporting Press of "pulling" a horse is to accuse him of fraudulently holding the animal in so that it loses a race which the jockey is paid to win. The suggestion is that the jockey has for private gain manufactured defeat for his employer. The sum claimed by Wood as damages was £5000, and it was not too much to ask if he had been wrongly accused. The damages awarded by the jury consist of one farthing, so that we may safely leave our readers to draw their own inference from the proceedings. We need not say that the trial is really an offshoot of the scandal caused by Lord Durham having accused Sir George Chetwynd of lamentable irregularities on the turf. That affair, however, remains for decision, and it is our duty not to go behind the record, but to fix attention to the parties in the action lately decided. Most people, we believe, will be struck by the fact that the Public Prosecutor raised these proceedings against the newspaper. The verdict of the jury, and the evidence given, together with the contemptuous censure of Lord Chief Justice, ought to convince the Public Prosecutor that he was wrong. It has always been understood that attacks on private character should be vindicated by private actions. It was not unless these attacks could be shown to be likely to lead to serious breach of the peace in the case of Wood that the Public Prosecutor was free to raise or sanction criminal proceedings. The strong point against Wood was that when he rode "Success" at the two races mentioned, the animal lost; but just afterwards, when ridden by another jockey, it won. That Wood threw away the race at Lewes seems to be clear. The moot point is whether he threw it away from dishonest motives. As to this there was much conflicting evidence. As regards the Alexandra-park races the best witnesses seemed to think that Wood tried not to win by pulling his horse, and was accused another one. The charges of foul play against Wood became so unpleasant that he resolved early in the year to submit his conduct to the Jockey Club. It was therefore strange, as Lord Coleridge said, that he elected to stop their inquiry, in order to bring a criminal action for damages against a sporting paper that echoed rather than raised these painful rumours. Wood, it must be allowed, did not press his case hotly before the Jockey Club. After adjourning they seem to have virtually dropped proceedings for some time. Wood then displayed equal apathy; but when the inquiry was reopened later in the past year the Jockey Club cancelled his license. This, of course, was very serious for Wood. It was, however, not until Lord Durham, some time afterwards (7th February), at a meeting in Lord Hastings's house, accused Wood of "pulling" races, that he felt sensitive as to his reputation, and initiated legal proceedings against the newspaper which originally attacked him. Wood's contention that the attack in the newspaper caused the Jockey Club to cancel his license was absurd. The most we can say is that it caused the club to hold an inquiry, the evidence given at which led to the license being cancelled. The attack in the newspaper damaged Wood's reputation in a general way, by prejudicing racing men against him, was very doubtful. The consensus of opinion among the most trustworthy of the witnesses was that his reputation was questioned before the newspaper said anything to cast suspicion on him. On Wood's side, all that could be argued was that, in spite of this consensus of opinion, honourable men still employed him to ride their horses, and that he had obviously did not help him to prove damage. The leading facts, as we have now sifted them from the evidence, do not, therefore, justify the jury in giving any other verdict than the one which they returned.

A QUEER JURY.

A Paris jury has given another strange verdict. It has acquitted the journalist Eugene Habert, aged 47, who shot the artist Felix Dupuis, aged 55, in a duel in the Bois de Boulogne, last April. Habert attended a reception at Dupuis's house, where a young lady recited a sonnet on a picture by Dupuis. He then ridiculed both sonnet and artist in his newspaper. Being told that he had violated the laws of hospitality, and would not be again invited by M. Dupuis, he wrote another offensive article. He was challenged to a duel. He then practised pistol-shooting at a zinc figure, learnt to hit it in the heart, and aimed at his accomplices, they having happily neglected to attempt an arrangement or to insist on an apology by Habert. All five were acquitted. M. Anatole de la Forge, deputy, summoned as an expert in duelling, strongly condemned the seconds for allowing the encounter to take place. Paris juries have always acquitted a man who had received strong provocation; they now acquit the man who has given the provocation.

INDIA BUDGET.

The explanatory memorandum by the Under-Secretary of State for India on Accounts and Estimates for 1888-89 has been issued to Members of Parliament. The revenue for the ensuing year is estimated in ten lakhs of rupees at 80,010,500, and the deficit at 698,000, including the cost of special defence works. The deficit last year shown by the revised Budget was Rs. 3,016,700. It appears from this statement that at the end of 1887 there were in India 14,068 miles of railway open, on which there had been a capital expenditure of Rs. 1,83,012,573. Nearly 20 million passengers and over 20 million tons of goods were carried during the year. While, however, the railways gave in India a return of more than 5 per cent. on their capital cost, the expense of paying in England the interest at rates fixed in gold was so heavy that the result of the Railway Revenue Account is to impose a considerable charge on the Government.

THE WILTON DIAMONDS.

Mr. Justice Kekewich, in the Chancery Division, has given judgment on the bill brought by Lord de Ros and Sir Henry de Vaux as executors of the will of the second Earl of Wilton to recover possession of certain diamond ornaments. The action is brought against the widow of the third Earl of Wilton and the present earl, and the ornaments consist of a diamond tiara and necklace and brooches. It was stated that the second earl, during his life, gave the ornaments to his wife to be worn during his life, and then to be handed over to his heir, and this had been done. Mr. Justice Kekewich, after hearing a long argument on the legal aspects of the case, dismissed the action.

At the last meeting of the York Board of Guardians the chairman stated that there had been a small break of smallpox at Strensall Camp, near York, where 5000 regular soldiers and militiamen are encamped. The infected persons, however, had been removed, and it was hoped no further cases would occur.

HOIST WITH HER OWN PETARD:

AN AMERICAN CHARACTER SERVICE.

"It's the crowning success of my life," declared Miss Abigail Brown triumphantly. "The crowning success of my life, so far," she ruminated, as she briskly polished the tin saucepan with a wooden cloth and a bit of ash.

Miss Abigail was a spare-built, frosty-featured maiden, who, to the gossip said, "would never see thirty-five again." However that might have been, she was persistently close-mouthed whenever the subject of birthdays was mentioned. "Whatever her shortcomings may have been, Miss Abigail was a "born housekeeper." And whatever fault Mr. Nicholas Meridew found to complain of in his deceased wife's sister, carelessness or neglect in the running of domestic machinery was not one of them.

The bacon was always fried to a turn; the beans were just cooked enough and not too much; the biscuits and "corn pone" were never sour nor streaked with soda; the cookies and dough-nuts were tender and toothsome, and the fritters and griddle cakes as light as a puff; the coffee was of right strength, clear as amber, and without any "grounds" floating on its translucent bosom.

Indeed, as a housekeeper, Miss Abigail was worth her weight in gold, and though she had not lived on her own, she had not lost the habits of her deceased sister, the former Mrs. Meridew, she had flown to the rescue of her brother-in-law in his bereavement.

Moreover, she assumed entire charge of his establishment, from the care of his linen to the management of his two little girls, ten and twelve years of age.

As there is no event without its accompanying disaster, however, Miss Abigail had found her "thorn in the flesh" in the person of Susan Black, the music teacher of the two young Meridews. It was in vain that she had used her arts and machinations to have the obnoxious person dismissed. Nicholas Meridew, though an easy-going man in general, was obstinately determined to have his own way in this particular.

"Poor Lucy! I wanted the girls to learn music, and she set a heap of store by Susan," was all he would say of the matter. But Miss Abigail would not own herself vanquished.

"I never did believe in them red-haired women," she grumbled persistently to herself. "If she ain't got her eye on him now, she will have, sure as little apples. But I'll find a way to get rid of her, see if I don't. There's more ways of killing a cat besides choking it to death on butter."

She was not far from the mark when she determined to get rid of her by the means she had planned. Her brother-in-law having come to the city or business, it was easy to send the little girls to play in the attic while she received the music teacher herself.

Poor Susan, who was timid as a wood-thrush, fell chilled to the marrow of her bones as she found herself confronted by the housekeeper's angular figure and stern countenance.

"What can be the matter?" she wondered, trembling inwardly. And her agitation was by no means lessened when Miss Abigail condescended to speak.

"I sh'd like to know," she demanded grimly, "how much longer this sort o' thing is a-goin' to continue on?"

"What—what sort of thing?" faltered Susan reddening with apprehension. "If it's the scales you mean—"

"Scales,shaw!" retorted her enemy mercilessly. "What say anything about scales. Since I mus' speak out, I mean pretending to give music lessons so you can have a chance to run after my brother-in-law! He knows as well as everybody else, that you're a-settin' your cap for him, but let me tell you it won't go down. Nicholas Meridew wouldn't look at you, though he may pity your poverty, an' hire you if you don't give much satisfaction. But he won't have any idea of going any further. An' now that folks are beginning to make remarks, it's time you took steps to put a stop to it, seeing he can't."

Poor Susan stood as if turned to stone, while tears of mortification stood in her downcast blue eyes.

"If I don't give satisfaction, I will give up my situation at once," she returned, when she could resume control of her voice. "But as for your assertion—it's outrageous, preposterous!"

"Do you give up your situation then?" demanded the housekeeper, relentlessly.

"I do," returned Susan, as she tied the strings of her shabby straw hat with trembling fingers, and hastily departed. Her cheeks burned with mortification, and she felt her head dropping from her eyes, as she hurried on to her small apartment in the widow Connor's humble cottage.

"I'll go away this very day, and live with Cousin Chloe," she sobbed, still indignant over her interview. "She wants me, and I never, never want to see him again, if he can believe that."

Miss Abigail, meanwhile, was gloating over the success of her plans.

"It was just as he was out of the way," she smiled complacently. "An' now it's settled, I'll fly to work and get everything ready for the New Year's tomorrow. He said he'd be back in time to eat it with us."

A trim little figure with a rusty black dress, with a shawl and hat to match, stood on the steps of a pretentious-looking three-story brick house, in front of which swung the familiar notice: "Rooms to Let, with or without board."

The door was swung open with a bang, and a plump, middle-aged lady, with red cheeks and profusion of iron grey bangs, popped suddenly out, like a female "Jack-in-the-box."

"Why, Susan Plack, so you did come, after all! You blessed creature," cried the plump lady, falling upon Susan, and bestowing a warm kiss on her cheek. "Come right in, my dear. The house is chock full, and I didn't know what I was going to do, with Bridget drunk already on the brandy for the egg-nog, and the dining-room girl taking French leave without a minute's warning. But go along, my dear, to my room on the second floor, and take off your things, while I return to the kitchen before them cranberry tarts get scorched to flinders."

And Susan made her way to the second floor with her head in a whirl.

"Cousin Chloe didn't say which room," she meditated. "But I see an overcoat and mittens in that one, so this must be it;" and, pushing open the door, she walked precipitately into the arms of a gentleman who was just coming out, and a familiar voice cried cheerily: "Why, Miss—Miss Susan, you here?" he asked, forgetting to drop her hand, in surprise and excitement.

And Susan, a degree shyer than usual, drew away, as she blushing replied "that she had come to live with Cousin Chloe, and help wait on the boarders."

"And what are we going to do without you?" demanded Nicholas, gazing persistently in her shyly averted face.

When Cousin Chloe came flying up the stairs, half an hour later, she narrowly escaped the attacking sight of her transient boarder bestowing a "very low" like kiss on her country cousin's blushing cheek. As it was, her bright eyes discovered that something had occurred, and she was not long in learning the truth.

"And so I've got to lose you after all," she cried, in a muffled sob. "However, Bridget has fortunately got over her spree, and her sister came to take the chambermaid's place, so affairs ain't so bad as they might be. But you must have the wedding here, my dear, in my house, since I am your nearest relative." And, as Cousin Chloe's suggestion was heartily backed by Nicholas, Susan's scruples were easily overcome, and the wedding took place on New Year's morning.

"Time to dish up the dinner, and be ain't come yet," grumbled Miss Abigail, as she turned from the window for the dozenth time with a disappointed face.

"The turkey's overcooked now, keepin' it in the oven so long, and the mince pie'll be as soggy as lead," when suddenly the sound of wheels was heard, raking busily up the lane.

"Papa's coming! Papa's coming!" cried the two girls, dashing boisterously out, while Miss Abigail followed with a welcoming smile. It was changed to a frown, however, as her eye fell upon that hated music teacher, attired in grey silk, with flowers in her hat.

"What on earth!" she muttered, but her words were cut short by her brother-in-law, who proudly introduced his wife.

And the ambitious housekeeper had the pleasure of knowing that her successful achievement had only precipitated the result she was so anxious to prevent.

EGYPT AND THE SOUDAN.

THE ENGLISH OCCUPATION.

The question of the English occupation of Egypt is again before the Porte. Moustak Pasha has reported that as the country is entirely at peace, with the exception of a few revolted tribes in Upper Egypt, there is no longer any necessity for the English to remain. His emissaries have informed him that the chiefs of the revolted tribes declare their readiness to submit if the English quit the country. The Porte asked the Khedive whether he would confirm the above. I am assured (says a Constantinople correspondent) that upon his declining to do so Ismail Pasha was sounded. Rumour says that the question of the Khedive's deposition was mentioned. It is confidently asserted that the Khedive is now disposed to show himself more amenable to the Porte.

AN EMIR SLAIN.

There was a sharp skirmish the other day between the Egyptian cavalry and some Arab horsemen who came within 2000 yards of the Water forts. The Arabs lost the Emir Osman Wad Farah, the late Mahdi's adviser, who was the principal Emir, and ranked next to the Khalifa. It was he who led the attack on March 4. His death has caused great consternation at Handoub. Our loss included three men killed, and one man wounded.

Trade between Suakin and the small places in the neighbourhood, including Handoub, continues brisk.

EUROPEAN PRISONERS AT KHARTOUM.

The secretary of the Anti-Slavery Society sends the Central News an epitome of news contained in an advance sheet of Petermann's Mittheilungen for July, which contains a lamentable account of the condition of the European prisoners in Khartoum. Two small letters, about four times the size of a postage stamp, were lately brought by two messengers from Khartoum to Cairo, one being written by Slatin Bey, and the other by the widow of an Egyptian officer. Lupton Bey is described as having been compelled to work in the arsenal as a common Arab labourer, and without clothes except a pair of drawers and a fez. His friends will be glad to hear that his present condition is a little better, as he is now allowed to work in the mint. Slatin Bey is said to be acting as the Mahdi's scribe, or forerunner. Barefoot and half naked, he has to run before the Mahdi's horse, carrying a lance and a small banner, and is compelled to hold the stirrup of this fanatic whenever he mounts or dismounts. Neufeld, a German, is kept in chains, and out of doors he wears a pair of trousers and a shirt. He is ordered for execution, but cut down after having been hung for a few seconds. Baron Seckendorff's servant and a Prussian non-commissioned officer named Klotz (who died twelve months ago) suffered similar tortures. The three missionaries and four nuns (Austrian and Italian) are better treated, and allowed to be free. The messenger stated that if 500 Mohammedan troops were to march on Khartoum from Wady Halfa the tribes would gladly desert the Mahdi, and they might enter the city with an army of 10,000 men, where, with the exception of a few hundred fanatics, nobody in Khartoum would offer the slightest resistance. The article states that one of the messengers left Cairo on June 5, on his return journey to Khartoum via Berber, and that, besides carrying letters for the prisoners of the same minute size as those that he brought, he was entrusted with a considerable sum of money for the use of the prisoners, over and above the reward paid him for his faithful services. Dr. Junker adds a note to the article, in which he gives thanks for the warning he had received when he was already on his way from Central Africa to join Lupton, and blesses the day on which he turned back and took shelter in the province where Emin Pasha still holds rule. Had he gone northward as he first intended to do, and as Seckendorff's servant did, he would undoubtedly be a prisoner at the present moment in Khartoum.

THE WHITE PASHA.

From information which has reached the Foreign Office it is regarded as almost certain that the "White Pasha" reported to be at Bal-el-Gazil, on the march towards Khartoum, with a large force, is no other than Stanley. Before he started to relieve Emin Pasha the Government gave it to be understood that they would not be responsible for his actions, beyond giving him any assistance that might become necessary through their agents.

BETTER FOR THE CHINESE.

The British Consul at Fakhoh, in Southern China, in his last report, examined in the manner in which various interests have been affected by the opening of the port to foreign trade 10 years ago. The country people in the immediate vicinity have distinctly benefited. Their farm produce of various kinds fetches 50 per cent. more than it did, owing to the larger market opened by the steamers. This prosperity is shown by the widening area of land under cultivation. It can scarcely be doubted also that the native commercial classes have benefited their condition, for although the merchants grumble at the want of profitable business, the trade along the neighbouring coast tends more and more to centre in Fakhoh. "Lastly, and most important, how has foreign trade in general, and British trade in particular, been affected? It is impossible in the absence of sufficient data to give an answer that may not be disputed, but my own opinion, after a year's residence, is that there is little reason to suppose that the foreign trade of the West Coast is in a more prosperous position to-day than it would have held had Fakhoh never been opened, and had commerce been carried on as it was before 1 April, 1877."

A FATAL BEAUTY.

A fatal and terrible Algerian beauty, named Fatma ben Abdelkader, who has had during an eventful lifetime seven husbands, and nearly double that number of lovers, some of whom were murdered at her behest, has just been condemned to twenty years' penal servitude at Oran, for infanticide. She was born in 1845, but is still of surpassing beauty. She was first married at the age of sixteen; was divorced shortly afterwards; married again, and shot her second husband, as she had found him engaged in dalliance with a rival. For this offence she was imprisoned for five years, and on regaining her freedom she married a Marabout, embarked in politics, and incited the Tribes to the rising of 1881. When the insurrection was over the fatal Fatma ran away from her Marabout, and had in succession four husbands, her seventh one being lucky enough to live to see his dangerous wife sent to prison for a good reason, during which she will be kept carefully out of mischief.

STREET TELEPHONY.

Glasgow appears to have taken the lead in the adoption of a system of automatic telephone boxes. There are 76 of them scattered about the city, to which subscribers have keys. When a non-subscriber wants to use the telephone, he first rings up the exchange and ascertains whether the desired connection can be made. If it can, the fee of three or six pennies, according to the distance he wants to talk, are dropped one by one into a hole in the box. The pennies, as they fall, break a circuit and ring a bell at the central station, and the required number is announced the central office makes the connection. At the end of three minutes allowed for conversation the connection is automatically broken. The average time taken to put two persons in telephonic communication in Glasgow is 35 seconds, in Birmingham 40, in Liverpool 32, and Dundee 20.

EPITOME OF NEWS.

PRESIDENT DIAZ has again been elected Mexican Presidency.

The people of New South Wales spend £1,186,244 in 64. per head.

The Duke of Rutland has been for some time freeman of the Shipwrights' Company of London.

WASHINGTON IVES was a coloured man, Natchez, Mississippi. A few days since he was found hanging to a tree three miles from Lynch. He had attempted to outrage a white woman.

It is said that the operation of transmuting a piece of a rabbit's corner in the blind eye of a performed a few days ago at the Blind Eye Hospital, and Ear Charity Hospital, in Baltimore, Md.

The Shah happened to be absent from the capital when Sir Henry Drummond-Wolfe was before he could present his credentials, in a way with the etiquette in vogue at Teheran.

MR. WHISTLER'S last work is about the 'British Artists.' The 'Artists' have come to the 'British' again.

DR. GARDNER, of Adelaide, a little while since removed a man's larynx for a cancerous patient is alive and well.

FIGHTING journalists are now very common in France. M. Squard and M. Huet fought at Chartres. Huet obtained a promotion in his adversary through the right arm of ALEXANDER PORTER—the fourth son of a farm-servant at Meikle Pitman, Dumfriesshire, fell from its bed and dislocated the mother found the child on the floor dead.

MILES of completed railway in Canada, 1887, 12,292. Miles of completed railway, States, December 31, 1887, 137,600. In 1887, 3,397,000 tons of freight were carried, 10,685,508 passengers were carried.

A PARLIAMENTARY return just published shows the gross amount of expenditure for the year ending the 31st of March, 1888, on the Royal Household, £1,433,922. Of this amount, £285,281 for pensions and gratuities was £285,281.

THE English Charities announce that the Bishop of Canterbury has vetoed the proposal of the Bishop of Lincoln for ritualistic reforms.

At a Crimes Act Court at Trillick the pastor, Patrick Stack, a farmer's son, was charged with intimidating a man named John Kelly, formerly a tuff at Aghabeg bog, near Lisnaw, the present Mr. S. M. Hussey, who had been born a magistrate said they could not see their way to convict less than six months' imprisonment for labour, and sentenced the prisoner accordingly.

MR. GEORGE NOBERT TREVELL, superintendent of the Great Western Railway, being about to resign, Daniel Gooch, the chairman of the company, presented him with a handsome silver-gilt watch.

ALL recruiting in Europe for the Cape Rifles and the Cape Colonial forces ceased.

A Devonshire lady, who is a direct descendant of Sir John Hawkins, is preparing a new edition of the famous old sailor's diary.

PRINCE ALFRED, the eldest son of the Duke of Edinburgh, has been appointed second lieutenant of the 6th Thuringian Regiment.

KIVRO marches towards a higher civilization. The Japanese chemists here have now formed a copiosa Company.

MR. DILLWYN has secured precedence for a bill for motion in favour of the disestablishment of the Church in Wales.

THE Emperor of China is having electric light up in his palace grounds at Peking, at the cost of 8000 dollars.

A TERRIBLE murder has been perpetrated in a Chinaman was found tied up to a tree, with a wound in the head, and both feet cut off.

THERE are now numbers of townships in the State which are declared to be also within the "genuine Rocky Mountain range."

ANOTHER American millionaire is in the Pacific. Mr. James C. Flood, of San Francisco, the Bonanza kings and great millionaires of the Pacific coast.

THE Bolton Trades Council have sent a letter to Baron De Worms, expressing satisfaction at the abolition of the export State bounty on sugar.

MR. CHARD, I remember the name, was a world-hardened man. Mr. Chard barely touched the table, and stiffly said, "I have quite the advantage of you, Mr. Trevor, to judge me, before extreme statements are made to indicate them as my partner, Mr. Ashton Trevor nodded, and said, "I myself upon the chair, and tilted it back till it struck his feet upon the ground."

THE Queen has been pleased to command the Association of Original Engravers, which is now the Society of Painter-Etchers, shall be entitled "The Royal Society of Painter-Etchers."

A SINGULAR magistrate's device for enforcing morality of the native residents is to impose a claim prohibiting women from frequenting shops.

IN the great cholera epidemic in Japan there were 155,574 cases. Of these 110,000 were fatal. These figures are vouched for by a reliable source.

THERE are about 10,000 Japanese Christians in Korea, the fruits of the labours of the American missionaries there. They intend having a conference on their cards, as a distinguishing mark.

THE Japanese navy is, in actual force, more powerful than that of China. It has an admiral and several admirals, and a large fleet of ships.

AN ancient ordinance decrees that all bills of the House of Commons must be written in respect—to allow of their being printed in graphed.

THE Aberdeen Wapinschaw—the local petty-courts—has been honoured by a visit of honour has taken the shape of a miniature cup, standing eight inches high, and being four inches in diameter. It is engraved with a Royal coat of arms.

THE polling for sheriffs of London and Middlesex has taken place at the Guildhall. Mr. Alderman Gray was returned.

IT is stated that, as a token of confidence in the management of the affair of Abdul-Hakim, the British Government has bestowed upon his Prime Minister, a robe of honour with a sword valued at rupees (£10,000). This has been done in appreciation of the Government of India and the British.

AS inquest was held at York a fortnight since, the body of a child which had been found floating in the river Ouse was suggested that the inquiry should be conducted by a coroner, named Henry, who was the maker, thereupon said, "But what is the name of the child?" The coroner replied that in such cases he would be excused, and the jury proceeded to treat as a joke, but when the jury returned it was found that Empson had been murdered.

THE Congregation of the Holy Office has decided that Catholics may form part of the Association known as the Knights of St. Michael, supporting the request made by the Association, and rejecting that of the Canadian Association, which would have the effect of demanding the condemnation of the Holy Office.

THE Rev. W. S. Green, who formed one of the clerical party for the recent deep-sea expedition to the Atlantic, has left London, accompanied by Rev. H. Swaney, for New York. The expedition is British Columbia, where the Rev