

These are the observations of John Stuart Mill, a man who may be classed as of the highest ethical product of modern civilization, and they are worthy of consideration in Washington at this time. Mill was not a Christian in the doctrinal sense. He was too honest for the pagan Christianity of his time, and according to the light he had he looked for social regeneration, outside the received fetishism of his time. In this he differs from Aurelius, whose revelations were received from the entrails of a fowl, and who held to Jupiter Pluvius to preserve society. Mill looked to science for revelation, but we see Tyndal reviling Gladstone. Chemistry is not statesmanship.

If you desire to know what the Christians endured during the reign of Marcus Aurelius in Rome, read Eusebius, his Ecclesiastical history. Aurelius reigned from about 160 A. D. to 180. What the Christians in Gaul were subjected to during this period is fully pictured by Eusebius, and he says it is an illustration of what they suffered in all the Roman provinces at this time. An Epistle from the Brethren of the Churches of Lyon and Vienne to those of Asia and Phrygia contains ample evidence of what went on. Blunt refers to this Epistle as a dark chapter of fiendish horrors. Here is what he says of it:

"It (the epistle) tells of the gradual advance of the storm which in the end burst upon the Christians with such frightful force; of their exclusion, in the first instance, from the forum, baths and places of public resort; then of their being hunted, beaten and pelted with stones; next, of certain among them being carried before the magistrate, imprisoned and put to the torture, to the great consternation of the brethren at large, who feared that their constancy might forsake them, as in some cases it did. It relates that, not satisfied with this, the magistrate now commanded an active search to be made for them—that the household slaves of the Christians, being heathens, and having the fear of the rock before their eyes, laid to their charge Phrygian feasts, incestuous revels, and abominations not lawful even to utter or conceive—that these calumnies getting abroad, the people at large, no longer restrained by any ties of blood or friendship, broke out into all manner of excuses against them, who so ever killed them thinking that he was doing God a service, the mob the magistrate, and the soldiery, vindictive alike; that Titinus, the venerable Bishop of Lyons, feeble, sickly, and in his 96th year, after being dragged before the judgment seat, was mobbed to death on his way to the prison, surviving the violence he received but two days. Maturus and Sanctus were first scourged, then thrown to the wild beasts. A little life being yet left they were fried in a heated iron chair and thus left to die. Blandina and her young brother Ponticus, aged fifteen, were brought daily to the amphitheatre to witness the horrors. The boy fell easily before his tormentors but the woman was subjected to the chair and to the wild beasts; and to crown all, was inclosed in a net and cast before the bulls to be trampled and gored by them; till finally she was despatched by the merciful knife of the executioner. Attalus, a famous man among the Christians, and therefore the more fiercely clamored for by the populace, was led round the amphitheatre amidst the yells of the spectators, with a tablet before him with the inscription, 'This is Attalus the Christian.' Attalus, being a Roman, was allowed the privilege of recanting to save his life, but would not do so, therefore by the mercy of Caesar he was beheaded."

Persecution of this kind, one would think, ought to be sufficient to glut the most bloodthirsty natures, but it seems it does not. Christians were not allowed decent burial. The

bodies were exposed to the elements and to the jeers and insults of the mad rabble for six days, then consumed by fire, and the ashes thrown into the Rhone! This was done to defeat the doctrine of the resurrection by the Christians. This terrible drama was enacted at Lyons about 177 A. D., and there is no doubt of its truthfulness. The names of the victims and the details in general are given with the exactness of personal experience. JUNIUS.

CHICAGO, March 17, 1890.

THE HANCOCK TRIAL.

The trial of George W. Hancock, on a charge of murder, connected with the Jones tragedy of 1858, at Payson, Utah County, is taking up the time of the Provo branch of the First District Court. The case is being vigorously prosecuted. The claim of the prosecution as to the circumstances surrounding the case is set forth in the testimony of Frank Wilson, the principal witness for the prosecutor.

Wilson's testimony is as follows: I now live in Salt Lake City. I am a carpenter by trade; lived in Payson in 1858; am not related to George Hancock; my wife is related to him; I was really living at Piontown; at that time I was twenty-two years old; I remember the killing of Henry Jones; that night I was at home and in bed; I was awakened by my brother, who said he thought the Indians were after us; I met Jones near the fort; he said some men were after him to kill him; my brother told him if he was an innocent man no one should hurt him; Jones was asking for water, and Keel, a neighbor, brought the water; we could then hear the parties who were pursuing Jones; Jones then ran; the parties then came up and said they wanted Jones for stealing or attempting to steal some horses; the parties said they didn't want to kill him; George Hancock seemed to be the leader; he said if found not guilty they would release him; Jones maintained they wanted to kill him and pleaded with my brother and myself to go with him; we went out with them a hundred yards or so; as they were walking along Mr. Hancock said to the party with him, "You can slip it to him now;" he muttered out something such as "You murdering s— of a b—;" he was shot in the head and lungs; his breath came out through his breast; I said there some time; I think Hancock fired the last shot when Jones was on the ground; after he fell nothing much was said; nothing was said what was to be done with the body; I was there with the body an hour or so; the next morning I went out and saw the Indians trying to strip the body; I stopped them; Jones was disarmed when they had him under arrest; Hancock turned his head to the men behind him and said, "You can slip it to him now;" I went over to Payson next morning.

Cross examination.—It was my brother, Lycurgus Wilson, of whom I speak; I lived near my brother in the fort; my brother spoke to Jones

first and halloed to Sam Keel to fetch water; as soon as Jones drank the water he dropped the cup and ran into the fort; the party consisted of George Patton, George Hancock and Nelson; Jones stood in the door with a knife in his hand, but finally my brother brought him out; they were going to arrest him for attempting to steal some horses and getting some boys to help him; I think Hancock had a brass-mounted government gauger; some of the party had these guns, I am sure; I couldn't be positive what kind of a gun Hancock had; I am not sure whether deceased was bound or not; George Hancock had hold of Jones' right hand; I don't know whether my brother had hold of him or not; we were not armed; there was no excitement till after Jones left; after leaving the fort they went one hundred and fifty or one hundred and seventy-five yards; the crowd that followed up consisted of about a dozen persons; when Hancock said "You can slip it to him," two shots were fired; the man couldn't die till he cooled off; he didn't die at once; two other shots were fired while he was lying there trying to die; the part of his skull above his eyebrow was mutilated two or three inches; that wound could be plainly seen; the next day the wound in his neck could also be seen; I am pretty near sure that Mr. Hancock fired the shot that entered his lungs; three shots had been fired before Hancock fired; Hancock gave the order in an ordinary voice; I was about ten feet away; I think my brother was between me and the fort; I know of nothing impairing my brother's hearing at that time; it was 9 or 10 o'clock the next morning before the wagon came for the body. The killing was between 12 and 2 o'clock. I left Payson the 12th of the next August for San Bernardino; I only remained there a few months; I was fraudulently convicted for a debt; it was for embezzlement; I was confined eighteen months; I was arrested in Salt Lake City for illegal voting; have been arrested three times; the charge of illegal voting has been dismissed; I have talked to a great many about this Hancock case; I have not tried to make some money out of this; I didn't offer to leave if they would pay me; I told Mr. Thurman if I could get away I would do so; it wasn't to get money. (The witness denied writing some letters which were afterwards offered in evidence.)

Mr. Arthur Brown, attorney for the defendant, outlined the facts that would be shown by the defense. He stated that the year of 1858 was a very troublesome time; in those days desperadoes and Indians were about; guards had to be kept; it would appear that Henry Jones, the deceased, was accused of stealing horses, or being about to do so, and to induce some little boys to go with him; this scheme had been given away, and therefore guards had been placed out; Jones' confederates had been caught making preparations to carry out the scheme; Jones, when he was about to be arrested, resisted