

RANK MORAL COWARDICE OF THE AGE.

Judge Barnard of the Supreme Court of New York has, perhaps, done more to bring low the honor of the American judiciary than any other man who has ever occupied a seat on the bench. The bare statement of his crimes against law and justice, and of his connivances with wealthy scoundrels in litigation, would cover a larger space than Burke's specifications against Warren Hastings. For some of these offenses, after running a long career in judicial venality, under that protection from exposure and punishment which was assured him in the general corruption of parties in New York, he was at last, as one of the incidental results of the Tammany explosion, impeached by the House of Representatives, and tried, convicted and broken of his office by the Senate, sitting as a High Court of Impeachment. There were many charges and specifications, each in itself sufficient to unseat a judicial officer in any country properly governed. He had a long and patient searching trial, aided by eminent counsel; and the result was a judgment of "guilty," with but two dissenting votes out of a court of thirty-three judges; though twenty-two to eleven would have been sufficient to convict. The sentence of the court after conviction, is regulated by the Constitution, which provides that the guilty Judge shall be unseated and "forever disqualified from holding any office of trust or profit in the State." Barnard was found guilty of several of the charges against him. In the course of the trial there was abundant evidence given of his total unfitness for the judiciary, by reason of dishonesty, of violent temper, of prejudice in favor of his friends and against his enemies, and of an incorrigible propensity towards what, for want of a better name, we all call "snap judgment." There was no room for doubt that he used his office in the interest of Fisk & Gould and the infamous Erie ring; nor that from passion and prejudice, he made wrongful orders in violation of the spirit, if not the letter of the law, and to the degradation of the bench. There was no possible way in which he could have been excused from the just and legal penalty of these offenses by the Court of Impeachment. His guilt and his unfitness for the office were as clear as sunlight, and the judgment surprised no one and stands approved by the moral sense of every just man in the country. Yet, in the face of these facts, if our dispatches may be credited, Judge Barnard is over-run at his rooms by an army of "sympathizing friends," who come to tell him how sorry they are that justice triumphed over him, and how glad they would be if he could only have so managed his case as to defeat the charges and come clear of the punishment he so richly merits. But worst and most degrading of all, among these condoling friends, appears an eminent Judge and a Senator, who acted as a member of the High Court of Impeachment that tried, convicted and sentenced the guilty functionary; a Senator, too, who voted with the majority. And now he comes, like a whining cur, with his burden of sorrows for having done his duty to the State, and how pleased he would be to do otherwise if the opportunity offered. His apology for punishing the crime was not respectfully received by the criminal. He was driven out with scorn, and it must be confessed that in this scene the deposed Barnard appears as a more courageous and high-minded if not a more honorable man than the impeachment Judge who helped depose him. This fellow reveals himself as a contemptible moral coward, and a person even more unfit than Barnard to hold any office of trust. Barnard at least had courage.

This moral cowardice is one of the most prominent evils of our age and country. Its tracks are visible in every corner of our politics and society. Money is its god, success its slogan, and fraud and corruption the common tools with which it works. It is the natural enemy of truth and justice. We track it into and through the Baltimore Convention, where a party which must aggregate nearly three million votes had its principles all bartered away by a few delegates, in the name of a candidate they despised, for the sole purpose of acquiring office and the wages of office; into the courts, where rich and influential criminals can no longer be convicted of their crimes equally with the poorer class; into the legislatures, where the most glaring infamies obtain a patient hearing and favorable vote, when they are backed by "respect-

able" bribes; into the drawing-room where the Theodoras, Cleopatras, and even the Phrynes of society receive flattering recognition when they are fortified with wealth, however ill-gotten; and not even the church is free from the universal contagion that is converting modern civilization and free government into a state of utter rottenness, social, political and religious, without a parallel save in the darkening days of the humiliation and decay of the Roman Empire.—*Sacramento Union.*

Heat and Flood.

Can it be that the heated term has anything to do with the fearful extent to which bloodshed prevails throughout the country? Never have the papers chronicled such a number of brutal murders, cruel assaults, stabbings, shootings and maimings as have filled their columns during the past two weeks. The New York and Philadelphia journals daily show a sickening list of fearful crimes, and from the south and west the telegraph sends its appalling quota to swell the list. Even our Blake street last evening witnessed another stabbing affray, and we may at any moment expect a repetition of similar violence. In one paper we have a lunatic chopping off a man's head with an axe; in another a crazy woman beating out a child's brains with a billet of wood. Drunken men without number seem inspired with a mania to kick their wives to death, and ruffianism runs riot in outrages upon helpless women. Even boys seem to have caught the fever to slay, for the papers teem with murders perpetrated by young ruffians scarcely out of leading strings. The rivers give up their dead with terrible frequency, and with blood-chilled numbers, and marked with every sign of violence, suicide also rides rampant, and the carnival of crime wants no feature to render its horrors complete. It is not only in this country that these dreadful crimes occur with such unheard of frequency, but European journals are daily filled with accounts of them. Their prevalence must be owing to something more than mere chance, or the desire for gain or revenge. It would seem as though the excessive and long continued heat fired men's blood and roused their viler passions. It is a subject well worthy the attention of philosophers, and one that would afford some curious and interesting statistics.—*Denver Tribune.*

Thieves in Official Position.

It has become so common now-a-days for us to get into offices of trust, robbers and thieves, that the people have come to regard it as a matter of course, and many, without making any distinction, consider it the aim of every seeker after office to make a good thing out of whatever position he happens to get. Now we believe there is such a thing as setting good honest men to fill offices of trust, and if the people will cast round them a little they can discover these men in every ward, city, district and State; we have them in our midst, and very little search will bring them to the surface. Never in the history of our country has theft in public office stood more prominent before the people. No office seems now-a-days to be without its thief, where there is anything that a thief would steal. It penetrates every department, from the highest offices at Washington, down to the smallest village municipality. Men so soon as elected seem to forget their honest principles, and in their endeavors to make money and gain popularity, forget so far their better nature as to pilfer the moneys entrusted to their care; to cheat and to steal becomes their ruling passion, and gets to be, to them, a virtue instead of a crime. The crime is being found out and punished.

Men who are fortunately or unfortunately elected to office, too frequently forget, and take it for granted, that neither corporations nor the public have souls. They, too, often think because no one in particular and every one in general has an interest in money entrusted to their keeping, they have a right to squander it to suit themselves, or steal it for personal use with impunity. We venture to say there are cities not a thousand miles from here, where a close examination of the doings in some of their public offices, would divulge some facts and figures which would show that public officials anywhere can take gross advantages and use all the people's money for self-aggrandisement and self-interest.

There are so many ways of beating round the bush, so much thick covering and so many who can be brought in, that it is a hard matter to expose frauds even when they do exist to a great extent. The action of these public officers will come to light yet.—*Ex.*

To Shave Scientifically.

As men continue to shave and be shaved (a practice which some regard as unnatural and undesirable), we transfer to our columns the following brief essay upon shaving, which is from the pen of so celebrated an authority as Mr. Mechi:

"Never fail to wash your beard with soap and water, and to rub it dry, immediately before you apply the lather, of which the more you use, and the thicker it is, the easier you will shave. 'Never use warm water, which makes a tender face. In cold weather place your closed razor in your pocket or under your arm to warm it. The moment you leave your bed or (bath) is the best time to shave.

"Always wipe your razor clean and strop it before putting it away; and always put your shaving brush away with the lather on it.

"The razor (being only a very fine saw) should be moved in a sloping or sawing direction, and held nearly flat to your face, care being taken to draw the skin as tight as possible with the left hand, so as to present an even surface, and to throw out the beard.

"The practice of pressing on the edge of a razor in stropping it soon rounds it; the pressure should be directed to the back, which should never be raised from the strop. If you shave from heel to point of the razor, strop it from point to heel, but if you begin with the point in shaving, then strop it from heel to point.

"If you only once put away your razor without stropping it, or otherwise perfectly cleaning the edge, you must no longer expect to shave well and easy, the soap and damp soon rust the fine teeth and edge.

"A piece of soft plate leather should always be kept with razors to wipe them with."

How to Treat the Belfast Rioters.

The terrible condition of the city of Belfast, as reported by telegraph, is owing wholly to the mistaken system on which the English troops are accustomed to encounter insurrections. They are not called out until serious excesses have been committed, and a formidable mob has possession of the streets. Instead of instant action they display a passive forbearance until it is simply impossible to continue it. The soldiers are beaten and stoned, houses are fired and gutted, and men and women are murdered in the streets; and still no move is made to scatter the mob until, perchance, some public building is assailed or some public functionary cudgelled to death.

This was the mode of action in the famous Bristol riots; this was the mistake at the beginning of the New York riots of 1863. In the latter, no sooner did the sound ranks of the Seventh Regiment level their rifles upon the wild multitude that crowded Broadway, and fire a volley of ball cartridge, than the insurrection was at an end. At the first meeting of the mob and the soldiery the latter used blank cartridges for the purpose of intimidation, and were laughed at and forced to retreat. So, too, in the 12th of July riot in New York, one volley of ball saved, perhaps, the lives of hundreds at the expense of three score.—*S. F. Chronicle.*

IRRIGATION.—As the Mormons have made the valley in which Salt Lake City lies to "blossom as the rose" by a laborious and costly system of irrigation, so the Californians are drawing by canals and aqueducts the water of their rivers over their dry and thirsty plains wherever practicable, and carrying fertility to soils barren for want of moisture. Where the streams and rivers fail them, their places are supplied in part by flowing artesian wells. One irrigating company has already commenced in the San Joaquin Valley 400 miles of canal, at a cost of \$7,500,000. The outlay for these special improvements will be immense; but, like many millions some curiously statistical people are fond of calculating as expended in fencing our farms, will not absorb as much solid cash as their value would seem to imply. It is by the aid of such irrigation that California has been enabled to profitably grow oranges, lem-

ons, English walnuts, and other tropical fruits, as well as to give a constant and even productiveness to her lands for agricultural purposes.—*Kansas City Bulletin.*

DANGEROUS CLASSES.—Col. T. W. Higginson thinks that what are called the "dangerous districts" of London cannot be very dangerous, as he "walked through the worst of them without being robbed, mobbed or molested." Exactly, and so do very many people. It is not pleasant to meet with those low and vulgar Englishmen, to be sure, and they are not by any means beautiful to look upon, but they are not always dangerous. They would, perhaps, steal your pocket handkerchief, if it were worth stealing, and one's watch had better be well guarded; but the low fellows are not blood-thirsty. They will not knock you down just for the fun of the thing, neither will two or three make a cowardly attack on one victim, as is frequently done in New York. Their propensity for biting and "chawing noses" has not yet been developed. Nor are the English bullies, as a rule, armed as are most of the loafers and "gentlemen" of our large cities. The English ruffian will fight with his clenched fists, but seldom is he caught "gouging" or kicking; and bite like a dog he never does. Such company is not desirable at all; but if we have to choose, give us the low, uneducated, beer-drinking English bully, before the cowardly New York rowdy who carries a dirk-knife under his vest and a revolver in his trousers pocket.—*Cincinnati Times.*

TOUCHY PEOPLE.—There are some people, yes, many people, who are always looking out for slights. They cannot carry on the daily intercourse of the family without some offense being taken. They are as touchy as hair triggers. If they meet an acquaintance on the street who happens to be pre-occupied with business, they attribute his abstraction in some way personal to themselves and take umbrage accordingly. A fit of indigestion makes them see impertinence in every one they come in contact with. Innocent persons, who never dreamed of giving offense, are astonished to find some unfortunate or momentary tactlessness mistaken for an insult. To say the least the habit is unfortunate. It is far wiser to take the more charitable view of our fellow beings, and not suppose a slight is intended unless the neglect is open and direct. After all, too, life takes its hues in a great degree from the color of our mind. If we are frank and generous, the world treats us kindly. If on the contrary we are suspicious, men learn to be cautious with us. Let a person get the reputation of being touchy, everybody is under more constraint, and in this way the chance of an imaginary offense is vastly increased.—*S. F. Figaro.*

DANGEROUS FREEDOM.—It has become not simply dangerous but fatal in Chicago to chuck a married woman under the chin, to point at her the forefinger of the right hand in a playful mood, or lift her lightly and gracefully from the ground—all in the presence of her husband. A man met his death on Saturday for indulging in these pastimes, which, from association and custom, he had probably come to consider as entirely harmless. The penalty was rather severe, but, as it happened in what a jury has construed to be an accidental way—the outraged husband's intention having been simply to throw the offender out of the house and not to murder him—the occurrence, in the light of a warning, may not be considered altogether unfortunate. It is too common an attribute of American gallantry to regard as an acknowledged privilege the light and flippant insult to a woman who is thrown in contact with the public in the way of making a living. It is true that the woman in this case was unfortunate in helping her husband to keep a saloon; but, even here, it is evident that her husband regarded her as respectable and not to be insulted with impunity. But your average gallant—who is always a disgusting sort of fellow—is just as apt to look, say, or poke insults to a shop-girl, merely because she happens to be in a shop and not in her own home. A few more "accidental deaths" of the same kind as that of Saturday would be very likely to put a decided check upon this particular kind of gallantry.—*Chicago Post.*