

he was met by a dense crowd. The police were prepared for an outbreak, however, and two companies of armed men were present. Durrant was placed in a closed carriage surrounded by fifty men armed with Winchesters and driven to the city prison. On April 21st, an information was filed against him by District Attorney Barnes charging him with the murder of Blanche Lamont.

The trial, which began on July 22nd and lasted until November 1st, was one of the most celebrated in criminal jurisprudence. Nearly 1,200 talesmen were examined before a jury was secured, and six weeks passed before the taking of testimony was begun. The evidence throughout was circumstantial, but when taken together formed a chain so strong as to admit of no reasonable doubt.

The case was submitted to the jury November 1, 1895, after having been on trial over three months. Twenty minutes after they left the court room the jury returned a verdict of guilty in the first degree, and Judge Murphy sentenced Durrant to be hanged on February 21, 1896.

Then began a fight for delay, vigorously maintained for over two years. Durrant appealed from the judgment to the supreme court, but his appeal was not perfected for many months.

The supreme court affirmed the decision of the superior court on March 3, 1897, and on March 13 Durrant's attorneys filed a petition for a re-hearing. The application for a re-hearing was denied by the supreme court on April 2. Superior Judge Bahrs on April 10 re-sentenced Durrant and ordered him to be hanged at San Quentin prison on Friday, June 11.

Every effort was then made to induce Gov. Budd to grant clemency, but without avail. On June 3 attorneys of the condemned man applied to the United States district court for a writ of habeas corpus alleging that he had been deprived of his liberty without due process of law, in violation of the fourteenth amendment of the Constitution of the United States. The application was refused and an appeal taken to the United States Supreme Court. This appeal was held to act as a stay of execution. Accordingly Gov. Budd granted a reprieve to July 9. On that date no attempt was made to carry out the sentence, the case still being before the court of last resort. On Nov. 8 the supreme court, in a brief opinion read by Chief Justice Fuller, affirmed the decision of the district court in denying a writ of habeas corpus. Attorney Gen. Fitzgerald immediately telegraphed from Washington to have Durrant executed without awaiting the mandate of the court. The prisoner was brought before Judge Bahrs of the superior court on Nov. 10 and re-sentenced to be hanged on Nov. 12. The lawyers hurried to the circuit court where they tried to secure a writ which would prevent the carrying out of the sentence. They were refused a hearing but brought the matter up before the supreme court of the state and secured a writ of probable cause and an order to the warden at San Quentin not to execute the prisoner until notified in the future.

The supreme court then reversed Judge Bahrs' second order, affirmed the first and directed the superior court to proceed with the carrying out of the judgment by setting a day for the execution. Accordingly on Dec. 15 Judge Bahrs re-sentenced Durrant, this time fixing the date of the execution for Friday, Jan. 7, 1898.

The next step taken by Durrant's attorneys was the filing of an affidavit, charging that Horace Smyth, one of the trial jurors had admitted basing his verdict on information obtained out of court. Smyth appeared before Judge

Slack on Dec. 28, charged with contempt of court. He was promptly acquitted but was immediately sued by Durrant's parents for \$50,000 damages for slander for having stated, as alleged, that the condemned man was a moral monster and had sustained improper relations with his mother and sister. This case is still pending.

An attempt to secure from the supreme court another writ of probable cause based on the fact that Judge Bahrs had sentenced Durrant to die within sixty days of the time of sentence, was denied. On Dec. 31 an appeal for a writ of supersedeas was made to the state supreme court but was refused. The federal courts were then vainly appealed to for a writ of habeas corpus. On Jan. 3 a petition was presented to Gov. Budd, praying for executive interference in the case. The petition stated that Durrant was a vital witness in the slander suit brought by his mother against Smyth.

On Jan. 5 Durrant's attorneys made another application to the United States circuit court for a writ of habeas corpus. This was denied; also permission to appeal to the United States Supreme Court. On Jan. 6 Attorney Boardman arrived in Washington and endeavored to persuade Justice Brewer of the Supreme Court to grant permission to appeal. Justice Brewer declined, and Boardman announced that he would appear before the entire court on Friday and demand to be heard.

In San Francisco on Jan. 6 Attorneys Dickinson and Deuprey asked the United States circuit court for leave to file a bill of exceptions. This request was granted and Deuprey, accompanied by United States Marshal Baldwin, hastened to San Quentin to serve notice on Warden Hale claiming that the decision of the federal court acted as a stay of execution. Warden Hale, however, was guided by the advice of the state, who told him to proceed with the execution. On the same afternoon Gov. Budd formally announced that he would not interfere and declined to see Durrant's parents.

On Jan. 7 a final appeal was made to the U. S. Supreme Court and denied.

Durrant was never tried for the murder of Miss Williams, but the evidence of his guilt was as conclusive as in the Lamont case. Miss Williams lived in Alameda and on the afternoon she was murdered Durrant was seen to meet her at the ferry and board a westbound car. Miss Williams went to the home of a friend in this city and at 7:30 o'clock started for a church entertainment. Half an hour later she was seen standing in front of Emanuel Baptist church talking to Durrant. She was never seen again alive. At 9:30 that night Durrant arrived at the residence of Mrs. Vogel, where the entertainment was being given, with flushed face and in a highly nervous condition. He begged to be shown to a toilet room in order that he might wash his hands and later asked the person who directed him to say nothing about the incident.

The theory of the prosecution has always been that Durrant murdered Miss Williams to conceal the murder of Miss Lamont. The two young women were acquaintances and Durrant suspected that Miss Williams believed he knew something about the disappearance of Miss Lamont.

CHILDREN NEED A PLACE TODAY.

It is desirable that growing children should have a room all to themselves, where they can be free to move around and disarrange things if they feel like it. In England the nursery is made much more of than it is ever here, and the children's quarters, as they are called, frequently consist of a study,

playroom and individual bedrooms, attended by their own corps of servants.

This is rather an extravagant idea for the average American home, but it often proves possible to devote one room to the sole use of the young members of the household and their goods and chattels. The mother is happy who knows that young men and women are where they can indulge in mischief to their heart's content without danger of harm and are with servants whom she can trust. The liberty which this gives her to devote certain portions of the day to other occupations, proves a valuable acquisition to her economics.

If the juvenile population of this country was granted more freedom to grow and was not so rigidly brought up, one might say with a round turn, there would probably be more strength and certainly greater variety in the general result. Let children romp and read and play and give them a soul for something else than bonnets and gowns.

That the household furniture may not be quickly ruined, that the worn out nerves of older people may be spared, and that the spirits of youth may safely effervesce, it is wise that the children should have a playroom of their own.

Think of the many torments of Uncle Harry and Miss Alish might have been spared of "Budge" and "Toddy" had been accustomed to expend their talents in the decoration of a muclage proof nurser.

A point which is worthy of consideration in regard to a separate apartment for children is the fact that brothers and sisters who are accustomed to rely upon each other for amusement, and not upon the family in general, become indispensable one to the other. The congeniality between them develops into an easy understanding when their tastes commence to form. It then becomes quite possible for the masculine mind to grasp the possibilities of a girl's life at a finishing school and generously to share the glories of an athletic victory with her when the exigencies of life send them away to different educational institutions.

The chief prerequisite of a playroom is that while it may be dainty and attractive, it is essentially for the children's own use and not for show. If an ink bottle is tipped over accidentally or some such catastrophe happens, the matter is not for the child to deplore, and not for the grown up people to bemoan. There should be no fear, but just a comfortable feeling that here is a place where there are very few "don'ts" and where common sense must lumber up a little bit and help somebody take care of himself.

A fireplace with a brass screen securely hooked to the fender makes "lots" of fairy stories come true, and warms up little toes so it is kind to give the little people one if it is thought wise, and nurse will see that there is very little danger from the protected flames.

An old sofa, freshly upholstered, with plenty of cushions and a rug, will rest tired out little bodies and will stand all sorts of abuse, now impersonating the ark, now breasting the billows with old Noah at the helm, and anon transformed into a fiery black charger with Barnum's latest aerial sensation upon its back. Old furniture in new coverings is the jolliest kin of stuff to have about and is much more comfortable than the stiff new kind that gets all scratched up and takes such a long time to make cozy hollows in.

A hard wooden floor, without varnish, covered with a few rugs is easy to take care of, and if there is the skin of some animal laid down it would be hard to imagine anything more desirable. The window should be left as free as possible and for this reason, curtains that can be pushed easily to either side are