

on the west. The route is surveyed and passes through Lincolnshire, Derbyshire, Cheshire and Lancashire.

The London press expresses great surprise at the action of a jury in Paris, recently, in acquitting of the charge of murder a wife who followed her husband to the house of his paramour, discovered him in his conjugal infidelity, and stabbed him to the heart. But it refrains from comment on the action of juries on the 1st inst., in two cases tried in London. Wm. G. Newell and Sarah Purdey were married in 1877. Newell became the husband of a woman whom he afterwards left. Miss Purdey also left her husband, and about 1881 she and Newell began living together. About a year ago they were married, though their former partners were both living and undivorced. Miss Purdey admitted both marriages, but said she entered into the second one so that she might have a greater claim on Newell for her children, of whom he was the father. She was tried for bigamy, and out of sympathy with her the jury found her not guilty. Newell was then placed on trial, the same circumstances were shown, and he was convicted and sentenced to three months in jail.

There is much of boasting about the justice that is meted out in English courts. Whatever it may be in the higher courts, in those courts which have most to do with the masses of the people there is the grossest of injustice. A verdict on the part of the magistrates is as likely to be against the evidence as with it. They appear to follow their inclinations rather than the merits of the case; for they know that with four-fifths of the defendants an appeal is impossible, because the defendants cannot go to such an expense. With those who have means the justices are more careful, but even with these the record for 1889, of cases appealed, shows an astounding proportion of unjust verdicts. There were 223 appeals, and in only 100, or 44.9 per cent, were the convictions affirmed.

The case of "alcoholic coma" which occurred on the *Umbria*, which arrived on Sunday, presents a lesson. Three days out from New York a four-year-old child was left with a bottle of wine, most of which he drank, the ultimate result being death. This is the stuff that is so freely poured down the throats of men, women and children in this country, but doubtless those who claim to have reached the maturity of manhood and womanhood will claim the exclusive right to inject the poisonous stuff into their systems till it accomplishes the same result as in the case named.

The "nude in art" is considered in rather an unfavorable light just now by the constabulary of London, and yesterday the *Rubens* art gallery was raided and the objectionable features taken possession of by the police. The proprietors are charged with exhibiting indecent pictures. There are many defenders of such exhibition, who urge that there is no reason why they should have an injurious effect.

But the facts are against them, and there is no doubt that, with the present moral tone of humanity, the exposition of such pictures tends only to an increase of sensualism.

The two great days of November are Guy Faux day, the 5th, and Lord Mayor's day, which this year will be celebrated on the 10th, as the 9th falls on Sunday. The latter event will be celebrated by a grand procession, which is intended to equal, if not surpass, that of last year, and will pass through the principal streets. The observance of Guy Faux day is in full progress, with effigies, fireworks, bonfires, masquerades and with after pieces, commemorative of the day, at the theatres. But in London the protection of property has required that these wild proceedings be restricted by law, and it is only outside of the metropolis that the people have full swing of their observance of the event which defeated the "Gunpowder Plot."

The list of murders, robberies and other crimes is not growing less with the march of time, and casualties by sea and by land are being augmented annually in numbers and magnitude. The deed which for the present has obscured the butcheries of Jack the Ripper is known as the Hampstead tragedy. It is a story of the unfaithfulness of the husband, a quarrel between the paramour and the wife, and the horrible murder of the wronged wife and the eighteen months old babe. On Sunday morning the hapless victims of the tragedy were conveyed to their last resting-place. The husband, who is under arrest, followed the hearse in a closed carriage, guarded by mounted policemen. But this guard was not to prevent his escape; it was rather to protect him from the infuriated mob. About 3000 people had gathered around the undertaker's establishment where the bodies had been prepared for burial, and when the funeral procession started, and a glimpse was caught of the husband, who had confessed his undue intimacy with the supposed murderer, the crowd surged forward with hoots and yells. Some of the expressions were of the most vulgar and indecent character, and the mob angrily demanded that the object of their wrath be handed over to them to be summarily dealt with. The scene at the cemetery was even more riotous, and it took all the endeavors of a detachment of 150 police to keep the crowd back and protect the husband from violence. Commenting on the occurrence next day, the *News and Post* said:

The Pharisees of North London distinguished themselves yesterday by a display of that cheap enthusiasm for morality which is so easily practised when the sins of other people come under observation. It was curiously inappropriate that the Holy Day of Christianity should have been made the occasion for an outburst of feeling so strongly akin to that of the Jewish mob of old who led to Christ the woman taken in adultery. To them the Divine wisdom answered, "Let him that is without sin amongst you cast the first stone," and to the howling crew who yesterday made riotous holiday round the corpse of the poor victim of what is known as the "Hampstead tragedy," we can but repeat with all reverence this lesson in God-like charity. It is a sad result of nineteen centuries of Christianity that London in this year of grace should produce the exact

counterpart to that Pharisaical mob. We have nothing to say in palliation of that sin which seems to have been the proximate cause of the murder of Mrs. Hogg and her child; but surely it is unworthy of a country hitherto described as 'Christian' that such a scene as that of yesterday should still be possible. Have we learned so little of the true spirit of Christianity? Or is it that yesterday's outrage is the outcome of that crusade of aggressive 'morality' which has led its puritan professors to play such strange pranks of recent years?"

The writer of the foregoing knows well the prevailing evil among the people from whose ranks the mob was drawn, and when he suggests that they are the counterpart to the Pharisaical mob in not being without the sin of which the object of attack had been guilty, he strikes a nail squarely on the head. But the fact that such things occur in the midst of a professedly Christian nation is a proof that the Christianity boasted of is a mockery of God, and that its devotees are as far from the Gospel of the Divine Master as were those which composed the Jewish mob. Instead of imbibing the true spirit of Christianity, their hearts are far from the Lord, though with their mouths they approach in the empty forms. Surely the condition they present is one that invites the impending wrath of a righteous God, who shall cleanse the earth of the wicked by His terrible judgments. J. H. A.

LONDON, Nov. 5, 1890.

#### CITY COUNCIL.

At a regular meeting of the City Council November 18, Councillors Armstrong, Parsons, Pembroke, Spafford, Hall, Cohn, Anderson, Wostenholme, Karriek, Heath, James, Pendleton and Lynne were present, Mayor Scott in the chair. After reading and approving the minutes of last session the following business was transacted.

#### PETITIONS.

Petition of E. L. T. Harrison and others, stating that they have paid a special tax for the extension of the water mains on Wall and Currant streets, but the work of laying pipes has not yet been commenced and they desired that immediate action be taken. Committee on waterworks.

Petition of Rebecca Waterfall asking for a free license as merchant was granted.

Petition of O. A. Jennings and others asking that electric lights be established on Sixth Street from B to J streets. Committee on improvements.

Petition of Emily Squires et al. asking the Council to reconsider their action in levying an assessment for the extension of water mains on Eighth East Street between Sixth and Seventh South Streets. Committee on waterworks.

Petition of W. F. Martin and others asking for a street crossing opposite the Cullen Hotel. Committee on streets.

Petition of Annie Charleson asking to be relieved from paying a special water tax was laid on the table.

Hyrum Barton, who presented a claim at a previous meeting, for damages sustained by being knocked