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MRS. SURRETT

The burning of a building in Chicago containing the documents collected for the last thirty years by Colonel J. W. Clamplitt, counsel of Mrs. Surratt, to prove that unfortunate woman's innocence, has revived interest in her case.

It is not strictly correct, however, to say that the loss of Colonel Clamplitt's papers destroy all documentary evidence of Mrs. Surratt's innocence.

There has been issued recently a work by David Miller DeWitt, entitled "The Judicial Murder of Mary E. Surratt." It not only proves conclusively that Mrs. Surratt was an innocent woman, but it shows how she was denied all chance of saving her life by an appeal to the President.

A recommendation for mercy, which should have accompanied the death warrant sent to President Johnson for his signature, was never sent to him. A conspiracy existed to prevent his seeing it. As proof of this Mr. DeWitt, in his admirable work says:

Let Andrew Johnson himself tell what followed. The statement is from his published reply to Holt in 1873, and was made with no reference to, and apparently with no recollection of, the foregoing incidents of the John H. Surratt trial:

"Having heard that the petition had been attached to the record, I sent for the papers on the 5th day of August, 1867, with a view of examining, for the first time, the recommendation in the case of Mrs. Surratt.

"A careful scrutiny convinced me that it was not with the record when submitted for my approval, and that I had neither before seen nor read it."

It may have been only a coincidence, but on this very day, Monday, August 5th, 1867, and necessarily after the sending for the record, because that was done through the Secretary of War, the following interesting missive was dispatched by the President to that member of his Cabinet:

"Sir: Public considerations of a high character constrain me to say that your resignation as Secretary of War will be accepted."

Stanton immediately replied: "Public considerations of a high character constrain me not to resign before the next meeting of Congress."

In the meantime, when it first became known that, by the sentence of the Commission and the direction of the President, Mrs. Surratt was to die by the rope on the same scaffold with Payne, Herold and Atzerodt within twenty four hours, a chill of despairing terror from the blood of her relatives and friends, a thrill of consternation swept over the body of the most loyal breasts. A stream of supplicants at once set in towards the Executive Mansion—not only friends and acquaintances of the condemned woman, but strangers, high-placed men, and women too, who were haunted by doubts of her guilt and could in some degree realize her fate.

But even this expiring effort of sympathy, the powers behind the curtain had anticipated. Apprehensive that Andrew Johnson, at the moment, might yield to distressing importunities for more time, they had already taken measures that their wishes should be respected.

eral James Lane undertook to keep the door and bar all access to the President during the dreadful interval between the promulgation of the sentence and its execution. It was rumored that they, with a congenial crew, held high revelry around their passive Chief in his private apartments. Be this as it may, no supplicant—friend, acquaintance or stranger—was allowed to gain access to the President.

The priests, who had attested upon her trial the good character, the piety and the general worth of their parishioner, instinctively turned their steps to the White House to beg for clemency, or, at least, a respite. They were repulsed from its door. In ghastly mockery, they were told to go to—Judge Holt.

At last, the daughter of the victim made her way to the very threshold of the President's room. Frenzied with grief she assailed the portal with her cries for admission to plead for her dying mother. She was denied admittance. In the extremity of her despair she lay down upon the steps, and, in the name of God, appealed to the President and to the wardens, only to listen to her prayer. The grim guardians of the door held it shut in her face.

Denied, thus, even an appeal to Executive clemency, the friends of the poor woman, as a last most desperate resort, invoked the Constitution of their and her country through the historic writ of Habeas Corpus. On the morning of the day of the execution, they found a judge (Judge Wylie, all honor to his memory) who had the independence and courage to grant the writ. At half-past eleven, General Hancock appeared before the Judge and made return that by order of the President the Habeas Corpus was suspended and therefore he did not produce the body. The order of the President dated ten o'clock, same morning, was annexed to the return and directed the General to proceed with the execution.

No sooner had the guarantees of the Constitution been, thus, finally set at naught, than the cell-doors were thrown open and the prisoners summoned to their doom.

The daughter may beg the stern Secretary to yield up the body of her murdered mother, that she may place it in consecrated ground. But she will beg in vain.

And so ended the fell tragedy. And so did brave soldiers avenge the murder of their "beloved Commander-in-Chief." Methinks their beloved Commander-in-Chief, could his freed spirit have found a mortal voice, would have spurned, with indignant horror, the savage sacrifice of a defenseless woman to appease his gentle shade.

It is a remarkable fact that nearly all the men engaged in this conspiracy against an innocent woman have since died violent deaths, several of them by their own hand. It seems as though a curse followed them in their after life.

BISMARCK.
The German Reichstag has been severely criticised for refusing to pass a resolution congratulating Prince Bismarck on the occasion of his eighty-fifth birthday, which has been observed with much pomp by the admiring countrymen of the man of "blood and iron." Ordinarily it would certainly show a lack of magnanimity on the part of political opponents to refuse to extend such courtesy; but there are circumstances in this case which go far to explain if they do not wholly justify the cause of the German legislators. While he had the power Bismarck proved himself a merciless tyrant. He imprisoned those who dared to protest against his tyranny and sought to stifle free speech and free press when criticisms of himself or his master were attempted. It is no more surprising that those who have suffered from his tyranny in the past should refuse to tender him hypocritical congratulations now than it would be if the victims of Irish coercion law should refuse to sign an address congratulating Lord Salisbury.

Leaving aside his many petty acts of tyranny, there has been another charge made against Bismarck which if true, stamps him as a man, who instead of meriting the congratulations of his fellow men, should receive their universal execration. It is claimed that the Franco-Prussian war, in which thousands of lives were lost was precipitated by a forged telegram for which Bismarck was responsible.

Take him all in all, it may be said of Bismarck that he is a man "who like we never shall see again," and we are glad it is so.

MANITOBA SCHOOLS.

The Dominion of Canada is now passing through an ordeal of excitement such as it has not witnessed in many years. The Manitoba Legislature has been directed to restore to the Catholics the separate schools abolished by the act of 1890.

"The British North American act," provides that a Province shall have exclusive jurisdiction as to education. The Buffalo Express, but that nothing in such law shall prejudicially affect any right or privilege with respect to denominational schools which any class of persons have by law in the Province at the time of the union. This is plain language, but the Catholics of Manitoba, before they entered the Dominion, demanded a still more explicit assurance that their schools be not disturbed, and that assurance was given in a clause in the act of admission which repeated the privileges of the British North America act and inserted the words 'in practice, after the word 'law,' so that no misunderstanding could by any chance exist. With such specific safeguards, the Catholic minority thought itself secure, and for many years it was. But the number of Protestants in Manitoba has been increasing year by year, and the demand for one system of public schools has grown apace, resulting in the law of 1890. The genius of the Province has been Protestant, and the people hoped to make their law, also, Protestant. It is a struggle between form and substance, and as to which will win in effect there can be little doubt."

The Premier of the Province declares that Manitoba will never submit to the dictation of the government in the matter. This is in accordance with the usual Orange practice of bluster. In Ireland the members of this hateful society say they will rebel if Home Rule is given Ireland and they are handed over to the control of the hated "Papists". They threatened to do the same thing when Catholic Emancipation was suggested—but they failed to carry out their threat. The Manitoba Orange men will probably submit just as meekly when they are given to understand that the Dominion Government means to do justice to Manitoba Catholics.

A CORRECTION.
We are informed that the item published in the JOURNAL last week regarding the will of the late Dean Seymour contained a number of errors. He did not leave a thousand dollars to each of his brothers and his sister Mary. He merely left \$1,000 to be divided among the four, and it is doubtful if even that can be done when his expenses are paid. He merely had a life insurance policy of \$5,000 and perhaps a few hundred dollars here and there which may and may not be collected. The policy of \$5,000 must first pay the debts of the deceased priest. What ever is left will be divided among the heirs. Father Seymour left \$500 as an offering for Masses for his soul, instead of \$100 as the item published last week stated.

An example of the harm done to Catholic interest by those Catholics, who, for the sake of appearing liberal-minded in the eyes of their non-Catholic friends, openly express their dissent from views held by the great mass of the laity and clergy, is afforded in the dispatches from Manitoba regarding the existing school troubles. Premier Greenway is quoted as saying that the demand for separate schools would not be made, were it not for the priests. He says many of the Catholic laymen are not in sympathy with the priests on this question. The many Catholic laymen to whom he refers are probably in reality a few such Catholics as we have described above. Catholics, lay and cleric, should stand up for their rights at all times, and never surrender claim to them, just to show their liberality.

The Colorado Catholic comes out strongly against the physical force policy of some Irish nationalists—the policy advocated by Recorder John W. Goff in his unwise speech in New York on St. Patrick's day. But the previous issue of the same paper contained a highly eulogistic reference to Alexander Sullivan, the ex-head of the triangle and we may say the most prominent physical force advocate in America. To us this seems like denouncing sin and praising the devil.

THE GOSPELS.

GOSPEL: St. John viii. 46-59.

At that time, Jesus said to the multitude of the Jews: "Which of you shall convince Me of sin? If I say the truth to you, why do you not believe Me? He that is of God beareth the words of God. Therefore you hear them not, because you are not of God. The Jews therefore answered and said to Him: Do not we say well that Thou art a Samaritan, and hast a devil? Jesus answered: I have not a devil; but I honor My Father, and you have dishonored Me. But I seek not My own glory; there is One that seeketh and judgeth Amen, amen, I say to you: If any man keep My word, he shall not see death forever. The Jews therefore said: Now we know that Thou hast a devil. Abraham is dead, and the prophets; and Thou sayest: If any man keep My word, he shall not taste death forever. Art Thou greater than our father Abraham, who is dead? And the prophets are dead. Whom dost Thou make Thyself? Jesus answered: If I glorify Myself, My glory is nothing. It is My Father that glorifieth Me, of Whom you say that He is your God, and you have not known Him; but I know Him; and if I shall say that I know Him, not I shall be like to you, a liar. But I do know Him, and do keep His word. Abraham your father rejoiced that he might see My day: he saw it, and was glad. The Jews therefore said to Him: Thou art not yet fifty years old, and hast Thou seen Abraham? Jesus said to them: Amen, amen, I say to you, before Abraham was made, I am. They took up stones therefore to cast at Him; but Jesus hid Himself, and went out of the temple."

The Divine Master, Who had worked so many miracles, could in a moment have felled the impious Jews to the ground as He afterwards did the crowd in the Garden of Gethsemani, or could He not have treated them worse? Yet He preferred to hide Himself, and by so doing He taught us to be meek.

Weekly Church Calendar.

Sun. Mch. 31—Passion Sunday. Epist. Heb. ix. 12-15; Gosp. John viii. 46-59.
Mon. 1—Feria.

Tues. 2—St. Francis of Paula, Confessor.

Wed. 3—Feria.

Thurs. 4—St. Isidore, Bishop, Confessor, and Doctor of the Church.

Fri. 5—Seven Dolors of the B. V. M. St. Vincent Ferrer, Confessor.

Sat. 6—Feria.

THE NEW IRISH LAND ACT.

There is no better test of the value of an Irish land bill than its reception by the Irish landlords and their friends. When a bill is denounced by them as a sweeping measure of confiscation, it is safe to conclude that the bill is a just measure which concedes a substantial and valuable degree of relief to the tenants. In the present case, we are glad to note that the howl of the landlord press is both loud and emphatic. The Daily Express, the Dublin organ of the Orangemen, declares that the bill, as it stands, amounts to confiscation pure and simple, and that if the provision as to improvements be carried, many of the landlords will get only what Mr. Parrell used to call the prairie value, which, at present prices of agricultural products, means for them no rent at all. The Standard, the leading organ of the Tory party in Ireland, echoes the same cry in a modified form. It says: "The test of the Irish Land Bill has intensified the objections felt by the Conservatives to several of the provisions of the measure. The fifth clause, dealing with improvements, is more sweeping than was expected from Mr. Morley's statement, and if it be left unamended, it is believed that it would, in a great number of cases, lead to the rental being fixed at simple prairie value."

Now, we ask our readers to pause here and consider what all this means. It has been over and over again asserted on behalf of the Irish tenants that most of the improvements on Irish holdings have been made by the tenants and not by the landlords. This has been as often denied on the part of the landlords. The landlords, having confiscated the improvements of their tenants by increase of rent, then proceeded to vilify the tenants as lazy and thrifless and to scoff at the idea of their ever having made any improvements at all. But now the test is applied and the truth comes out. This fifth clause, which is so vigorously denounced by the landlord organs, proposes to do nothing more than to give the tenant the benefit of the improvements he has in fact made. If he has made but few improvements, as the landlords have claimed, the rents will stay pretty nearly as they are. Yet we have the landlord organs loudly declaring that to give the tenant the benefit of his own improvements will mean a sweeping reduction of rent in most cases, and in many cases the wiping out of rent altogether. Of a truth, these people are convicted.—Ex

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for THE JOURNAL. If so, send the amount to this office and don't wait for the collector to call.

Sibley, Lindsay & Curr.

CARPETS for your Parlors, CARPETS for your Library, CARPETS for your Halls, CARPETS for your Diningroom CARPETS for your Sleeping Rooms.

There is a Big Carpet Store connected with this establishment. It has a frontage of 68 feet on St. Paul Street, and a depth of 150 feet on Division Street. That gives us 10,200 square feet of floor space.

There are larger Carpet Stores in Western New York, but there is not a handsomer store, or one better stocked. We have plenty of room for all the fresh new patterns, and we don't care for space in which to store back numbers.

Three years ago we started in the carpet business. The man at the head of the department has been in it all his life. Together we have managed to fit up a carpet store just to our liking. What we want to know now is, how you like it.

Come and see; we'll treat you well; show you what we believe to be as choice a line of carpetings as was ever unrolled in Rochester, and sell you a carpet for exactly what it is. You can buy a carpet here at the same price as your neighbor. You can't get it any less and it won't cost you any more. Every purchaser gets the same price, and the best price.

Sibley, Lindsay & Curr.

Gould, Lee & Luce Invisible Rubbers Are Best for Spring Wear.

GENTLEMEN who are curious to know what the popular styles are to be in Tan Shoes the coming season can be satisfied by calling at our store. We have all the new things in tan, patent leather, etc.

Blackings, Dressings and Laces
All Cut in Prices. **GOULD, LEE & LUCE.**



We have noticed two cases of **SELECTED FURS** which have arrived from London. Soon all our Lady Customers can see **The Finest Assortment of Furs** Ever Brought to Rochester.

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115 and 118, Beckley Building, 27 South Clinton Street.

With the Charcoal Brazier.
Many cases of suicide have thus been brought about by means of burning charcoal, of which one example may suffice, that of son of Barthollet, the celebrated chemist. This young man became affected with great mental depression, which rendered life insupportable to him. Retiring to a small room, he locked the door, closed up crevices which might admit fresh air, lighted a charcoal brazier, and with a second watch before him noted down the time, together with his sensations as the gas accumulated.
He detailed the approach and rapid progress of delirium until the writing became larger and larger, more and more confused, and at length illegible, and the writer fell dead upon the floor.—Notes and Queries.

Count D'Orsay.
The most splendid person I ever remember seeing had a little pencil sketch in his hand, evidently intended for publication through Thackeray's good offices, which he left behind him on the table.

It was a very feeble sketch. It seemed scarcely possible that so grand a being should not be a bolder draftsman. He seemed to fill the bow window with radiance, as if he were Apollo. He leaned against his chair, with one elbow resting on its back, with shining studs and curls and boots.—"Chapters

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