

Chalmers Family

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Interesting Letter.

The following letter appeared in the Boston Transcript, of Saturday evening, its publication having been authorized by the late Professor WEBSTER:

BOSTON, Aug. 6.

To DR. FRANCIS PARKMAN:

DEAR SIR—I cannot leave this world in the peace of mind for which I pray, without addressing you as the head of that family which I have so deeply injured and afflicted, to make known to you and them the bitter anguish of soul, the sincere contrition and penitence I have felt at having been the cause of the affliction under which you and they have been called to mourn. From more than one I have received repeated acts of friendship and kindness, for which I have ever been and am most truly grateful. Towards yourself in particular, my own feelings have been those of the most sincere regard. But every one of my family have felt towards you that you were their Pastor and their friend. Often has my wife recalled the interest taken in her from her first becoming your parishioner, and often has she spoken with feelings of deep gratitude of the influence of your public ministrations and your private instructions and conversations. These she has often recalled and referred to as having established the religious faith and trust which are now such sources of consolation and support to her and our children. And in justice to those dearest to me, I beg to assure you, and I entreat you to believe me, no one of my family had the slightest doubt of my entire innocence up to the moment when the contrary was communicated to them by Dr. Putnam. That they have your sincere pity and sympathy I feel assured. There is no family, towards every member of which, I have always felt a greater degree of respect, than that of which you are the head. I can offer no excuse for my wicked and fatal ebullition of passion, but what you already know.

I had never, until the two or three last interviews with your brother, felt towards him any thing but gratitude for the many acts of kindness and friendship. That I should have allowed my feelings to become so excited on the occasion as to have overpowered me so as to involve the life of your brother, and my own temporal and eternal welfare, I can even now hardly realize. I may not from you receive forgiveness in this world, yet I cannot but hope and believe you will think of me with compassion, and remember me in your prayers to Him that will not turn away from the humble and penitent. Had I many lives to live, with what joy would I lay them all down could I in the least atone for the injury I have done, or alleviate the affliction I have caused.—But I can now only pray for forgiveness for myself, and for consolation and blessing upon every member of your family.

As for myself, nothing that has occurred has weakened those feelings; and although those I leave behind me may not meet you without the keenest anguish, I trust you will exonerate them from any participation in or knowledge of the father's sin up to the moment I have mentioned.—And may you remember them in your prayers to the Father of the Fatherless and the Widow's God.

I beg you, my dear sir, to consider this strictly a private letter, and by no means give it publicity. At the same time, I will request you to make known to the immediate members of your family the state of my feelings, and my contrition.

That every consolation and blessing may be vouchsafed to yourself and every member of your family, is the heartfelt prayer of

Yours, J. W. WEBSTER.

—We have
was closely followed by two of the crowd, be
fore the casement could be closed.
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Almighty God, and beseeching
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A coffin was then brought out and
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people stood upon Leverette street
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the houses on Leverett st. and the
led with spectators, one of whom
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Cotting st., and in the little lanes
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rd, and such was the eagerness
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reibly entering dwellings in the
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and windows of nearly every
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One individual, in sheer desperation at the en-

O DAILY REPUBLIC

TUESDAY EVENING, JULY 23, 1850.

INSURANCE COMPANIES.

UNITED STATES LIFE INSURANCE CO.—IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK.

Principal Office, 27 Wall-st.—Buffalo Agency S. Senecast. Guarantee capital \$100,000, the whole of which is paid in and invested in the public stocks of the United States, and of the State of New York. This company insures insurance on the lives of individuals, and every insurance appertaining thereto, or connected with life risks and grants, and purchases annuities. Parties insuring upon the mutual plan, participate in the profits of all the business transacted by the Company, in which case, eighty per cent., or four-fifths, is carried to the credit of the assured, and becomes payable in addition to the sum insured, at death. Tables are prepared for those who prefer to insure at very low rates, without participating in the profits. California risks taken.

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FREDERICK SHELDON, President.
JOHN A. STEWART, Actuary.
J. EADIE, Jr., Secretary.
Dr. N. H. WARNER, Medical Examiner, over the P. O.
B. A. MANCHESTER, Ag't,
No. 8, Senecast., Buffalo.

AND MARINE INSURANCE.—CAPIT

Advantages of Warren's Composition Roofing.

ITS protection against Fire is not superseded by any other roof. Is perfect to get out of repair this repaired. Is a non-consumption, it is the cheapest, and is very durable. Samples of our roofing the largest and best built favor us with a call: our reliable testimonials tell it.

WARREN'S COMPOSITION extensive use here for as a good protection against fire. Geo. W. Neil, President; John Young, President; B. Urner, Agent of the Company. John W. Hartwell, pany, Cincinnati. Isaac C. Copelen, P insurance Company. Joseph K. Smith, Sr. W. B. Robbins, Ge Cincinnati. Samuel E. Mack, A ny for Cincinnati. Eden H. Reeder, P Cincinnati. John Burgoyne, Ag Office corner of E hours from 9 to 10 A.

July 11

TO MA: JOHN: Successor to the late 180

Is now receiving a full MANUFACTURE WHITE AND COLE Letcete Card Cleaners, Com and Patent Wire He Press Papers, Clothier String and Lacing LE DYE-WOOL Logwood, Nicwood Peachwood, Madder, neal, Turmeric, Indigo, siate and Bichromat Earth, Oil Vitriol, Sal

Salmon, Lard, Sperm, Whale, Sea Elephant, &c. Parson. SHEARING MACHINES. patterns, at Wilder's New Improved, of all sizes and PENS SCREY, prices. Together with every COPPER DYE-KETTLES. ness, and will supply COUNTRY DEALERS AND MANUFACTURERS, At the lowest and most favorable terms. my23d&ctf

NEW RIFLE FACTORY!—TO SPORTSMEN!

The Subscribers beg leave to inform the inhabitants of Buffalo and vicinity, that they have opened a new Establishment, under the firm of RECTOR & ROBSON, No. 109, Main-street, Buffalo, (formerly of Syracuse,) where they will manufacture and keep constantly on hand, a large assortment of the latest improved GAINING TWIST RIFLES, with and without loading muzzles, which they will sell as cheap, if not cheaper, than can be bought in Western New York, and warranted to suit the purchaser. They keep constantly on hand, a large assortment of Plain and Twisted English, German and American Double and Single Barrel Shot Guns, of the best quality, all of which they will warrant.



They have also a good stock of Revolvers, Pistols, Powder Flasks, Shot Belts, Cone Keys, Wad Cutters, Rifle Barrels, Gun Locks, Ribs, Setts, Moulds, Percussion Caps, Pistols, Powder, Shot, Lead, etc., all of which will be sold low for cash. All orders for Rifles and Double and Single Barrel Guns will be thankfully received and promptly attended to. Repairs done on the shortest notice, most reasonable terms and warranted. J. H. RECTOR.

From the Sunday Bulletin.

House's Printing Telegraph.

An Interview between Mr. Littlefield and Professor Webster.

Boston, July 23. An interview took place yesterday afternoon between Dr. Webster and Mr. Littlefield, at the solicitation of Dr. Webster, in the presence of Mr. Andrews, the Jailor. On their entrance, Dr. Webster stepped forward and very cordially and affectionately seized the hand of Mr. L., remarking that he had long desired to see him; that he could not feel at ease until he made his acknowledgments to him that he felt that he had done him great injustice, and he asked his forgiveness. Mr. Littlefield promptly and feelingly replied, that he forgave him with all his heart, and expressed his pity and sympathy for him. Mr. Littlefield also told him that it was a painful duty he had to perform when he took the stand and testified against him, but that he felt it a duty which he had no right to shrink from, and if he had stated anything wrong it was not intentional, and he was very sorry and asked his forgiveness. Dr. Webster replied that he had misrepresented nothing—that he had told the truth. Dr. W. said, however, as a dying man, that he could not bring the sledge hammer to his recollection. As the interview was drawing to a close, Dr. Webster again took the hand of Mr. Littlefield, and thanked him for calling, and expressed a wish to see Mrs. Littlefield. Mr. Littlefield remarked that they had always, while at the Medical College, got along agreeably and pleasantly together, and that he (Dr. W.) had always treated him kindly, &c. Dr. Webster said that a kind and friendly feeling had always existed on his part toward him (Mr. L.) and his family. Dr. Webster spoke of his present situation, and said he was resigned to his fate, but felt deeply for his family. During the entire interview both parties seemed deeply impressed, and they parted in tears.

the office of House's Printing to witness the operation and to learn what we could between the two modes of machine is yet beyond our , but we see darkly into operation. Its advantages t, consist in greater expense more certainty in the elligence. MORSE'S plan tions of points and dashes, s of the alphabet as sys- inventor, which involves ng practice to become fa- quires from one to five or s to form one character. nine prints the letter itself, tion. The advantages of and important. The ope- sents the appearance of a first two or three keys are nd these are succeeded by s order. The pressure of he A key, in Buffalo, cuts suit at Rochester, and al- there to print that letter. sses the N key, and a third completes the word AND; much less time than any require to set up that word

from the case. The machines at the two extremes are the same; both are in motion at the same time, and they must run with the same velocity, which, as we understand it, the electric current regulates. If the operator who is communicating happen to press a wrong key, it will produce a wrong letter; and if this wrong letter make the word unintelligible or the sense doubtful, the operator who is receiving the communication, can send him back instantly to the unintelligible word, and the correction is made with very little hindrance. Any one who can read English, can read these communications as well as he can the words in a spelling book, without the necessity of previous study, as in case of the MORSE machine. The operator sent our name to Rochester, and we do not think more than two minutes elapsed, from the time he commenced sending it, when the following was handsomely printed before our eyes, in Roman capitals:

**Confession of Professor Webster
of the Murder of Dr. Parkman.**

Boston, June 16,

The Commonwealth met at the State House, on Tuesday morning, when the case of Prof. J. W. Webster now under sentence of death for the murder of Dr. George Parkman came before them on a petition for a commutation of sentence, which petition was in these words:

To His Excellency the Governor and to the Honorable Executive Council of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts:

John White Webster, a convict, under sentence of death, in Boston jail, in behalf of himself and of his wife and his children, respectfully petitions, that the sentence awarded against him by the law, may be commuted to such other less horrible and ignominious punishment as your honorable body may mercifully decree.

Your petitioner fully admits that he was tried before a fair and impartial tribunal, and that under the law as it exists, his jury, composed as it was of honorable and high-minded men, could have returned no verdict other than they did.— But he respectfully reminds your honorable body, that the two great moral ingredients of the crime of murder, malice and premeditation, have never been found against him by a jury, but have been necessarily inferred by the arbitrary rules of the law, from certain general facts, which your petitioner will not deny, but the extenuating details of which, no man in your petitioner's situation can ever possess legal evidence to prove. These details your petitioner has confided to the friend who presents his petition, with authority to state them to your honorable body, in the hope that you will find therein, reason to extend to your petitioner and his family, that mercy of which the law has made you the dispensers.

And your petitioner will ever pray.

J. W. WEBSTER.

Boston, June, 1850.

This petition was referred to the Committee on Pardons, of which body Lieut. Governor Reed was chairman, and 12 o'clock was assigned for its consideration.

Before the committee, at 12 o'clock, appeared the Rev. Dr. Putnam, the spiritual adviser of the condemned, with a petition for a commutation of punishment, together with a confession that he killed Dr. Parkman.

The reverend gentleman prefaced the statement by a few remarks relative to the manner in which the confession was made to him. He stated that he had no previous acquaintanceship with Prof. Webster, before being called to act in the capacity of his spiritual adviser. In the first weeks of his visits, he sought no acknowledgment of the prisoner. At length, on the 23d of May, he visited him in his cell, and demanded of him, for his own well being, that he should tell the truth in regard to the matter, and he acceded to the request by making a statement, which is now submitted for the consideration of the Council.

It was in substance as follows:

THE CONFESSION.

On Tuesday, 20th November, I sent the note to Dr. Parkman, which it appears, was carried by the boy Maxwell. I handed it to Littlefield undelivered. It was to ask Dr. Parkman to call at my rooms, on Friday, the 23d, after my lecture. It had become of late, very importunate for him. He had threatened me with a suit; to put an officer in my house, and to drive me from my professorship, if I did not pay him. The purport of my note was simply to ask the conference. I did not tell him, in it, what I could do, or what I was to say about the payment. I wished to gain, in those few days, a release from his solicitations of which I was liable every day, on occasions, and in a manner very disagreeable and alarming, also to avert for so long a time, at least, the fulfillment of recent threats of severe measures. I did not expect to be able to pay him when Friday should arrive. My purpose was, if he should accede to the proposed interview, to state to him my embarrassments and utter inability to pay him at present, to apologise for those things in my conduct which had offended him—to throw myself upon his mercy—to beg for further time and indulgence, for the sake of my family, if not for myself, and to make as good promises to him as I could have any hope of keeping. I did not hear from him on that day, nor the next (Wednesday) but I found

Thursday he had been abroad in pursuit of me without finding me. I imagined he had forgotten the appointment, or else did not mean to wait for me. I feared he would come in upon me at my spare hour, or while I was preparing my experiments for it; therefore, I called at his house that morning (Friday,) between eight and nine o'clock to remind him of my wish to see him at College at half past one—my lecture closing at one. I did not stop to talk with him, for I expected the conversation would be a long one, and had my lecture to prepare for, for it was necessary for me to have my time, and also, to keep my mind free from other exciting matters. Dr. Parkman agreed to call on me as I proposed.— He came, accordingly, between half past one and two o'clock, entering at the lecture room door. I was engaged in moving some glasses from my lecture room table, into the room in the rear, called the upper laboratory. He came rapidly down the step, and followed me into the laboratory. He immediately addressed me with great energy—“Are you ready for me, sir? Have you got the money?” I replied “No, Dr. Parkman:” and I was then beginning to state my condition, and my appeal to him, but he would not listen to me, and interrupted me with more vehemence. He called me a scoundrel and liar, and went on heaping upon me the most bitter taunts and opprobrious epithets. While he was speaking, he drew a handful of papers from his pocket, and took from among them my two notes, and also an old letter from Dr. Hossack, written many years ago, congratulating him on his success in getting me appointed Professor of Chemistry. “You see,” he said, “I got you into your office, and now I will get you out of it.” He put back into his pocket all the papers except the letter and the notes. I cannot tell how long the torrent of threats ~~and im-~~ but a small portion of what he said; at first I kept interposing, trying to pacify him, so that I might obtain the object for which I sought the interview, but I could not stop him, and soon my own temper was up; I forgot everything, and felt nothing but the sting of his words. I was excited to the highest degree of passion, and while he was speaking and gesticulating in the most violent and menacing manner, thrusting the letter and his fist into my face, in my fury I seized whatever thing was handiest, [it was a stick of wood,] and dealt him an instantaneous blow with all the force that passion could give it. I did not know, or think, or care, where I should hit him, nor how hard, nor what the effect would be. It was on the side of his head, and there was nothing to break the force of the blow. He fell instantly upon the pavement. There was no second blow; he did not move. I stooped down over him, and he seemed to be lifeless. Blood flowed from his mouth, and I got a sponge and wiped it away. I got some ammonia and applied it to his nose, but without effect. Perhaps I spent ten minutes in attempts to resuscitate him, but I found he was absolutely dead. In my horror and consternation, I ran instinctively to the doors and ~~took~~ the doors of the lecture room and of the laboratory below.— And then what was I to do? It never occurred to me to go out and declare what had been done, and obtain assistance. I saw nothing but the alternative of a successful movement and concealment of the body on the one hand, and infamy and destruction on the other. The first thing I did, as soon as I could do anything, was to draw the body into the private room adjoining, where I took off the clothes, and began putting them into the fire, which was burning in the upper laboratory. They were all consumed there that afternoon, with papers, pocketbook, and whatever they contained. I did not examine the pockets, nor remove anything, except the watch. I saw that, or the chain of it, hanging out. I took it, and threw it over the bridge as I went to Cambridge. My next move was to get the body into the sink, which stands in a small private room; by setting the body partially erect against the corner, and by getting up into the sink myself, I succeeded in drawing it up there. It was entirely dismembered. It was quickly done, as a work of terrible and desperate necessity. The only instrument was the knife found by the officers, in the tea chest, which I kept for cutting corks. I made no use of the Turkish knife, as it was called at the trial. That had long been kept on my parlor mantelpiece in Cambridge, as a curious ornament. My daughter frequently cleaned it; hence the marks of oil and whitening found on it. I had lately brought it to Boston to get the silver sheath repaired. While dismembering the body, a stream of Cochituate water was running through the lower laboratory,

There must have been a leak in the pipe, for the ceiling below was stained immediately and it. There was a fire burning in the lower laboratory. Littlefield was mistaken in thinking there had never been a fire there. He had probably never kindled one, but I had done it myself several times. I had done it that day for the purpose of making oxygen gas. The head and viscera were put into that furnace that day, and the fuel heaped on. I did not examine at night to see to what degree they were consumed. Some of the extremities were put in there, I believe, on that day; the pelvis, and some of the limbs, perhaps, were all put under the lid of the lecture-room table, in what is called the well—a deep sink, lined with lead; a stream of Cochituate was turned into it, and kept running through it all Friday night; the thorax was put into a similar well, in the lower laboratory, which I filled with water, and threw in a quantity of potash which I found there.

This disposition of the remains was not changed till after the visit of the officers on Monday. When the body had been thus all disposed of, I cleared away all traces of what had been done.—I think the stick with which the fatal blow had been struck proved to be a piece of the stump of a large grape vine—say two inches in diameter, and two feet long. It was one of several pieces which I had carried in from Cambridge long before, for the purpose of showing the effect of certain chemical fluids in coloring wood, by being absorbed into the pores. The grape vine, being a very porous wood, was well adapted to this purpose. Another longer stick had been used as intended, and exhibited to the students. This one had not been used. I put it into the fire. I took up the two notes either from the table or the floor. I think the table, close by where Dr. P. had fallen. I seized an old metallic pen lying on the table, dashed it across the face and through the signatures, and put them in my pocket. I do not know why I did this rather than put them in the fire, for I had not considered for a moment what effect either mode of disposing of them would have on the mortgage, or my indebtedness to Dr. P. and the other persons interested, and I had not yet given a single thought to the question as to what account I should give of the object or result of my interview with Dr. Parkman. I never saw the sledge hammer spoken of by Littlefield; never knew of its existence, at least I have no recollection of it. I left the college to go home, as late as 6 o'clock. I collected myself as well as I could that I might meet my family and others with composure.

On Saturday I visited my rooms at the college, but made no change of the disposition of the remains, and laid no plans as to my future course. On Saturday evening I read the notice in the Transcript respecting his disappearance. I was then deeply impressed with the necessity of immediately taking some ground as to the character of my interview with Dr. Parkman, for I saw that it must become known that I had had such an interview, as I had appointed it first by an unsealed note on Tuesday and on Friday had myself called at his house in open day, and ratified the arrangement, and had there been seen, and had probably been overheard by the man servant, and I knew not by how many persons. Dr. P. might have been seen entering my rooms, or how many persons he might have told by the way where he was going—the interview would in all probability be known, and I must be ready to explain it.—The question exercised me much, but on Sunday my course was taken. I would go into Boston and be the first to declare myself the person, as yet unknown, with whom Dr. P. had made the appointment. I would take the ground that I had invited him to the college to pay him money, and that I had paid it. Accordingly I fixed upon the sum by taking the small note and adding interest which it appears I cashed erroneously. If I had thought of this course earlier, I should not have deposited Pettico's check for \$90 in the Charles River Bank on Saturday, but should have suppressed it, as going so far to make up the sum which I was to have professed to have paid him the day before, and which Pettico knew I had by me at the hour of interview, it had not occurred to me that I should ever show the notes cancelled in proof of it, or I should have destroyed the large note, and let it be inferred that it was gone with the missing man, and I should only have kept the small one, which was all that I could pretend to have paid. My single thought was concealment and safety; everything else was incidental to that. I was in no state to consider my ulterior pecuniary interest. Money, though I needed it so much, was of no account with me in that condition of mind.

cide of Dr. Parkman, in order to get possession of the notes and cancel my debt, I not only should not have deposited Peetee's check the next day, but should have made some show of getting and having the money the morning before. I should have drawn my money from the bank and taken occasion to mention to the cashier that I had a sum to make up on that day for Dr. Parkman, and the same to Henschman, when I borrowed the \$10, I should have remarked that I was so much short of a sum that I was to pay Parkman. I borrowed the money of Henschman as mere pocket-money for the day. Had I intended the homicide of Dr. P., I should not have made the appointment with him twice, and each time in so open a manner that other persons would almost certainly know of it; and I should not have invited him to my rooms at an hour when the College would be full of students and others, and an hour when I was most likely to receive calls from others, for that was the hour, just after the lecture, at which persons having business with me, or in my rooms, were always directed to call. I looked into my rooms on Sunday afternoon, but did nothing. After the first visit of the officers, I took the pelvis and some of the limbs from the upper well, and threw them into the vault under the privy.

I took the thorax from the well below, and packed it in the tea-chest, as found. My own impression has been, that this was not done till after the second visit of the officers, which was on Tuesday, but Kingsley's testimony shows that it must have been done sooner. The perforation of the thorax had been done by the knife. At the time of removing the viscera, on Wednesday, I put on kindlings and made a fire in the furnace below, having first poked down the ashes. Some of the limbs, I cannot remember which or how many, were consumed at that time. This was the last I had to do with the remains. The tin box was designed to receive the thorax, though I had not finally concluded where I should put the box. The fish hooks, tied up as grapples, were to be used for drawing up the parts in the vault, whenever I should determine how to dispose of them and get strains enough. I had a confused double object in ordering the box, and making the grapples. I had, before, intended to get such things to send to Fayal; the box to hold the plants and other articles which I wished to protect from the salt water and the sea air, and the hooks to be used there in obtaining coralline plants from the sea. It was this previously intended use of them that suggested and mixed itself up with the idea of the other application. I doubt, even now, to which use they would have been applied; I had not used the hooks at the time of the discovery.

The tan put into the tea chest was taken from a barrel of it that had been in the laboratory for some time. The bag of tan brought in on Monday was not used, nor intended to be used; it belonged to a quantity obtained by me a long time ago, for experiments in tanning, and was sent in by the family to get it out of the way. Its being sent in just at that time was accidental. I was not aware that I had put the knife in the chest.— The stick found in the saucer of ink, was for making coarse diagrams on cloth. The bunch of filed keys had been used long ago by me in Fruit street, and thrown carelessly by into a drawer. I never examined them, and do not know whether they would fit any of the locks of the college or not. If there were other keys fitting doors with which I had nothing to do, I supposed they must have been all duplicates, or keys of former locks left there by the mechanics or janitor. I know nothing about them, and should never be likely to notice them amongst the multitude of articles, large and small of all kinds, collected in my rooms. The janitor had furnished me with a key to the dissecting room, for the admission of medical friends visiting the college, but I had never used it. The nitric acid on the stairs was not used to remove spots of blood, but was dropped by accident. When the officers called for me on Friday, the 30th, I was in doubt whether I was under arrest, or whether a more strict search of my rooms was to be had; the latter hypothesis being hardly less appalling than the former.— When I found that we went over Cragies' bridge I thought the arrest most probable. When I found that the carriage was stopping at the jail, I was sure of my fate. Before leaving the carriage, I took a dose of strychnine from my pocket and swallowed it. I had prepared it in the shape

of a pill before I left my laboratory on the 22d. I thought I could not bear to survive a dissection. I thought it was a large dose. The state of my nervous system, probably, defeated its action partially. The effects of the poison were terrible beyond description. It was in operation at the College, and before I went there, but most severely afterwards. I wrote but one of the anonymous letters produced at the trial—one mailed at East Cambridge. The little bundle referred to in the letter detained by the jailer, contained only a bottle of nitric acid, for domestic use. I had seen it stated in a newspaper that I had purchased a quantity of oxalic acid, which it was presumed was to be used in removing blood stains. I wish the parcel to be kept untouched, that it may be shown, if there should be occasion, what it really was that I had purchased. I have drawn up, in separate papers, an explanation of the use I intended to make of the blood sent for on Thursday the 23d, and of the conversation with Littlefield about the dissecting vault. I think that Pettee, in his testimony at the trial, put too strongly my words about having settled with Dr. P. Whatever I did say of the kind, was in the hope I entertained that I should be able to pacify Dr. P., and make some arrangements with him, and was said in order to quiet Pettee, who was becoming restive under the solicitations of Dr. Parkman.

After Dr. Webster had stated most of the facts recorded above on the 22d May, this question, with all the earnestness, solemnity and authority of one that Dr. Putnam was master of, was addressed him:

"Dr. Webster, in all probability your days are numbered; you cannot, you dare not speak falsely to me now; you must not die with a lie in your mouth; so, prove to yourself that your repentance for the sins of your past life is sincere—tell me the truth, then—a confidence to be kept sacred during your lifetime, and as much longer as my regard for the happiness of your family shall seem to me to require, and the interest of truth and justice to permit. Search to the bottom of your heart for the history of your motives, and tell me, before God, did it never occur to you, before the decease of Dr. Parkman, that his death, if you could bring it to pass, would be of great advantage to you, or at least that personal injury to him might possibly be the result of your expected conference with him? As a dying man, I charge you to answer me truly and exactly, or else be silent—had you not such a thought?"

"No, never," said he, with energy and feeling; "as I live and as God is my witness, never! I was no more capable of such a thought than one of my innocent children. I never had the remotest idea of injuring Dr. P. until the moment the blow was struck. Dr. P. was extremely severe and sharp—the most provoking of men—and I am irritable and passionate. A quick handed and brief violence of temper has been a besetting sin of my life. I was an only child much indulged, and I have never acquired the control over my passions that I ought to have acquired early, and the consequence is all this."

"But you notified Dr. Parkman to meet you at a certain hour, and told him you would pay him, when you knew you had not the money."

"No," he replied, "I did not tell him I would pay him, and there is no evidence that I told him so. Except my own words spoken after his disappearance, and after I had determined to take the ground that I had paid him, those words were of the miserable tissue of falsehoods to which I was committed from the moment I had begun to conceal the homicide. I never had a thought of injuring Parkman."

This was accompanied by the statement in which Professor Webster attempts to explain as to his seeing Littlefield, sending for blood, and of inquiring about gasses from the vault. After reading the statement, Dr. Putnam proceeded to argue as to its truthfulness, saying that it was made when the writ of error was still pending. Also, the Prof. Webster's estate was worth several thousand dollars, and that he was not in such a strait as to commit such a crime deliberately. The previous petition from Prof. Webster, protesting his innocence, and, praying for absolute pardon, he said was got up by his family, who were unwavering in their belief of his innocence, until his confession was communicated to them about a week since. He concluded in asserting his belief that the confession was true.

Members of the council have retained a copy of the petition previously presented, and withdrawn by the advice of Dr. Putnam, which will probably be published. It asserts his innocence, and also asserts that Littlefield, or some other person placed the remains in his room, to compass his ruin.

This is the substance of Dr. Webster's statement. There were some additional documents relative to minor matters. The Rev. Dr. Putnam then followed in an argument to the Council on the truthfulness of the statement, and in favor of granting a commutation of punishment, in which he stated his firm belief that Prof. Webster had told the truth in the matter.

He further stated that if the committee could come to a favorable decision, the sooner that it was announced the better; but if the decision should be unfavorable, he wished for further time to allow of petitions in his favor.

AUBURN STATE PRISON.—Expiration of Sentence—Mistake.—Four convicts on Thursday last having made an error in reckoning the length of time they were bound to work for the State, made their exit through a hole in the wall rather smaller than the front gate. Two of them having been apprised of their error, by some of the gentlemanly turnkeys, returned, the other two not having been notified of their mistake, are still at large. They will doubtless return as soon as they are officially notified that their contracts with the state are not fulfilled. These mistakes on the part of the convicts must annoy the keepers, and it seems to us it would be an improvement in the discipline, if the convicts could be kept in mind of their term of service, and avoid those annoying errors in the computation of time.—*Cayuga New Era.*

Madame Anna Bishop has been singing at Savannah, Georgia. At her benefit there, on the 31st ult., she is said to have worn \$30,000 worth of jewelry, all of which was presented to her by distinguished personages.

GRAND ATTRACTION AT M^RARTHUR'S GARDEN!

Mons. Adrien,

The celebrated Magician, will have the honor of appearing in his **MAGICAL SOIREEES,** **Monday Evening, July 8,** and during the week.

PART FIRST—Tricks of Address. Magical and Mechanical experiments.

PART SECOND—The thieral suspension Indian Metamorphoses.

PART THIRD—The beautiful Megascorama.

Doors open at 7. Commence at 8 o'clock.

Tickets 25 cts. Seats reserved, 37½ cts. jy5-1w

CLINTON HALL.

FOR TWO NIGHTS ONLY!

GRAND MUSICAL ATTRACTION!

The celebrated Germania Musical society, consisting of 23 instrumental solo performers, respectfully announce to the ladies and gentlemen of Buffalo, that they will give their first grand instrumental concert on Friday evening July 5th, at the Clinton Hall.

Principal pieces to be performed are: Overtures Zampa by Herold, and Freischuetz by Weber, Fantasia and variations for Violin by Paganini executed by Mr. Schultze,—Carnival de Venice, or Variations, burlesque for Bassoon by Ernst, executed by Mr. Thiede; Costa Diva from the Opera Norma by Bellini; Wedding march from the melo-drama; Mid-summer nights dream by Mendelssohn, Gallop Guerrieri by Lieder; sounds from home; Rail Road Gallop &c.

Tickets 50 cents each, for sale at the Hotels, Book and Music stores, and at the door.

Doors open at 7, Concert commences at 8 o'clock.

C. H. BLOSIER & CO.

At No. 4 East Seneca Street, Buffalo.

Will keep constantly on hand during the season, **FRESH OYSTERS**—Opened, in cans and kegs, to suit the market. Also, **PICKLED OYSTERS**, in jars and kegs.

Also—**FRESH FISH**, from the depths of old ocean.

TROPICAL FRUIT, of all kinds.

Also—Thomas Kennett & Co's hermetically **SEALED OYSTERS**, in cans.

FRESH CONGRESS WATER and fine **LOBSTERS** received daily.

Particular attention will be given to supply all delicacies for Evening Parties, and no effort spared to render most perfect satisfaction to all customers.

All orders from abroad promptly attended to.

Having arrangements with Hageman & Cowell, of Albany, and Garnett Hageman, of New York, C. H. B. & Co., will be able to supply any article in his line not on hand.

Orders transmitted to New York by Telegraph, if desired, and articles received by first Express. my4

NOTHING SELLS EQUAL TO THEM.

We cannot speak from experience of the character of Sloan's medicines and preparations, but we know nothing in that sells equal to his, which leads us to conclude that they have the virtues claimed for them.—*Southport Telegraph, Wis., Dec. 31, 1849.*

See Sloan's advertisement in another column. je27jy6

From the Boston Journal.

Decision of the Executive Council in the case of Prof. John W. Webster.

The committee on pardons, composed of Lieutenant Governor John Reed, chairman, of Yarmouth; Dr. Luther V. Bell, superintendent of the McLane asylum for the insane; Hon. Samuel Wood, of Grafton; Hon. John Tenney, of Methuen, and Hon. Chas. M. Owen, of Stockbridge, met at 10 o'clock this morning, and submitted their final report in the case of John W. Webster, to the Governor and Council.

The Council met in their chamber, and held the session with closed doors. After assembling, and being called to order, the following report was presented by Lieut. Gov. Reed, chairman of the committee on pardons:—

REPORT.

The committee on pardons, to whom was referred the petition of John W. Webster, a convict under sentence of death, praying, in behalf of himself and his wife and children, the Governor and Council to extend to the petitioner a commutation of the punishment awarded to him, also a copy of the records of the Court, containing the trial and sentences of said Webster, and also sundry other petitions and arguments referring to, or in support of, the petition of said Webster,—now report,

That, by said record, it appears that said Webster was regularly indicted for the crime of the murder of Dr. Parkman, and set to the bar of the Supreme Court at the March term thereof, A. D. 1850—and there, having been enquired of how he would acquit himself concerning the premises, for answer said he was not guilty, and thereof put himself upon the country.

Counsel was thereupon assigned for the prisoner. On the nineteenth day of March following, said Webster was again set to the bar to be tried. A jury was empanelled and sworn, and after full hearing, on their oaths declared that the said John W. Webster was guilty. And thereafterward, viz: on the 1st day of April, in said Court, said Webster being placed at the bar for sentence, it was demanded of him by said Court if he had anything to say wherefore sentence should not be declared upon the premises and verdict aforesaid. To which said Webster nothing further answered.

Thereupon it was considered by the Court, that the said John W. Webster be taken to the jail whence he came, and thence to the place of execution, and there be hanged by the neck until he be dead.

Since the passing said sentence by said Court, numerous petitions and arguments have been presented to the Executive for the full pardon of said Webster, founded upon the belief and presumption that he never committed even a homicide. Recent events, however, relieve the committee in a great measure from the consideration of all such arguments and petitions.

On the 2d of July, A. D. 1850, the Rev. Dr. Putnam, by appointment, appeared in behalf of said Webster, before the committee on pardons, and read a confession made by said Webster, acknowledging that he committed the homicide, and declaring the manner and circumstances thereof,—and at the same time presented said Webster's petition for a commutation of the sentence aforesaid. The petition and confession were supported by an able argument by Dr. Putnam.

To this confession and argument, and all arguments and evidence supporting it, we have given our most serious and anxious attention, and we have proceeded to consider the same with hearts and minds desirous to know the truth, and our duty, and with a firm purpose to do what both should require to do.

It seems to your committee that the sentence in the case of said Webster, having been passed by the Court, after a full and fair trial, in the course of which all the facts and circumstances which could then be brought to light, were patiently and thoroughly investigated and weighed by the jury,—and having been fully affirmed, after a careful revision of the law upon trial, since had by the full Court, on solemn argument of both sides, there appears to be no ground for Executive interposition, except it may be found in the subsequent confession of the prisoner.

In this view, the only questions, as it seems to us are, whether the statements which said Webster now makes in his confession, of the manner and circumstances of the homicide, are so confirmed by other evidence, or so intrinsically probable, that they ought to be received as true; and if true, whether they justify the Executive in a commutation of the punishment.

to these questions, the minds of the committee have been most carefully directed, and, as they trust, with no unwillingness on their part to come to an affirmative conclusion, if they could do so consistently with a supreme regard to truth and justice. But after all the consideration which they have been able to bestow upon this confession, and under the light of all the evidence and the comments with which it has been accompanied and supported, they feel constrained to say that the effect has not been such as to satisfy their minds that the position of the case is materially changed. In other words, the palliating facts and circumstances set forth in the confession have not been so confirmed, by other evidence and circumstances, as to form a proper and sufficient basis for Executive interference.

To this painful conclusion the committee have unanimously come.

The committee therefore respectfully report, that they cannot, consistently with what they conceive their duty, recommend a commutation of the sentence, in the case of John W. Webster, as prayed for in his petition.

Nothing now remains for the committee, in the discharge of this painful duty, but to advise your Excellency in determining upon a time for the execution, and they name **FRIDAY, THE THIRTIETH DAY OF AUGUST NEXT**, as the day; and recommend to your Excellency to decide upon that day as the time for the execution of John W. Webster.

JOHN REED, Chairman.
Council Chamber, July 19, 1850.

At the conclusion of the reading of the report, his Excellency, Gov. Briggs, read to the Council the following address:

To the Honorable Council: The Council having considered and acted on the case of John W. Webster, a convict under sentence of death, it becomes my duty, as the Chief Executive Magistrate of the Commonwealth, to make a final decision on a question involving the life of the prisoner. I feel the weight of its responsibility. But it is a responsibility found in a path of official duty, and I am not disposed to evade it, or to shrink from it. For eight months past this extraordinary case has created a deep and painful interest among the people of Massachusetts, and of the whole Union. Its history is as brief as it is terrible and instructive; every new development in its progress has been more strange, and has increased that interest.

On the 23d day of November, 1849, Dr. Geo. Parkman, a well known and highly respectable citizen of Boston, left his house and family on business, as was usual for him, and never returned to them. His unexpected absence alarmed his family, and excited the attention of the people in and around Boston. In the course of a day or two it was understood that the prisoner had said that Dr. Parkman met him at his rooms in the Medical College in the west part of the city, not far from half past one o'clock on the day of his disappearance, and that he then and there paid him a sum of money, which he, Dr. Parkman, took into his hands and hastily rushed toward the outer-door.

Dr. Parkman was also seen by other persons about the same time of day, within forty feet of the door of the College, and walking quickly toward it. These, with other circumstances, directed the public mind toward the College buildings. The next Friday, one week after the disappearance of Dr. Parkman, the dismembered parts of a human body were found in different places in and under the rooms occupied by the prisoner in that College, some of them in a furnace, nearly destroyed by fire, some of them packed in a tea chest, and other parts in the vault of a privy attached to his laboratory.

Suspensions were strongly fixed on him, and he was arrested and committed to Leyerett street jail. A coroner's inquest was called, and after a long examination into the facts of the case, conducted in secret, the jury reported that the remains found were parts of the body of the late Dr. George Parkman; that he came to his death by violence in the Medical College in Boston, on Friday, the 23d day of November, and that he was killed by John W. Webster. The evidence taken before the inquest was not given to the public. In January, 1850, the case was laid before the grand jury for the county of Suffolk, and the investigation before that body resulted in finding an indictment against the prisoner for the murder of Dr. Parkman.

He was arraigned on the indictment and pleaded not guilty. Two of the most able and distinguished lawyers of the Commonwealth were, upon his own selection, assigned to him as counsel by the Supreme Court, and his trial before the full bench of that Court fixed on the 19th of March. Some time before the day of trial the Attorney General furnished the counsel of the prisoner, not only with a list of the names of the witnesses to be called against him, which is required to be done in all capital cases in this Commonwealth, but also with a copy of the testimony taken before the Coroner's Inquest, and which had been produced against him before the grand jury.

The time appointed for the trial arrived, when four Judges of the Supreme Court were present, and sat during the trial. In pursuance of the provisions of law, sixty jurors had been drawn from the jury box in the county of Suffolk. By law, the prisoner had a right peremptorily, without giving any reason, to challenge twenty jurors, and for good reasons to object to any others whose names might be called. In empannelling the jury who tried him, the prisoner exercised his peremptory right of challenge in only fourteen instances.

The trial was one of surpassing interest and solemnity, and lasted eleven days. On the part of the prisoner, the case was argued with great earnestness, candor and ability, by the Hon. Pliny Merrick, his senior counsel. After denying that the evidence on the part of the Government was sufficient to prove that the prisoner killed Dr. Parkman at all, the counsel took the ground that if in any event the jury should come to the conclusion that he did kill him, then the circumstances of the case were such as to satisfy them that the killing could not have been premeditated, but was the result of an unexpected conflict between the parties and of sudden passion.

This position he endeavored to maintain by an ingenious and powerful appeal to the jury. The case was closed on the part of the Commonwealth by the Attorney General, by an address of singular point and effect. After the Attorney General had finished his argument, the Court informed the prisoner that he had the right, which he might exercise or not, as he pleased, to make such remarks to the jury as he saw fit. The prisoner rose and for some time addressed the jury in his own behalf. An elaborate, clear, and comprehensive charge was given by the Chief Justice, after conversation with the other members of the Court, who sat with him at the trial.

The jury retired to their room, and after an absence of three hours, late on Saturday evening returned into Court with a verdict of guilty. The next Monday morning, the prisoner was again brought into Court, and received from the Chief Justice the sentence of the law, which do^g as him to suffer death by hanging, at such should the Executive of the Commonwealth should appoint.

In a few days a copy of the record of his conviction was transmitted to the Governor and Council, by the sheriff of the county of Suffolk, according to the direction of the statute.

On the 24th of April, the prisoner sent by the hand of his friend, to the Governor and Council, a petition for pardon, under his own hand, on the ground of his entire innocence of the crime of which he had been convicted and for which he was under sentence of death. All proceedings on this petition before the Executive were suspended, in consequence of having received notice from the counsel of the prisoner that they were about to make application to the Supreme Court for a writ of error to be issued in his case, on account of certain alleged irregularities, which had been discovered in the course of the proceedings against him. The application was heard before the full Court, and overruled.

In the opinion of the Court upon that application pronounced by the Chief Justice, all the proceedings in the case are declared to be according to established judicial forms and the laws of the Commonwealth.

On the — day of —, and before the question on the writ of error had been settled by the Court, the Rev. Dr. Putnam, for the prisoner, asked to be permitted to withdraw the petition which had been presented to the Governor and Council for farther consideration. This request was complied with by the Governor and Council, and the petition in a day or two was handed to Dr. Putnam.

On the first day of July, Dr. Putnam placed in the hands of the Governor, another petition, signed by the prisoner, asking for a commutation of his sentence.

ferred to the committee on pardons, and on that day Dr. Putnam appeared before them and made a statement which he said was authorized by the prisoner, in which the prisoner admitted that he killed Dr. P. at the time and place charged against him, but denied that the act was premeditated. He narrated what the prisoner declared to be the manner of killing, and described minutely the mode and process in which the body of Dr. Parkman was disposed of after death.

The prisoner alleges that the "single blow with a stick of wood, two feet long and two inches thick," by which Dr. Parkman was killed, was given by him in a moment when "he was excited to the highest degree of passion," and "while Dr. Parkman was speaking and gesticulating in the most violent and menacing manner, thrusting the letter and his fist in his face; that in his fury, he seized whatever thing was handiest, and that was a stick of wood, and dealt to him a blow, with all the force that passion could give, and that he did not know, nor think, nor care where he should hit him, nor how hard, nor what the effect would be."

Upon this statement, and upon the other facts proved upon the trial, Dr. Putnam addressed the committee at length, in an able and impressive argument, in favor of commuting the sentence of the court. A petition from the family of the prisoner was before the committee, and a large number of other petitions, some for a full pardon, and others for a commutation were in the hands of the committee. Most of these petitions were from people, men and women, in other states, and generally placed their petition for a remission or mitigation of the sentence, on the ground of the great doubts of the prisoner's guilt. The committee gave three hearings after the meeting at which Dr. Putnam addressed them, and listened to those who desired to be heard in aid of the prisoner's petition and in support of Dr. Putnam's views.

The committee on pardons, consisting of the Lieut. Governor and four Councilors, after a full careful and patient hearing of all that could be offered by the friends of the prisoner, and by others who were pleased to be heard in his behalf, came to the unanimous opinion that there were no sufficient reasons to justify them in recommending the interposition of executive clemency.

They recommended that the Governor be advised to have the sentence of the law, as pronounced by the court, carried into effect on the 30th day of August next.

The council, with but one exception, concurred with the report of the committee, and advised the Governor to carry out the sentence of the court as recommended by them.

In carefully and anxiously examining and considering the case, I do not feel authorized by any considerations which have been presented to my mind, to set aside the deliberate verdict of the jury, arrest the solemn decree of the law as pronounced by the highest judicial tribunal of the commonwealth, and disregard the opinion and advice of the council. If the circumstances of the killing, as stated by the prisoner, are taken to be true, it may well be questioned whether the executive council could interfere with the sentence, without violating the settled laws of the land. In his charge to the jury in this case, the Chief Justice says, "It is a settled rule, that no provocation with words only will justify a mortal blow.—Then if upon provoking language, the party intentionally revenge himself with a mortal blow, it is unquestionably murder."

The only new fact brought to light as to the killing depends upon the word of the prisoner. It will hardly be pretended by any one that the declaration of a person under sentence of death should be permitted to outweigh the doings of the court and jury, and rescue him from the consequences which are to follow their proceedings. It is candidly stated by Dr. Putnam, in his able argument, and by several of the petitions presented in favor of commutation, received since his confession, that, standing as he does, the word of the prisoner is entitled to no credit.

If the circumstances disclosed on the trial are relied on to support his statement, the reply is, that those circumstances were urged in his favor before the jury, and they have decided against him. The facts of this appalling case are before the world; they will hereafter fill one of the gloomiest pages in the record of crime among civilized men.

It is undisputed, that on the 23d day of November, 1849, John White Webster, a professor in Harvard University, and in the Medical Col-

lege in Boston, did at mid-day in his room, in that college, within a few feet of the place where he daily stood and delivered scientific lectures of a large class of young men, with unlawful violence take the life of Dr. George Parkman, a respectable citizen of Boston, who had come to that room at the repeated request of the said prisoner; and that after taking his life, he eviscerated and in a manner most shocking to humanity, mutilated the body of his victim, burning parts of it in a furnace, and depositing other parts of it in different places in the building, where they were found by persons who were seeking after Dr. Parkman; that after killing him, he robbed his lifeless creditor, by taking from him two notes or hand, signed by himself, to which he had no right and committed still another crime, by making false marks upon those notes; and that a jury of his country, empannelled according to law, under the direction of four of the five eminent Judges constituting the Supreme Court of Massachusetts after a long, patient, and impartial trial, and after hearing in his defence the arguments of learned and eloquent counsel, upon their oaths found him guilty of murder.

Upon that verdict, the Court pronounced the awful sentence of death. In such a case there should be obvious and conclusive reasons to authorize the pardoning power to interpose and arrest the sword of justice. I do not see these reasons. The combined circumstances of the case force me to the conclusion, that the safety of the community, the inviolability of law, and the principle of impartial justice demand execution of the sentence.

I hope it is not necessary for me to say that it would have given me unspeakable pleasure to come to a different result, and that I would do anything on earth in my power, short of violating duty, to alleviate the sufferings of a crushed and broken hearted family. GEO. N. BRIGGS.

Council Chamber, 19th July, 1850.

We learn that the member of the Council who voted in the negative was Mr. Copeland of Roxbury.

THE STORM AND FURRY — The next

ATURDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 2, 1850.

BOSTON TRAGEDY.

Details of Prof Webster's Execution.

Execution of Professor Webster.

By House's Telegraph from Syracuse.

Boston, August 30—8 o'clock A. M.

The most intense excitement prevails in this city, and strangers by hundreds are pouring in.—The streets, house-tops, and all available places, are alive with people anxiously awaiting the execution, which it is said will take place about nine o'clock. I understand that an awning will be suspended over the scaffold.

Ten o'clock A. M.

Prof. WEBSTER was executed at 20 minutes before 10 o'clock. The family paid their usual weekly visit yesterday afternoon. They entered his cell at 2 o'clock and remained with him until a quarter to 7. A large body of people watched them as they went away, and it was with difficulty that a passage could be made for them to pass through the crowd. Neither Mrs. W., nor her daughters, exhibited any extraordinary emotion, being, perhaps, still in ignorance of the day of execution. Yet it seems incredible that they could not have heard what was so notorious, or that at this last parting he could be silent respecting his end.

Mr. SOHMER and Rev. Mr. PUTNAM were with him in the morning and during the former part of the visit of his family. Officer JOHN C. LEIGHTON, Clerk of the jail, and Constable EDWARD J. JONES were selected to watch the prisoner during the night although there was little apprehension that he would commit suicide. The precaution, however, is usual. Mr. JONES was the officer who attended Prof. Webster through the scene, and like LEIGHTON, was conspicuous for his kindness and attendance to the unfortunate man from the proceedings in the jail yard until the execution.—Last night Dr. PUTNAM remained about two hours with Prof. W. in devout exercises.

When the former had left, Dr. Webster continued his devotions, and at times conversed with considerable freedom with the officers in attendance, fully conscious of his doom. He more than once remarked that he had had a perfect dread and horror of the thought of being hung, but he had outlived it, and he had no fear, but was perfectly and fully prepared to meet his fate.

His appearance during the night seemed to confirm his statement in regard to his being reconciled and resigned to his fate. His health remained good and in his spirit he was calm.—About 12 o'clock he fell asleep and remained so until half-past four.

On awaking, he maintained the usual calmness, and partook of a tolerable breakfast. He had apparently not lost any flesh during his confinement, but if any thing had gained.

The erection of the gallows was commenced at day-light, and was completed at 8 o'clock. Pursuant to a requisition made by High Sheriff EVELYTH, a force of 125 men, consisting of 100 police men and watchmen and 25 constables, was detailed for guard duty—the latter and 25 of the police being stationed in the yard and the remaining 75 outside. The position of the scaffold in the centre of the yard was more open to the view of outsiders than it would have been in any other spot, giving perhaps double the view which was afforded at the execution of Washington Goode.

This change from the northwest corner of the centre of the yard shut off the view from the direction of Wall street, but it did not diminish the extensive view of the rear of the building on Lowell street, and added extensively to the view from Leveret street.

Officers of Suffolk.—Present High Sheriff EVELYTH, Dept. Sheriff W. FREEMAN, J. PRATT, E. RUGG, BENJ. BAILEY, J. COBURN. From Middlesex Co.—High Sheriff CHANDLER, Dept. Sheriff D. SUMNER, of Charleston, and A. SMITH of Woburn. At 8 o'clock the witnesses invited by the High Sheriff and the authorities of the State began to come in making in all about 125.

At 10 minutes before 9 High Sheriff EVELYTH called the names contained in the list of witnesses. He then said they had assembled by his invitation as lawful witnesses of the execution of John W. Webster.

He requested them to keep order during the solemn ceremonies. The company then formed in column two by two, and visited the prisoner's cell, where the Rev. Dr. PUTNAM offered prayer. The hall leading to the cell was full of people, but the utmost stillness and solemnity prevailed. The witnesses retired to the yard and surrounded the scaffold.

At 20 minutes to 10, High Sheriff EVELLTH, attended by Deputies COBURN, FREEMAN and RUGG, also, by other gentlemen, among whom was Dr. PUTNAM, proceeded to the cell, and in a few minutes thereafter conducted the prisoner to the scaffold.

[Here the Morse line from Boston gave out.]

Execution of Prof. Webster.

From the Springfield Republican of Saturday.

The sentence of death upon Professor John W. Webster, convicted of the murder of Dr. George Parkman, was executed according to the forms of law, in the jail yard at Boston, Friday forenoon August 30.

From the Boston evening papers of Friday, we gather the following additional incidents and scenes, attending this melancholy and notable affair. We cull from the Transcript, Journal and Traveller, respectively.

His serenity he said was established on religious conviction. He alluded to the ceremony of his execution and remarked that if he faltered it would be through no fear of dying, through no effect upon him of the horrible surroundings and accompaniments of his doom; but because of his misgivings as to the efficacy of his own repentance, as to the future to which he was going; because of the "clouds" that might come over his spirit at last. He hoped, however, that he should bear up—arranged that he should be tied by Mr. Andrews in preference to any other officer—and said that he expected to be tranquil during the night, although he might not sleep.

After Mr. Putnam retired, Prof. Webster resumed his reading of the Scriptures, which he alternated with an inward and inaudible prayer during which the two officers preserved perfect silence. Occasionally he would close the Bible, and burying his face in his hands, seem wrapt in supplication and thought.

The prisoner retired a little past 12, and was in a sound sleep a little before 1 this A. M. He slept till 6 o'clock, woke calm and refreshed, and maintained perfect serenity and self-possession. He ate a hearty breakfast, drank two mugs of tea, smoked a segar, and passed the balance of his supply of segars to the officers in attendance with whom he conversed cheerfully and freely.

In the evening of Thursday, officers Jones and Leighton were present in the cell, by the Sheriff's orders. Dr. Autnam wished more privacy, and the matter was finally compromised by dismissing the officers, and having Mr. Gustavus Andrews, the Jailor, alone present. Of this interview we cannot say much. There was no confession contradictory of that already made by the prisoner.— Prof. Webster declared himself willing to die on the gallows, as "a partial expiation of the great wrong he had done to society."

The devotional exercises in the cell, just previous to the execution, were very impressive. The invited witnesses were present, and Dr. Webster knelt in the centre of his room. When silence had been restored, Dr. Putnam, standing in the door of the cell, addressed the Throne of Grace in a brief and impressive manner, invoking God's Holy Spirit to accept the repentance of the fellow-being who was about to be sent into His presence, and beseeching that it might be sincere. He also prayed that the hope of forgiveness which the prisoner had been permitted to entertain might be realized; that strength from on High might sustain and support his family, that their days on earth might be crowned with blessings, and when time with them should be no more, that they all might meet and again be united in Heaven. He also invoked the blessing of the Almighty upon the family who had been brought to suffer from the sins of the prisoner.— He prayed that the ministers of the law might be sustained in the performance of the painful duty required of them, and that the scenes of that hour might be sanctified to all who witnessed it. Dr. Putnam concluded his prayer by committing

that he might be numbered with the redeemed of the Lord.

The criminal dropped between seven and eight feet, probably breaking his neck bone entirely off. During one or two minutes after he fell, there was a very perceptible shrugging of the shoulders, occasioned by the sudden contraction of the muscles. His feet were also drawn up once between two and three inches. With these exceptions, there was no other observable struggling. After remaining suspended just half an hour Drs. Henry G. Clark and Charles H. Stedman examined the body and informing the sheriff that life was extinct, that officer so declared it to the witnesses and spectators, and at the same time thanked the witnesses in the name of the Commonwealth for attending and aiding the officers of the law in the painful duty which had just been performed.

A cheap black coffin was then brought out and placed under the scaffold and the body lowered into it. The rope was then unloosed and taken from his neck and the cover put on the coffin.—It was then removed to an apartment connected with the jail, where it will remain till this evening when, under the charge of a sexton of Cambridge, it will be taken to the residence of his family, and from thence to Mount Auburn, where it will be deposited in the family tomb.

Hundreds of people stood upon Leverette street opposite the jail with the sun pouring down upon them, gazing at the massy walls of the jail building, not being able to obtain the slightest glimpse of the execution.

The roofs of the houses on Leverett st. and the windows were filled with spectators, one of whom we saw making use of a ship's spy glass to view the scene. On Cotting st., and in the little lanes that run from it to the jail yard, was also a large and excited crowd, and such was the eagerness of individuals to witness the scene, that they had no scruples in forcibly entering dwellings in the vicinity for that purpose. We saw two or three young men ascend to the roof of a three story house by the spout, at imminent hazard of life and limb, for this purpose. At another house entrance was effected by a number through a cellar door and it was with the greatest difficulty that the proprietor, aided by his family, could prevent the mob from taking forcible possession.

All the roofs and windows of nearly every house in the vicinity, that commanded the least view of the jail yard were crowded, yet no complete view could be had of them, except from the upper windows of houses in Lowell street. The doors of these houses were besieged by throngs, who used every means—both persuasive and forcible—to obtain admission. Most of the inhabitants of the street closed and locked their doors and windows, on one which we noticed a placard which read, "Not at home; I am no friend of hanging." Policemen guarded many of the back doors and rear entrances to these dwellings.

In one instance a lock of a dwelling in this street was picked by some of the "professional gentry" who were present, by the aid of a file, knife and wire, and some half dozen effected an entrance before the act was discovered by the person left in charge of the house. At another, a boarding house, a mechanic returned to his breakfast, being unable by reason of the crowd to obtain admittance at the door, a window was opened for him, but as he got in by that mode he was closely followed by two of the crowd, before the casement could be closed.

One individual, in sheer desperation at the entreaties and enquiries with which he was pestered, flung open the doors of his house on Causeway-street to the crowd, hundreds of whom passed through it to the roof, where, however, only a partial view of the top of the gallows could be obtained. There was quite a number of females among the spectators, at the windows and upon the roofs, and their convulsive start announced to spectators outside the moment when the last dread act was performed.

The crowds in the streets were composed of all classes, well dressed men and women standing in throngs, without the slightest possible chance of witnessing the scene, old and young men, clerks, laborers, negroes, and many of the lower dregs of society. While the carriages and other vehicles that stood in the vicinity, were evidence that the curiosity of many had brought them from some distance.

The crowd as a general thing was quiet and orderly, and no act of violence or disorder was committed, save that of entering the houses as mentioned above. Such, however, was the desire to obtain a view of the execution that considerable sums were obtained for an opportunity, and we

vidual to an officer if the latter would obtain him an admission to the scene. The officer of course would not listen to any such proposal.

The crime for which Dr. Webster suffered was committed on the 23d of November, 1849. He was arrested on the 30th of November, and had thus been in confinement for nine months.

The persons upon the scaffold were Rev. Dr. Putnam, Sheriff Eveleth, Deputy Sheriffs Freeman, Rugg and Coburn, Jailer Andrews and Jail Officer Holmes.

Professor Webster left no special communication for the public, nor did he retract to the last any statement made in his confession to Mr. Putnam.

He has, however, left a number of letters, addressed to various parties; and some of them may be hereafter communicated for publication.

Quite a number of applications have been made to see the prisoner during the last two weeks.—Clergymen from various parts of the county have sought an interview; and he has received numerous letters of an admonitory or consoling nature. The interviews he has, in most instances, declined. The letters he has read. Indeed, throughout his imprisonment, he has kept up his interest in outward affairs, although his thoughts have seemed to be mainly devoted to studies and meditations appropriate to his situation.

The painful task remains to inform the sufferer's family that their husband and father is no more. It will be done in the course of the day by Mrs. Wm. H. Proscott, and will not, we think, take them altogether unawares, as they must have had painful suspicions latterly that his time was near at hand.

ESCAPED FROM JAIL.—On the 21st inst. a woman by the name of Deborah Fuller, alias Righter, alias Carpenter, alias Carter, escaped from the jail in this village by means of false keys. She had been confined in jail some three months on suspicion of having murdered one Mrs. Righter, wife of Hiram Righter, of the town of Ephratah in the month of August, 1849, and in September following she was married to said Righter, the husband of the deceased woman. Righter had been at work from home and when he returned he brought this woman, Deborah, home with him, and within a short time after the wife of Righter died. Suspicions at once rested on this woman Deborah, which were increased by some little circumstances, until in May last when the body of the deceased woman was disinterred and a post mortem examination had, the stomach taken to the city of Albany and analyzed by various tests, as we are informed, and found to contain arsenic. This woman was then arrested and committed to jail to await the sitting of the Court in September next.

She made her escape about mid-day. The Sheriff was absent from home, and the woman of the house carried the prisoner's dinner to the door of the prison and handed it to the prisoner, who pretended to be very sick; by this means she induced the woman to go down stairs for some medicine for her immediately. The prison door being locked, and the woman who returned for the medicine supposing it not possible for her to escape, left the stair door open, prepared the medicine and when she returned the prison door was unlocked and the prisoner gone. It is supposed she must have had accomplices, from the fact that she could not have got a key without, and that no track has been got of her since her escape. Sheriff Potter offers one hundred dollars reward for her apprehension, or for information where he may get possession of her. The accused is a tall person, from 35 to 40 years of age, dark eyes, very dark brown hair, not a very full eye, rather dark complexion, broad forehead, middling high cheek bones and sharp chin, can be very affable and easy, and is, withal, a shrewd woman. Her native place is Worcester, Mass., and her maiden name was Deborah Carter.—*Fulton Co. Democrat.*