TELEGRAPHIC NEWS
FROM
ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

Defeat of the Disraeli Cabinet on the Irish Church Question.

Mr. Gladstone's Resolutions Re-affirmed and a Ministerial Crisis.

The Premier and Queen in Consultation.

Explosion of a Propeller at Buffalo.

ELEVEN PERSONS KILLED.

ENGLAND.

The Debate on the Irish Church Question—Highly Important Division and Defeat of the Cabinet—Speeches by Gladstone and Disraeli—Disendowment Again Voted—A Ministerial Crisis—The Premier in Consultation with the Queen.

LONDON, May 1—A. M.

The animated debate which was commenced in the House of Commons last evening on the subject of disendowment of the Irish Church was resumed, and involved in the first resolve of Mr. Gladstone's three resolutions, which were affirmed in principle by the previous vote of the House, was continued to a late hour, and, the House being in Committee of the Whole, the discussion was of more interest as it advanced, the most prominent men of the House making speeches at the close.

It soon became evident that a division would take place before the end of the sitting.

Lord Elcho opposed the Gladstone resolves as untimely and unnecessary.

Mr. Gladstone closed the debate on the liberal side with a powerful speech directed against the continued maintenance of the Irish Church as a State establishment.

Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Disraeli followed before the division.

The Debate.

LONDON, May 1—P. M.

The House of Commons went into Committee of the Whole immediately after assembling last night at the first of the Gladstone resolves on the Irish Church establishment. During the debate Mr. Walpole, in the course of his remarks in opposition to the Gladstone's resolves, said these attacks on a clergy, such as that of the Irish Church, who were bold for the purity of their doctrine and for their elevated learning and Christian zeal, were sure to awake the most disastrous results.

Lord Elcho followed. He said that the introduction of these resolves at the present time was unnecessary and unfortunate. The Roman Catholics of Ireland would never be satisfied with anything short of supremacy in ecclesiastical matters. He regarded it the issue presented to the House as an imperial one, for the Church establishments of England and of Scotland were menaced as well as that of Ireland. Once blows were struck at the whole system of the union of Church and State in the United Kingdom.

After the conclusion of Lord Elcho's argument, at a rather late hour, in the presence of a full House, there being an unusual attendance of members of both parties in expectation of a division, Mr. Gladstone rose and was loudly cheered.

He leader of the opposition commenced by saying that he could not complain of the result of this day debate, as eleven night's of discussion had fully demonstrated that the Irish Church establishment never did and never could fulfil the end of its creation. It was not the Church of the nation; it was not the Church of the poor, nor was it a missionary Church. It existed there only for the purpose of sustaining political supremacy on a form not natural to the people upon which it was imposed. That was the settlement of the nineteenth century. He would say nothing concerning the disposal of the Church property in Ireland; for more and better information was needed on question involving interests so extensive. The duty of Parliament now was to accept justice to Ireland.

Mr Gladst ne subsequently, alluding to the personal attacks which had been made upon him, denied in the most explicit manner that he had any connection with or interest in the policy or plans of either the Ritualists on the one hand or the Roman Catholics on the other. Discussing the arguments made against his propositions he said two leading objections had been presented to his plan for the disestablishment of the Irish Church. One was that it imperilled the existence of the Established Church of England; the other objection was that the time was inopportune. Ten years ago, said Mr. Gladstone, the people of Great Britain were indifferent, and the introduction of a great reform would have been untimely. Now the people are aroused, and the opportunity presented itself for an early and final settlement of the question. The strength of the Church of England lay in its own merits and in the voluntary zeal of her votaries far more than in her connection with the State. He expressed the belief that the Church of England would lose none of her strength, even if parted from the State. She had more to fear from her partisans than from her foes, and the reform of the Irish Established Church would strengthen the Church of England.

Mr. Gladstone resumed his seat amidst loud cheers and

Mr. Disraeli immediately rose in the ministerial benches to reply and close the debate. The Premier, in a moment of the most attentive interest, commenced a bitter speech, calling the scheme for the disendowment of the Irish Church one of confiscation and violence, and likely to end in its abolition in that country, a plan and result to which the people of England would never consent. Mr. Disraeli continued in this strain and line of argument to the termination of his address. He deplored the act of injustice contemplated by these resolves. It was an act which involved wide confiscation of property and menaced the rights of every corporation and of every person in the United Kingdom. It inevitably must predispose the public mind for a similar attack upon the Church of England, and it undoubtedly was intended to have such influence. But in spite of the virulence of the press and the pressure brought to bear by the advocates of change, he firmly believed the English people would never sanction the sacrifice of sacred things to party necessities, leading, as it was to lead, to results only to be described as revolutionary.

The Division.

At half-past two o'clock this morning the House divided on the first of Mr. Gladstone's resolutions, which reads thus:—"That, in the opinion of this House, it is necessary that the Established Church of Ireland should cease to exist as an establishment—due regard being had to all personal interests and to all ecclesiastical rights of property."

The tellers announced the results thus:—

For the resolve	330
Against the resolve	265
Majority against Disraeli	65

The announcement of the result was received with loud and prolonged cheering from the liberal benches. This is an increased majority of seven over the majority by which the government was beaten before the Easter vacation.

Course of the Cabinet.

Mr. Disraeli then rose and amid the most profound silence said this decision so altered the relations of the Ministry and the House of Commons that the government needed time to consider what action it would take. He accordingly moved that the House adjourn until Monday.

The motion was carried and the House accordingly adjourned, at three A. M., until Monday next.

The Premier Leaves for Osborne—Consultation with the Queen.

LONDON, May 1—3 P. M.

Mr. Disraeli left Downing street this morning direct for Osborne, where Queen victoria is staying.

The Premier will consult with her Majesty on the ministerial crisis occasioned by the vote of the House of Commons on the Irish question, and act as deemed best in the executive exigency.

Parliament Likely to be Dissolved.

LONDON, May 1—Evening.

The belief has become general that after the passage of the Reform bills for Ireland and Scotland, the Disraeli Ministry will dissolve Parliament and appeal to the people on the Irish church question. The *Globe*—the Ministerial organ—this afternoon in an editorial confirms this opinion.

What the British People Think.

LONDON, May 1, 1868.

All the city papers this morning comment at length on the debates, and generally consider the division a decisive one.

The London *Times* says no one can deny the immense significance of this event. Since the motion to go into committee the tories have gained three seats in the Commons, yet the sixty majority has grown to be sixty-six. A dissolution is talked of merely to frighten members.

The London *Herald* says the House of Commons, by a vote, the importance of which cannot be denied, affirms that the Irish Church should be disestablished; but the cause of the tories is secure as is also the voice of the country, as the late elections show.

The London *News* says the Irish Church is dead, and that the Premier disclaims the design of advising the Queen to act against the vote of the House of Commons. His duty is not to dissolve Parliament or resign, but to aid the progress of the resolves.

The London *Standard* says the division is one of want of confidence as compelling a dissolution, but fears that the liberals intend to pursue that course.

The Newmarket Races—Last Day's Sport.

LONDON, May 1, 1868.

The Newmarket stakes of 50 sovereigns each, three year old colts, to carry 122 pounds, filled 117 paying one mile seventeen yards (twenty-one subscribers), the Marquis of Hastings's The Earl walked over.

CANDIA.

Revolutionary War Reports—Severe Battles Between the Christian Insurgents and the Turks—Greek Allegations of Turkish Barbarities.

QUEEN'S HOTEL, LONDON, May 1, 1868.

Telegrams just received from Trieste report that the Athens journals to hand in that city contain important intelligence from Crete, to the effect that the insurrectionary war against the Turks is continued with much animation by the Christian revolutionists.

The Greek newspapers announce that a battle, which endured the entire day, was fought at Apocorona on the 14th of April, and that the insurgents claimed a victory in the result.

Fights had also taken place, it is said, between the army of liberation and the troops of the Sultan, on the 11th, 12th, 13th and 16th of April; but they ended without such decisive result as that had from the engagement of the 14th of April.

The Athens editors again allege that the Turkish soldiers commit great outrages on the inhabitants at every point where they obtain complete control on the island.

The steamers employed in running the Turkish blockade of the Candian coast, for the relief of the Christians and the landing of munitions of war for their use, continue to ply from the ports of Greece and the mainland.

PORTUGAL.

The United States Squadron in the Tagus.

LISBON, May 1, 1868.

The Mediterranean squadron of the United States fleet in European waters has arrived in the Tagus, including the flagship Franklin with Admiral Farragut on board. The Admiral was warmly welcomed on his return to this city.

IRELAND.

George Francis Train's Bankruptcy—Fenians Discharged from Prisons.

DUBLIN, May 1, 1868.

George Francis Train was brought before the Court of Bankruptcy this morning; but owing to the absence of the plaintiff, Mr. Hamilton, the case was adjourned to a future day. Mr. Train continues to denounce the proceedings against him as a political prosecution prompted by the British authorities.

DUBLIN, May 1, 1868.

E. Mahony, a head centre of the Fenian organization, and several other Fenians, who have been confined in jail here for some time past, have been discharged from custody and released from all further legal proceedings by a warrant issued by the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland.

FRANCE.

The Bank Returns.

PARIS, May 1, 1868.

The official returns of the Bank of France, published to-day, show that the metalic reserve of that institution has increased to 3,400,000 francs during the past week.

MEXICO.

Outrages on American Citizens at Monterey.

GALVESTON, May 1, 1868.

Special messengers from Consul Hart, at Monterey, Mexico, have arrived here on the way to Washington, bearing special despatches to Secretary Seward relative to wanton outrages on six American citizens at that place. It is not known whether any crime was alleged against these men, but the Consul reports that they were imprisoned among felons and vermin by order of the Governor's secretary, and made to do scavenger work and other menial and disgusting offices. On refusing to do this at first they were dogged by one of the convicts, and on being released a day or two after no apology or redress was made, and they were compelled to pay for the use of the valuables which had been taken from them on their committal. The names of these citizens are Montgomery, Rice, Potter, Kellogg, Cushman and Scanlon. The messenger left Monterey on the 24th of April, and brings no further news of importance.

CALIFORNIA.

The Democratic Convention—Election of Delegates—Nomination for Congress.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 1, 1868.

The State convention of the Democratic party of California now in session in this city has elected delegates to the Democratic National Convention, to be held in New York, on the 4th of July next. Ex-Governor Bigler is one of the delegates. Both wings of the party in this State are represented. It is expected that Mr. Axtell, the present member of Congress from this district, will be nominated by the delegates.

Departure of the Chinese Embassy—The Specie Shipped.

SAN FRANCISCO, May 1, 1868.

Hon. Anson Burlingame and the other members of the Chinese Embassy sailed from this port to-day, on board the steamship Colorado, bound for Panama. The distinguished ambassador was taken leave of by a large concourse of persons, who had assembled to witness the departure of the embassy. The forts in the harbor fired the customary salutes.

The Colorado has on board 585 passengers and carries, principally on New York account, $800,000 in treasure.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Election in Lancaster—A Republican Victory and Gain.

LANCASTER, Pa., May 1, 1868.

The city election took place to-day. The democratic majority for City Auditor is 324. There is a democratic loss on the Mayor since last year of 187 votes. The republicans gain eight members of the council, which make a tie vote on the joint ballot. One branch of the council is republican by three majority, the first time in many years. The republicans are jubilant, and are parading the streets with a band of music.

TERRIBLE DISASTER.

Explosion of a Propeller Boiler at Buffalo—Eleven Persons Killed.

BUFFALO, May 1, 1868.

A terrible catastrophe occurred here to-day, resulting in the death of eleven persons, the injury of others and a heavy loss of property. As the propeller Governor Cushman, commanded by Captain H. W. Thompson, was moving out of the lock at about half-past ten this morning, her boiler exploded, shattering the hull badly and making the vessel a complete wreck. The explosion was terrible in its effect, shaking the buildings for several blocks adjacent to the locality at which the disaster occurred. Its force was so great that one of the deck hands was hurled over a Sturgis elevator one hundred and fifty feet high.

The following is a list of those who were killed. anc. whose bodies have been recovered.

Peter McDermot, fireman.
Barney Lester, fireman.
Frank Smith, deck hand.
Lewis Anderson, deck hand.
Herman Frowing, deck hand.

The following named persons were killed by the explosion, but their bodies have not been found:—

R. S. Gilbert, first engineer.
John Durock, deck hand.
William Abbott, deck hand.
A. G. Sawark, deck hand.
George Lewis, deck hand.
Jeremiah Morre, deck hand.

The propeller Governor Cushman is totally destroyed. Mr. Dwight Scott, of Cleveland, Ohio, was her owner, and she was valued at $37,500. Partial insurance had been effected in this city upon her hull. Her cargo consisted of over 20,000 bushels of wheat, part of which was to be discharged at Port Colborne, to which place she was going at the time of the explosion. The wheat was insured in the Western Insurance Company of this city and in the Security and Home Insurance Company of New York.

Three persons were injured in addition to those killed. Among them is Thompson, who received a slight cut on the head. His wife was on board, but she fortunately escaped unhurt.

VIRGINIA.

Jeff Davis' Bail Bond to be Renewed.

RICHMOND, May 1, 1868.

Jeff Davis' bail bond will be renewed to-morrow in the United States Circuit Court. It is definitely announced that his trial be commenced on the last of this month or the middle of the next. He will not appear personally in the court to-morrow.

GEORGIA.

A Board of Officers to Investigate tne Election Affairs.

AUGUSTA, May 1, 1868.

General Meade has issued an order convening a board of officers at Atlanta on the 4th inst. to count the returns of the election and report the names of the officers elected to the Commanding General. The board is empowered to examine into the conduct of the election abuses, frands, &c., and report the fact to General Meade. The returns will be sent for persons and papers and all the authority necessary to make the investigation.

Firemen's Parade in Savannah.

SAVANNAH, May 1, 1868.

A grand parade of firemen took place to-day. Seven visiting companies and seven steamers were in the procession. The Germania of Savannah won the first prize.

ALABAMA.

Trial of an Editor by Military Commission—A Writ of Habeas Corpus Granted—General Meade Refuses to Stop the Trial.

MONTGOMERY, May 1, 1868.

Some time ago Mr. Ryland Randolph, editor of the Tuscaloosa *Monitor*, became engaged in an affray with a negro, which resulted in the negro being killed. Mr. Randolph was arrested and carried before the Circuit Court, where he was held to bail to answer for the offence. Being informed subsequently that the military authorities had issued an order for his arrest, he came on here and reported in person to Brevet Brigadier General Clanton, the commander of the district of Alabama, qy whom he was placed in confinement and his trial by a military commission ordered. Mr. Clanton, counsel for the prisoner, then, on Monday last, applied for a writ of habeas corpus from Judge Busteed, Judge of the United States Court in Alabama, and the application was granted. The military authorities, however, refused to obey the writ, and still hold the prisoner, whose trial was to commence today, the military court having assembled for that purpose. Judge Busteed has addressed General Meade, and the following telegraphic correspondence took place between them yesterday and to-day:—

MONTGOMERY, Ala., April 30, 1868.

To General MEADE:—Judge Busteed has granted a writ of habeas corpus in Ryland Randolph's case, returnable on Tuesday next, the 5th inst. Please stop the trial by military commission, which will commence at Selma to-morrow. Answer.

THOMAS H. CLANTON, Counsel.

ATLANTA, Ga., May 1, 1868.

To JAMES A. CLANTON:—The communication general declines to grant the request contained in your telegram of yesterday.

R. C. DUNN, A. A. G.

LOUISIANA.

Nominees to the Chicago Convention—The Rights of Conventions and Legislatures.

NEW ORLEANS, May 1, 1868.

The Radical State Convention to-day nominated H. C. Warmouth, W. P. Kellogg, Thomas W. Conway and Bernard Soulia delegates to the Chicago Convention for the State at large. Three of these are white men from Northern States, and the status of the fourth, Soulia, is doubtful.

The courts have decided in the case of the colored alderman who sued a convent for the non-admission of his daughter be dismissed, the convent not being a corporate body and therefore not liable to be sued. Quarantine orders have been issued.

MISSISSIPPI.

General Gillem's Intentions in Regard to the Coming Election—Personal Matter in the Convention.

JACKSON, May 1, 1868.

General Gillem has informed the Reconstruction Convention that no restriction upon electors other than those imposed by the Reconstruction acts will be recognized in the election for the ratification of the constitution. He will appoint the registrars and conduct the election in strict accordance with the reconstruction act. But if the Convention desires they may designate parties to be present at the counting of the votes. The election will be ordered about thirty days after the adjournment of the Convention.

In the convention a motion was made to-day made to appoint a committee to investigate certain charges against a delegate named Berry, which had been published in the Lexington *Advertiser*, and signed by General McBride. The charges are certified by affidavit, but the convention refused to sustain the motion.

ILLINOIS.

The Methodist Episcopal Conference—Opening of the Session.

CHICAGO, May 1, 1868.

The fifteenth quadrennial session of the General Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church convened this morning, Bishop Morris presiding, assisted by Bishops Scott, Ames, Janes, Clark, Thompson and Kingsley. Two hundred and fifty members were present, besides a large number of delegates from England, Ireland, Canada, &c.; the Southern States were represented. The roll was called by the Rev. Doctor Harris, who was then elected secretary. The rules and order of the last General Conference were adopted for the government of the present session. It was agreed to hold sessions daily, from nine o'clock A. M. till twelve o'clock M. The question of admitting representatives from the Mission Conference of the Southern States, two of whom are colored, was then taken up and discussed during the remainder of the session. Dr. Foster, of New York, proposed to refer the question to a committee, while Dr. Reed, of Cincinnati, urged their immediate admission. The motion to refer the matter to a committee finally prevailed by a large majority.

The Conference then proceeded to fill the standing committees.

MARYLAND.

Expulsion of Aldermen of Baltimore on Charges of Corruption.

BALTIMORE, May 1, 1868.

Three members of the Board of Aldermen were expelled this afternoon by a vote of fourteen to two, on a report of a special committee charging them with corruption and bribery in connection with the issue of Western Maryland Railroad bonds.

THE DEATH PENALTY.

Shocking Revelations of Crime and Depravity in North Carolina—Thomas Dula Hanged for the Murder of Laura Foster.

STATESVILLE, N. C., May 1, 1868.

To-day took place one of the most singular executions in the annals of crime and under the most extraordinary circumstances on record. A terrible crime was perpetrated and a trial that has not its equal even in the Burdell trial followed. The evidence was entirely circumstantial; but at nearly half-past two P. M. Thomas Dula suffered the death penalty, for the murder of Laura Foster, in the presence of nearly three thousand persons of his own race and color.

On the 28th of May, 1866, a foul, inhuman murder was committed in the western portion of Wilkes county, in this State, the victim being Laura Foster, a beautiful, but frail girl, who was decoyed from her father's house in Caldwell county to a place in Wilkes known as the Bates Place, and here brutally murdered. The body was then removed about half a mile from the scene of the murder, and was placed in a grave already prepared for it. Late in August of the same year the body was discovered in a state of such decomposition that it was difficult to identify it. There was a deep gnash in the left breast just above the heart; the wound had evidently been inflicted with a large knife or dagger, causing death almost instantaneously. It was also believed that the murdered woman was *enceinte*.

The disappearance of Laura excited no alarm for several days, as it was supposed she had gone off to get married or to visit some acquaintances in Watauga county; but at length the opinion became general that she had been foully dealt with, and a general search was instituted, without success at the time. The community in the vicinity of this tragedy is divided into two entirely separate and distinct classes. There is one occupying the fertile lands adjacent to the Yadkin river and inland counties is educated and intelligent, and the other, living on the spurs and ridges of the mountains, is ignorant, poor and depraved. A state of morality unexampled in the history of any country exists among these people, and such a general system of debauchery prevails that it is "a wise child that knows his father." This is the class Tom Dula and the unfortunate girl Laura belonged to, and where some ten or twelve families are living in the manner described. It is a poor country, and the people have no interest in internal growth, and an attempt had been made to conceal the blood by covering it with bushes.

Soon suspicion attached to Thomas Dula, a returned Confederate soldier, and one Pauline Foster, an illegitimate cousin of the deceased girl, like him also frail, as the guilty parties. Pauline was then a married girl, Mrs. Melton, and between her and Dula a criminal intimacy was known to exist, as also was the case between the deceased and Dula, and hence suspicion more particularly fell on the culprit because Pauline had mysteriously disappeared for a time after the murder. Her character was the most abandoned of all, and under the influence of brandy she admitted, when asked, that "Tom Dula and me killed Laura!" but, apparently dreading the ordeal, would make no further revelations. A day subsequent to the murder Dula was criminated by Mrs. Melton, confirmed the above statement, and she was arrested and confined in the jail of Wilkes county. Here she was joined by Dula, whose presence in the same jail was upon the evidence of Pauline, as was also Mrs. Melton as accessory after the fact. The trio were found against both by the Grand Jury of Wilkes, and on the 24th of the present the trial was removed to Iredell county.

The most intense interest was manifested in this trial, which occupied several days. The people here and of the surrounding counties. Nearly all the people on the Bates Place were examined, and the most extraordinary revelations of depraved morality were developed. Wilson Foster, the father of the deceased, testified that when he left the house the night of Laura's disappearance his horse was also gone; that his daughter was then at the Bates Place; that he knew the track by a peculiarity in one of the hoofs. He never saw his daughter alive again, but he could easily recognized her body; knew Dula had been in the habit of visiting his daughter, and had seen them in bed together, and that they had two private conversations on the Monday and Wednesday respectively preceding her disappearance. Several witnesses went to show that Laura and Dula were both seen on the morning of the murder travelling by different routes from the direction of her home to the Bates Place, with a view, as was supposed, to marry Dula; but before the arrangement could be implemented by which the grave was dug, the day previous, and that he had been heard to say that he contracted disease from the murdered girl for which he would be revenged upon her. It was also proven that Dula had taken the name, and was known by that alias from Tennessee attempted to escape.

This comprises the essential testimony, and the witnesses generally appeared impressed with the idea that Dula was guilty, though some among them appeared anxious to protect the immortal interests fear of some of his reckless associates in the mountains. Another fact attempted to be brought in this case was disease contracted by Dula from the murdered woman was imparted by him to Mrs. Melton, who communicated to the commission of the crime that account. An appeal was granted from the first trial, and a second one had, when the same witnesses were examined, the same testimony elicited, and the same state of excitement existed. Dula's counsel made a most powerful effort for the defence made powerful forensic efforts which were considered models of ability, but which was the evidence that in other efforts that that of guilty could be rendered.

Mrs. Ann Melton has not yet been tried, though she was present at both of Dula's trials, and, like him, heard his sentence without exhibiting any visible emotion. She is apparently about forty years of age, is the illegitimate daughter of one Carlotta Foster, a woman of the town, and herself has entirely uneducated, and though living in the midst of depravity and ignorance has the manners and bearing of an accomplished lady, and the natural powers that should grace a high born beauty. This may in part account for the great influence she exercised over Dula, with whom she is illegitimately connected, and also for the fact that he persistently refuses all knowledge of and participation in the murder.

Pauline Foster, the principal witness against both the accused, is remarkable for nothing but debasement, and may be dismissed with the statement that she has several times been a witness before the Recorder's court of this county.

Thomas Dula, the condemned man, is about twenty-five years old, five feet eleven inches high, dark eyes, dark curly hair, and though not handsome, might be called good looking. He fought gallantly in the Confederate service, where he established a reputation for bravery, but since the war closed has become reckless, dissipated, and a desperado, of whom the people in his vicinity had a horror. There is every indication in his expression to indicate the hardened assassin—a fierce glare of the eyes, a great degree of malignity, and a callousness that is revolting. He laughs and sings upon the scaffold in defiance of his approaching end, and exhibits a shocking indifference as to hereafter, refusing evidently all spiritual comfort from attending clergymen. Yesterday evening his sister and her husband, who came with a wagon to take his body away, left a note from his aged mother, entreating him to confess the truth for her sake, and thus secure for himself peace of mind and of conscience. But further than asking that they be allowed to see him, which request was refused, he took no notice. He laughed at the note, and her showed any signs of repentance, and seemed to have some hope of escape, though he did not say so. A confession had been looked for, as he might either exonerate or implicate still further his alleged accessory, Mrs. Melton, but this he refused to do, and left the impression that she is guilty and shall not be "cheated" upon by him, though the contrary is generally believed. He parted with his family, laughed and spoke lightly, but ere the jailer left him he was observed to be deeply engaged in prayer, and in the chain being fitted through with a pice of window glass, which was also found concealed in his bed. While he was in the jail he played the part of a lunatic pretty well, and in a jocose manner said it had been so for a month past. Before being finally left for the night by the jailer, he requested that Mr. Allison, one of his counsel, be sent for, and while clasping him with the strictest injunction of secrecy, while he was living, handed him the following, written in a rude manner with pencil:—

STATEMENT OF THOMAS C. DULA.

I declare that I am the only person that had any hand in the murder of Laura Foster.

APRIL, 30, 1868.

Besides this he had also written a lengthy statement of his life, but without any reference to the murder, which was intended as an exhortation to young men to live virtuously and not be led astray in paths of vice, as he was. There was nothing remarkable in this document, though it covered fifteen pages.

Left alone in his cell on the last night of his earthly existence, the same fortitude he had exhibited under his trials, sentences and imprisonment began to give way, and he nervously paced the floor as far as the chain would permit. This was soon interrupted through the whole night by an attempt to court "Nature's sweet restorer," but in vain. His fine appetite for life is excepted, and the condemned, after the weary minutes of that night, saw the last sun he should ever behold shed its golden rays through the bars of the window. After breakfast he sent for his spiritual advisers, and seemed for the first time to make an attempt to pray; but still to them and all others denying his guilt or any knowledge of the murder. His theory seemed to be that he would show the people that he could die game; with an awful crime resting upon his soul. Early in the morning he was baptized by the Methodist clergyman, and from that time engaged fervently in prayer; but when left alone was heard speaking incoherently, words occasionally dropping from his lips in relation to the murder, but nothing that was intelligible. And thus were away the last hours of the condemned.

So long had this execution been pending, and as the murder was committed in one county and the trial had taken place in another, it became generally known throughout the entire western section of the State, and by seven o'clock A. M., dense crowds of people thronged the streets, the great number of females being somewhat extraordinary. These, however, came mostly because it was a gala day, and afforded them an opportunity to make purchases, but a certain class indicated by a well-dressed appearance, rustic attire, a quid of tobacco in their mouth, and a certain mountaineer look, were evidently attracted by that morbid curiosity to see an execution or some other ignorant classes of society. The preliminaries were all arranged by Sheriff Wasson. A gallows constructed of hewed pine, erected near the railroad depot, in an old field—as there is no public place of execution in Statesville—was the place selected for the final tragedy. A guard had been summoned to keep back the crowd and enforce the terrible death penalty, and for the better preservation of order the barrooms were closed. The curious numbers of the people who had gathered around the gallows before visiting this structure, eyeing it with strange feelings, and as it was merely two upright, with a space for a platform of about ten feet and a cross piece on top, under which the cart with the condemned had to pass, their singular characteristics were shown.

Previous to his being taken from the jail to the gallows many of the condemned man's former companions came to see him from the mountain region in which he lived appeared upon the streets, and some singular reminiscences of his former life were related. Among them that it was generally believed he murdered the husband of a woman at Wilmington, in this State, during the war, with whom he had then criminal intercourse. The opinion of all such as had known his terrible, desperate character, and from their knowledge of his former career an anxiety and singular curiosity was excited among them to see how he died. Few here were who pitied him, dying, as they believed him, guilty without a confession, and none sympathized with him.

At eighteen minutes before one o'clock, the guard being formed in hollow square, the condemned was brought forth assisted by Sheriff and some assistants, and with a smile upon his features, took his seat in the cart, in which he was also his coffin, beside his sister and his brother-in-law. The procession moved slowly through the streets, accompanied by thousands of people on foot, on horse and blacks, many being in carriages and many on horseback and on foot. While on the way to the gallows he looked cheerful and spoke continually to his sister of the Scriptures, assuring her that he had repented and that his peace was made with God. At the gallows throngs of people were already assembled, the number of females being about equal to that of the males. The few trees in the field were crowded with men and boys, and under every shade and shelter a dense mass gathered huddled together every imaginable species of humanity.

Soon the procession came in sight, accompanied by horsemen dashing over the field, dispersing the crowd, and such a general system of confusion that it is "a wise child that knows his father." This is the States Place, where the murder was committed in blood marks, and where some ten or twelve families are living in the manner described. It is a poor country, and the people have no interest in internal growth, and an attempt had been made to conceal the blood by covering it with bushes.

Soon suspicion attached to Thomas Dula, a returned Confederate soldier, and one Pauline Foster, an illegitimate cousin of the deceased girl, like him also frail, as the guilty parties. Pauline was then a married girl, Mrs. Melton, and between her and Dula a criminal intimacy was known to exist, as also was the case between the deceased and Dula, and hence suspicion more particularly fell on the culprit because Pauline had mysteriously disappeared for a time after the murder. Her character was the most abandoned of all, and under the influence of brandy she admitted, when asked, that "Tom Dula and me killed Laura!" but, apparently dreading the ordeal, would make no further revelations. A day subsequent to the murder Dula was criminated by Mrs. Melton, confirmed the above statement, and she was arrested and confined in the jail of Wilkes county. Here she was joined by Dula, whose presence in the same jail was upon the evidence of Pauline, as was also Mrs. Melton as accessory after the fact. The trio were found against both by the Grand Jury of Wilkes, and on the 24th of the present the trial was removed to Iredell county.

The most intense interest was manifested in this trial, which occupied several days. The people here and of the surrounding counties. Nearly all the people on the Bates Place were examined, and the most extraordinary revelations of depraved morality were developed. Wilson Foster, the father of the deceased, testified that when he left the house the night of Laura's disappearance his horse was also gone; that his daughter was then at the Bates Place; that he knew the track by a peculiarity in one of the hoofs. He never saw his daughter alive again, but he could easily recognized her body; knew Dula had been in the habit of visiting his daughter, and had seen them in bed together, and that they had two private conversations on the Monday and Wednesday respectively preceding her disappearance. Several witnesses went to show that Laura and Dula were both seen on the morning of the murder travelling by different routes from the direction of her home to the Bates Place, with a view, as was supposed, to marry Dula; but before the arrangement could be implemented by which the grave was dug, the day previous, and that he had been heard to say that he contracted disease from the murdered girl for which he would be revenged upon her. It was also proven that Dula had taken the name, and was known by that alias from Tennessee attempted to escape.

This comprises the essential testimony, and the witnesses generally appeared impressed with the idea that Dula was guilty, though some among them appeared anxious to protect the immortal interests fear of some of his reckless associates in the mountains.

Another fact attempted to be brought in this case was disease contracted by Dula from the murdered woman was imparted by him to Mrs. Melton, who communicated to the commission of the crime that account. An appeal was granted from the first trial, and a second one had, when the same witnesses were examined, the same testimony elicited, and the same state of excitement existed. Dula's counsel made a most powerful effort for the defence made powerful forensic efforts which were considered models of ability, but which was the evidence that in other efforts that that of guilty could be rendered.

Mrs. Ann Melton has not yet been tried, though she was present at both of Dula's trials, and, like him, heard his sentence without exhibiting any visible emotion. She is apparently about forty years of age, is the illegitimate daughter of one Carlotta Foster, a woman of the town, and herself has entirely uneducated, and though living in the midst of depravity and ignorance has the manners and bearing of an accomplished lady, and the natural powers that should grace a high born beauty. This may in part account for the great influence she exercised over Dula, with whom she is illegitimately connected, and also for the fact that he persistently refuses all knowledge of and participation in the murder.

Pauline Foster, the principal witness against both the accused, is remarkable for nothing but debasement, and may be dismissed with the statement that she has several times been a witness before the Recorder's court of this county.

Thomas Dula, the condemned man, is about twenty-five years old, five feet eleven inches high, dark eyes, dark curly hair, and though not handsome, might be called good looking. He fought gallantly in the Confederate service, where he established a reputation for bravery, but since the war closed has become reckless, dissipated, and a desperado, of whom the people in his vicinity had a horror. There is every indication in his expression to indicate the hardened assassin—a fierce glare of the eyes, a great degree of malignity, and a callousness that is revolting. He laughs and sings upon the scaffold in defiance of his approaching end, and exhibits a shocking indifference as to hereafter, refusing evidently all spiritual comfort from attending clergymen. Yesterday evening his sister and her husband, who came with a wagon to take his body away, left a note from his aged mother, entreating him to confess the truth for her sake, and thus secure for himself peace of mind and of conscience. But further than asking that they be allowed to see him, which request was refused, he took no notice. He laughed at the note, nor showed any signs of repentance, and seemed to have some hope of escape, though he did not say so. A confession had been looked for, as he might either exonerate or implicate still further his alleged accessory, Mrs. Melton, but this he refused to do, and left the impression that she is guilty and shall not be "cheated" upon by him, though the contrary is generally believed. He parted with his family, laughed and spoke lightly, but ere the jailer left him he was observed to be deeply engaged in prayer, and in the chain being fitted through with a pice of window glass, which was also found concealed in his bed. While he was in the jail he played the part of a lunatic pretty well, and in a jocose manner said it had been so for a month past. Before being finally left for the night by the jailer, he requested that Mr. Allison, one of his counsel, be sent for, and while clasping him with the strictest injunction of secrecy, while he was living, handed him the following, written in a rude manner with pencil:—

STATEMENT OF THOMAS C. DULA.

I declare that I am the only person that had any hand in the murder of Laura Foster.

APRIL, 30, 1868.

Besides this he had also written a lengthy statement of his life, but without any reference to the murder, which was intended as an exhortation to young men to live virtuously and not be led astray in paths of vice, as he was. There was nothing remarkable in this document, though it covered fifteen pages.

Left alone in his cell on the last night of his earthly existence, the same fortitude he had exhibited under his trials, sentences and imprisonment began to give way, and he nervously paced the floor as far as the chain would permit. This was soon interrupted through the whole night by an attempt to court "Nature's sweet restorer," but in vain. His fine appetite for life is excepted, and the condemned, after the weary minutes of that night, saw the last sun he should ever behold shed its golden rays through the bars of the window. After breakfast he sent for his spiritual advisers, and seemed for the first time to make an attempt to pray; but still to them and all others denying his guilt or any knowledge of the murder. His theory seemed to be that he would show the people that he could die game; with an awful crime resting upon his soul. Early in the morning he was baptized by the Methodist clergyman, and from that time engaged fervently in prayer; but when left alone was heard speaking incoherently, words occasionally dropping from his lips in relation to the murder, but nothing that was intelligible. And thus were away the last hours of the condemned.

So long had this execution been pending, and as the murder was committed in one county and the trial had taken place in another, it became generally known throughout the entire western section of the State, and by seven o'clock A. M., dense crowds of people thronged the streets, the great number of females being somewhat extraordinary. These, however, came mostly because it was a gala day, and afforded them an opportunity to make purchases, but a certain class indicated by a well-dressed appearance, rustic attire, a quid of tobacco in their mouth, and a certain mountaineer look, were evidently attracted by that morbid curiosity to see an execution or some other ignorant classes of society. The preliminaries were all arranged by Sheriff Wasson. A gallows constructed of hewed pine, erected near the railroad depot, in an old field—as there is no public place of execution in Statesville—was the place selected for the final tragedy. A guard had been summoned to keep back the crowd and enforce the terrible death penalty, and for the better preservation of order the barrooms were closed. The curious numbers of the people who had gathered around the gallows before visiting this structure, eyeing it with strange feelings, and as it was merely two upright, with a space for a platform of about ten feet and a cross piece on top, under which the cart with the condemned had to pass, their singular characteristics were shown.

Previous to his being taken from the jail to the gallows many of the condemned man's former companions came to see him from the mountain region in which he lived appeared upon the streets, and some singular reminiscences of his former life were related. Among them that it was generally believed he murdered the husband of a woman at Wilmington, in this State, during the war, with whom he had then criminal intercourse. The opinion of all such as had known his terrible, desperate character, and from their knowledge of his former career an anxiety and singular curiosity was excited among them to see how he died. Few here were who pitied him, dying, as they believed him, guilty without a confession, and none sympathized with him.

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