

THE DISPATCH.

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HANDLING CRIMINALS
IN GOOD OLD DAYS

Tortures and Monotony For Young, Old, Lunatics and Witches—George Third no Exception

"To secure as far as possible that no one under the age of twenty-one should be found inside of a prison through a combination of probation, supervision, and 'Borstal' treatment." That is one of the salient features of the new British Crimes Bill. This "most Christian Crimes Bill," as it has been termed, strikingly illustrates the progress we have made in modern times in regard to the consideration and treatment of criminals. It seems almost incredible, indeed, that in the memory of our grandfathers, boys of from twelve to sixteen years of age were whipped, flogged, and herded together on hulks, the floating prisons in the Thames at London. On these hulks young and old—"criminals, lunatics, feeble-minded, and outcasts of all kinds, were cooped up for periods generally varying between one and seven years.

Horrible, indeed, were the punishments meted out to young criminals at the beginning of last century. There was, however, even in the days when the petty thief was transported for fourteen years for stealing a loaf, and both men and women were flogged in public at the fall of a cart and pilloried and branded for minor offences, a certain humor in the poetic punishments meted out to dishonest tradesmen. For instance, a baker who sold loaves which were short of weight was shown with the bread tied round his neck. A fishmonger who had been selling bad fish was paraded with a collar of stinking smelts slung over his shoulders.

Awful Australia

The horrors of the transportation system were almost as bad as the terrible punishments of medieval times, and in the penal settlements in Australia and New Zealand the prisoners committed desperate assaults often upon each other by pre-arrangement, "from absolute weariness of their lives," in order to get away from those dreadful places, if only as witnesses, or even as persons accused of murder. At Maguatic Harbor, on one occasion, three prisoners crossed; one was to be slain, another was to strike the fatal blow, the third was to be a witness of the planned deed; so they would get a respite—a "grim holiday." At Port Arthur one man murdered his own particular friend and companion that both might get free from it.

Modern Cruelty

Even in Britain as late as the seventies, the life in our prisons was so bad that to gain admission to the infirmary, which was well-named "the Jail Paradise," convicts resorted to all manner of desperate devices. Irritating colored matter, such as bits of wool or stitches from a garment, were often introduced beneath the skin to set up artificial sores. In the early days of Queen Victoria's reign local magistrates were sentencing prisoners to no fewer than 300 lashes. Witches and lunatics were also subjected to terrible treatment. The imputation of sorcery was enough for a death warrant, and it is estimated that during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries 30,000 alleged witches were hounded to death in England. There was no proper or humane treatment for lunatics, even Royalty being flogged and ill-treated while insane. And one of the most amazing incidents in the history of the country is the manner in which King George III. was treated when he became insane. His body was immediately enclosed in a machine which left it no liberty of motion. He was sometimes chained to a staple. He was frequently beaten and starved. They left him to be knocked about by a German servant, and the first doctors kept him even from his own children. . . . Such was the orthodox treatment in those days applied against the highest in the land.

SILHOUETTE BUTTERFLY

A Drop of Ink on White Paper Does the Trick

This is to show you how you can make silhouette pictures of butterflies even if you have no artistic ability. Secure several sheets of writing paper and some good black ink. Drop a large blot of ink on the center of a sheet of paper, fold the paper over so the blot comes about the center



of the crease and rub gently, using just enough pressure to spread the ink between the folds. Now unfold the paper and see what you get. If you want to make real fancy butterflies you might try using colored inks. Those shown in the cut were made as described.

THE DOLLAR MARK

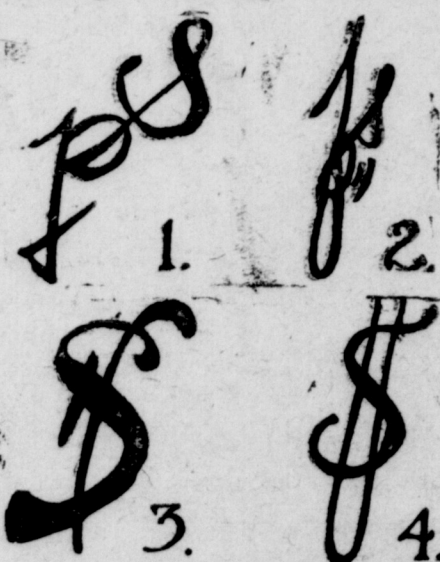
Its Sign and Its Rescue From Limbo of Forgotten Things

The grandmother of the dollar mark has been discovered!

A scientist, a professor of mathematics, Prof. Florian Cajori, dean of the school of engineers of Colorado college, is the discoverer. He worked on the problem for years.

It is well known that the word "dollar" itself was a corruption of the old German word thaller or thaler. It came to this continent with the Spanish, and really took the place of "pieces of eight" in common speech as it was easier to say. Then suddenly, just about the time of the outbreak of the revolutionary war the "dollar sign" appeared.

The first men who used it doubtless knew where it came from, but the knowledge was soon forgotten, and



Here's the way the dollar mark developed, as shown by the way it was written in old letters.

For a century its origin has been a mystery.

It is the general impression that the "S" is simply the letter "U" combined with the letter "S" from the initials "U. S." for United States. As a matter of fact, the mark came into being before there was any such thing as the United States.

As Prof. Cajori informs us, the dollar mark is the real descendant of the Spanish abbreviation, "Ps" for "pesos," or Spanish dollars, and it came into being as a result of the business dealings constantly in progress between Spanish-Americans and English-Americans during the days before the revolution. The earliest known use of it was in 1775, but it was seldom used until after 1826.

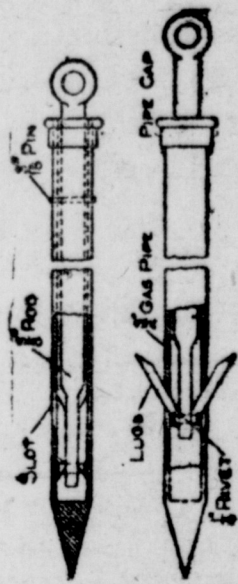
Robert Morris, one of the big men of the early days of the republic received a letter from a correspondent in New Orleans in 1778 that gives the very first authentic record of it, that is still in existence. Robert Morris used the mark in a letter—but his mark had but one line running through the "S," which was the first form of the mark.

It came about this way—the "p" to abbreviate "pesos" was made with a long stroke carried upward, and the small "s" made at the top. It was but an easy thing for a careless writer to twine the "s" around the "p"—and there is your dollar mark! When the "S" became large, and the top loop of the "p" was lost and the rest of it turned to a "U," the dollar mark as we know it was complete. Later the "U" became two straight strokes, and now is often written with a single stroke.

SOLID TENT PEG

Stays in the Ground Where Put—Flukes Like Anchor

A tent peg that will stay in the ground when put there is easily made from iron pipe and a few other pieces of metal. The peg will last for years and no matter what pressure is put against it, cannot be easily dislodged.



After it is driven in the ground. Slots are cut in opposite sides of an ordinary piece of gas pipe. A pointed wooden plug is fitted to one end of the pipe and a cap with a hole in it to permit a steel rod to pass through is fastened to the other end. Two pieces of steel or iron are attached to the end of the rod, the pieces not being too wide to pass into the pipe. They are made long enough to go through the slots. When the peg is driven into the ground a rope is attached to the end of the rod and it is given a quick jerk. This causes the two pieces of metal to go through the slots and pass into the ground like the flukes of an anchor.

Saskatchewan has more than doubled the number of her milch cows since 1908.

MR. JOS. WHITELEY.

Expert Piano, Reed and Pipe Organ TUNER.

Thirty-five Year's Experience

Orders taken at "C. R. Watson's Music Store" or "The Dispatch Office"

FREDERICTON
BUSINESS COLLEGE

Gives a well-planned course of instruction in the essentials of commercial work; and does not require students to waste time on those things which are unnecessary or out-of-date.

Prepare yourself to fill a good position by taking one of our courses. ADDRESS

W. J. OSBOEN, Principal.

FREDERICTON, N. B.

Newfoundland To Go Dry
Soon?

St. John's, Nfld., Oct. 30.—Prohibition will be submitted to popular vote in Newfoundland next month, and it is expected that the measure will be adopted by a big majority. At present St. John's is the only place on the island where liquor can be legally sold, and the majority in its favor has been steadily dwindling. The prohibition law, if adopted, will go into effect next July.

Printed Butter Wrappers
FOR SALE
AT
"The Dispatch Office"

To Rent

To RENT.—A ten [10] room house on Connell Street, opposite Elm Street. Possession given Nov. 1st.

Apply to

T. C. L. Ketchum.

20-1f.

Plans Of Germans Are Demoralized

London, Nov. 1.—Germany's plans in the Riga district have been completely demoralized by the successful campaign of British submarines in the Baltic Sea, and the complete closing of the Gulf of Riga by Russian mine fields, says the Petrograd correspondent of the Post.

"The Germans are now endeavoring with the most feverish energy," the correspondent says, to hasten the restoration of the slender and inadequate railway services in their rear.

This work, here, has been carried on in leisurely fashion, because of the belief that present needs could be adequately served by the sea route. This plan of campaign has been made more vital by early snowstorms, which the Russians declare presage a winter of unusual severity.

"The belief heretofore is that when the Germans are compelled to undergo the rigors of a real Russian winter, constantly annoyed by guerilla attacks and with inadequate supply facilities, they will lose more men by sickness, an suffer greater demoralization than comes from even the worst defeats in the fields. It is reported that the Germans already are experiencing terrible hardships and severe epidemics of sickness, although the weather still is what the Russian soldiers call 'warm.'"

Doubled Guard About Magazines

Tokio, Oct. 30.—The visit of suspicious characters to the powder magazines at Tokio, Kyoto, and Osaka, has resulted in the military authorities doubling the guard about the magazines.

Severe On The Kron
Printz.

In his new war book "The Drama of 365 Days," just published in London, Mr. Hail Caine gives a portrayal of the German Crown Prince. The author who had many opportunities in the Engadine of studying the Kaiser's heir, says the result was not an entirely unfavorable impression. "I saw a young man without a particle of natural distinction, whether physical moral or mental. The figure, long rather than tall, the hatchet face, the selfish eyes, the meaningless mouth, the re-creating forehead, the vanishing chin, the energy that expressed itself merely in restless movement, achieving little and after aiming at nothing at all; the uncultivated intellect, the narrow view of life, and the world, the morbid craving for change, for excitement of any sort; the indifference to other peoples' feelings, the shockingly bad manners, the assumption of a right to disregard and even to outrage the common conventions on which social intercourse depends—all this was so far as my observation enable me to judge, only too plainly apparent in the person of the Crown Prince." It is related that a few particularly flagrant and deliberate acts of rudeness, imperiling the safety of several persons in the village street of the Crown Prince of Germany was told to his foolish face by an Englishman, who need not be named, that he was a fool and a damned fool, and ought to be kicked off the road.

NOTICE.

Will the people please take notice that "I am prepared to FRAME or ENLARGE in both FLAT and OVAL style. Have the best stock of MOULDINGS, MIRRORS, HYMN BOOKS, BIBLES, TESTAMENTS and FRUIT PICTURES that I ever had. Also a nice stock of CHRISTMAS MOTTOES. Some new styles,

Henry J. Seeley
Somerville
Car. Co. N. B.

Miss Hay went to Houlton on Tuesday to visit Mr. and Mrs. W. A. McCready for a few days.

The Rev. Geo. A. Ross of Florenceville, was in town Tuesday, the guest of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Hay.

The members of St. James A. M. E. church held a pleasant Halloween Social in their church on Monday evening. Home cooking and candy were sold. Mrs. Shepherd Hudlin won the Pound cake and Hubert Nelson the box of chocolates. The sum of \$18.00 was raised.

MEXICAN PITA PLANT.

Produces a Fiber Much Lighter and Stronger Than Hemp.

A great variety of fiber producing plants which could be utilized in the manufacture of cordage and kindred industries are to be found growing wild in the state of Tabasco, Mexico, but their proper classification and the numerous uses to which they can be applied have been ignored.

In the municipalities of Cardenas, Comalcalco, Paraiso and Nacajuca extensive tracts of land are covered with an exuberant growth of the pita plant. Possibly, with the exception of ramie, the pita produces the finest fiber of all textile plants. It is said that, although its weight is one-fourth that of hemp, its tensile strength is fully three to four times greater, and its qualities are not impaired by exposure to the severest weather or immersion in water. Its fiber is glossy white with a silken sheen, and it could no doubt be utilized in the manufacture of linen cloth. Paper manufactured from this fiber has a beautiful white, smooth surface and is of greater strength and lasting qualities than linen paper.

The pita leaves are eight to twelve feet long and about two to three inches broad, gradually tapering to a switch-like point. It is stated that about ninety leaves will produce two pounds of fiber and that the leaves from each plant can be removed at least three times during the year, each plant producing two to three pounds of fiber annually.

In rich soil the pita plant will reach full development in two years. It thrives best in low, wet lands under dense shade where water is constantly evaporated instead of becoming stagnant. At present this fiber can be obtained only in small quantities owing to primitive processes employed by the Indians in its extraction. They place the long, slender leaves on a smooth board in a slanting position and with the thin edge of a rib of a horse or cow, which they select as nearly semi-circular as possible, remove the pulp from both surfaces of the leaf. The fiber is then dried in the sun and after a short exposure becomes beautifully white and glossy.

The Indians dwelling on the border of this state and Chiapas manufacture hats and reticules with this fiber which are exceedingly fine. The women occasionally manufacture handkerchiefs equal in appearance to the finest linen—Consular Report.

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