

Saladin
1844

in two gallons of water for an hour when milk-warm, bottle it and cork it close, and it will be fit for use in twenty-four hours. One pound of this yeast will make eighteen pounds of bread.

TO PRESERVE POULTRY IN WINTER.—About the 15th November, the writer purchased a quantity of poultry for winter use. The insides were carefully drawn, their place partially filled with charcoal, and the poultry hung in an air loft. It was used through the winter till about the first of February, and although some was kept 70 days, none of them was the least affected with must or taint—the charcoal having kept it sweet.

Colonial News.

Nova Scotia,

Halifax Times, July 23.

TRIALS OF THE SALADIN PRISONERS.

The doors of the Court House were opened a few minutes before ten o'clock, and that part of the Court appropriated to spectators, including the gallery, was soon filled. The Members of the bar took their places, and the Grand Jury were accommodated in the Jury Box on the left of the Bench. At ten o'clock the Admiral arrived and took his seat on the Bench. The Chief Justice and Judge Haliburton sat on his left, Judges Bliss and Hill on the right. The prisoners, Galloway, Carr, Hazelton, Jones, Johnson, and Anderson, were placed in the dock. Orders were given to the Sheriff to prevent a repetition of the noises which had disturbed the Court at a previous sitting.

The Chief Justice desired the Attorney General to proceed with the Cause. The list of Petit Jurors being called, it was found that owing to the Jury being summoned for 11 o'clock, instead of 10, a sufficient number were not in attendance. Subsequently however they made their appearance to the number of twelve, who were sworn. The following are their names:—John Whytall, foreman; W. H. Goreham, Jos. G. Ross, James Bartlett, Geo. Bolton, Charles Naylor, Andrew Downs, James Uhlman, Jno. Nugent, S. H. Harrington, Hy. T. Wright, C. Symons.

The Judge directed that the Jury should be notified in the usual manner, which was done.

Scott Tremain, Esq. Registrar, proceeded to read the indictment against the prisoners Jones, Hazelton, Johnson alias Trevasikiss, and Anderson. It consisted of four counts, the 1st charged them with piracy—2nd with taking the property on board—3rd with mutiny and piratically taking possession of the ship and money—and the 4th, with piratical acts.

James B. Uniacke, Esq., stated to the bench that in an interview he had with Trevasikiss and Anderson, they had instructed him to withdraw their plea of not guilty—and in answer to an observation of the Chief Justice, said, that if they thought it right he was desirous to fulfil their intention.

The Chief Justice asked the prisoners separately if such was their desire. Trevasikiss replied in the affirmative, and asked leave to read a few lines from a paper which he held in his hand. Anderson (the Swede) did not appear to understand the import of the Chief Justice's question. Mr Uniacke said that from his limited acquaintance with the English language, he had found it difficult to make him understand, or to gather his meaning—and it was deemed best that the former plea of not guilty should be retained in his case.

The Attorney General called upon two witnesses, John O'Brien and Malcolm Sellers, for examination.

The first examinations before Judge Archibald were put in, and also the confessions, which being identified, were read by the Registrar.

W. Young and L. O'Connor Doyle, Esqrs. addressed the Jury on behalf of Jones and Hazelton. The Chief Justice after a forcible statement of the law to the Jury, in which he cautioned them against being led away by the forcible and eloquent appeals of the Council, commented upon the evidence, which his Lordship stated to be complete as to the act of piracy. That there was nothing to justify the plea that the men had been forced to the commission of crime by the apprehension of danger to themselves. For every act that was committed each was as responsible as the others. It was a fearful tragedy that had been brought before them—in which the actors were men whose feelings should have led them to protect each other's lives. The peace

of society, their duty to their country, and to their own consciences, made it necessary to punish such offences. He knew of no other course they could pursue than to find them guilty, and that verdict their duty to society, to their own consciences and their God, demanded of them.

The jury retired and in about twenty minutes thereafter came into Court and returned a Verdict of GUILTY against the Prisoners, Geo. Jones, John Hazelton, Wm. Johnson, and Charles G. Anderson.

The Attorney General gave notice that the Prisoners would be arraigned again to-morrow under an indictment for murder—and the jury were notified to attend at 10 o'clock.

The Court opened on Friday at 10 o'clock, a. m. The prisoners Hazelton, Jones, Johnson and Anderson, were arraigned at the Bar for murder, and the Attorney General was about to proceed with the business of the Court, when

Mr Doyle, on behalf of the prisoner John Hazelton, moved the Court that he be allowed to withdraw his plea of not Guilty, and to have that of Guilty recorded. Mr Young made a similar application on behalf of Geo. Jones, and Mr Uniacke on behalf of Johnson alias Trevasikiss, and of Anderson the other prisoners.

The Chief Justice directed the Registrar to put the question formally to each of those persons, and they severally pleaded not Guilty.

The Attorney General stated the case of The Queen against Wm. Carr and J. Galloway for murder.

The Registrar read the indictment against the Prisoners, which consisted of two counts, the first charged them, that on the 16th of April on the high seas, they threw into the sea from on board the Saladin, a person whose name is unknown, whereby he came to his death by their hands. The 2d count gave the name of John Fielding as the person in that way murdered on that day.

The Attorney General stated the case with his customary ability.

After the Registrar had read the confessions of Carr and Galloway, which conveyed a strong impression that they were compelled to the act for which they were arraigned, by fear for their own lives, and that they knew nothing of the mutiny and murder of the captain and crew until after they were committed,—the Jury was addressed in a powerful speech in their behalf by Mr. Uniacke. He urged upon them with surprising eloquence, the circumstances which should lead them to bring in a verdict of acquittal, concluding his fervent appeal by trusting that the Almighty, without whose permission a sparrow cannot fall to the ground would inspire them to return a verdict that they might afterwards reflect upon without one pang of conscience.

The Attorney General permitted some certificates of character in behalf of the prisoners to be read, the Bench after such permission making no objection.

The Chief Justice charged the Jury.

The Jury retired, and were absent about half an hour and returned with a verdict of Not Guilty against both the prisoners.

The proceedings under the indictment for the Captain Fielding's son, for which the prisoners were again arraigned, were precisely similar with regard to the evidence adduced.

Mr. Uniacke again addressed the Jury.

The Chief Justice in charging the Jury expressed satisfaction with the manner in which the Counsel had this time performed his duty—if the circumstances in which the prisoners were placed was new and extraordinary it was his duty to tell them so. But it was the duty of the Court to lay down the sober principles of law, which were to guide them in coming to a just conclusion. If the men at the Bar were compelled by an overwhelming power to pursue the course they did, he would feel it his duty to tell them (the jury,) they were criminally responsible—but as before, he must say to them that this was not borne out by the facts of the case. He did not sit there to urge a verdict of guilty against the prisoners, but if the law demanded it, it was his imperative duty to tell them so. His Lordship then reviewed the evidence, and charged the jury to the same effect as in the previous trial.

The Jury retired, and were absent about an hour and a half—when they returned into Court with a Verdict of Not Guilty.

The Attorney General intimated to His Lordship, that though no indictment remained against the prisoners, it was possible they would have to prepare one

on another charge—and suggested that they be remanded until to-morrow. His Lordship ordered, and the Court adjourned.

The Court met at the hour appointed on Saturday morning. The prisoners were at the Bar. Wm. Young, Esq., Counsel for Hazelton, endeavoured to set aside the finding of the Jury, by a legal argument against the construction of the Court, and its competency to try the prisoners. He was replied to by the Attorney General, and Jas. F. Gray, Esq. After hearing which, and considering the argument, the Judges overruled the objections, and proceeded to pass sentence upon the four men—Jones, Hazelton, Johnson and Anderson, who had pleaded Guilty.—His Lordship addressed them forcibly and pathetically upon the consequences of their heinous crime, directing also his observations to the densely crowded court—and impressing their doom as a warning upon all who witnessed it.

The prisoners received their sentence with great fortitude, preserving their usual demeanor, and appearing in no way dismayed at a fate which it is evident, from the moment of confession they must have anticipated as just conclusion to a series of revolting crimes.

When the sentence of the law will be carried into effect is not known. The unhappy criminals will likely have some time to prepare themselves for the awful change that awaits them.

SENTENCE.

“George Jones, John Hazelton, William Trevasikiss, alias Johnson, and Charles Gustavus Anderson—you have been indicted for the murder of Alexander McKenzie on the high seas. You at first pleaded not guilty to that indictment but the whole circumstances of your unhappy case having been investigated under another charge, that of Piracy; you subsequently withdrew your plea, acknowledged the crime, and in so doing have, I think, been well advised. We have, by these proceedings become fully informed of all the facts. It appears that you sailed from Valparaiso, on board the Ship Saladin, under the command of the man for whose death you have been brought to justice.

“It is said that a wicked man, who was unfortunately a passenger, seduced you from your obedience to the Captain with whom you sailed—to the God who created you,—and plunged you into crimes of barbarity and atrocity from the contemplation of which the mind recoils.

“It has been stated by your Counsel and the idea is put forward in the confessions, that you committed those crimes under the influence of terror. But little is there in the circumstances to support this view of the case for a more bold and daring attempt has rarely been recorded—it was one requiring great boldness and desperate courage. There were eight men to be killed, and four of you, associated with the unhappy man who is no more, attempted this great crime.—There could be no terror or apprehension here, for the attempt could not have been successful if it had not been carried out with consummate art.

“In what state were you left after the commission of these dreadful crimes? Three of your officers were hurried out of existence—three of your shipmates who ought to have been endeared to you by common duties and companionship, were also destroyed. The tempting prize, for which you had waded through all this blood, was in your possession, and let those who now surround you dwell on the moral lesson which is taught by your unhappy fate. No sooner were you in possession of the ship, than distrust and guilty fear crept in among you, and induced you to hurry the great seducer, by whom you had been corrupted, after the victims that had been already cast into the sea. When this was done, there was a helpless youth still to be disposed of, and let all reflect here that one crime leads to another. There was no excuse, no shadow of apprehension, to palliate the murder of this boy, but his death was necessary for fear that he might become an instrument of detection and punishment. This youth disposed of, you were the sole possessors of the treasure for which you had stained your hands into innocent blood—you were upon the trackless deep, with all the world before you. In course of time you were found on the coast of this Province. You were seduced by the hope of gain—but where is now the treasure for which you perilled your peace here, your happiness hereafter? It is in the custody of the proper authorities—you have received no benefit from it, but are here to receive a sentence of death, for

coveting that which you had no rightful claim.

“Let each and all of the numerous audience that now contemplate your sad condition, remember that often it is only the first step in crime that can be resisted. These unhappy victims are hurried without warning into the presence of their Maker—you have had and will still have time to make your peace with God.—You will still have the aid of pious Clergymen, to prepare your final departure: in their hands I leave you. Nothing remains for me but to pronounce the awful sentence of the law, that you George Jones, you John Hazelton, you William Trevasikiss, alias Johnston, and you Charles Gustavus Anderson, be taken to the place from whence you came, and thence to the place of Execution there to be hanged by the neck till you are dead, and may that God, whose mercy, if sought aright, all may obtain, have mercy on your souls.”

The prisoner, Johnston, here said, that he did not wish the crime of killing the boy to rest upon their families. He had no share in that, and did not wish it done.

CONFESSION OF GEORGE JONES.

I, George Jones, first joined the Saladin, at Valparaiso, crew 12 in number, and two others (Captain Fielding and his son George,) was working my passage as Sailmaker, but acted at steward, by Captain McKenzie's request, until after passing Cape Horn, when J. Galloway took the situation, and I repaired some of the sails. While in the cabin, as steward, frequent differences occurred between Captain McKenzie and Captain Fielding: the latter in consequence would often refuse to come to table at meals; and I have heard Captain McKenzie say to the mate on these occasions that it served him right for giving Fielding a passage free. When Captain McKenzie came on deck, Fielding several times cursed him, and used abusive language. Used then to come to me and tell me what he had said about his quarrels with Captain McKenzie, and then talk of the amount of money on board, and what a fine prize a pirate would make of them. Asked me if I would fight against them if attacked. He would not. Captain McKenzie used to drink a good deal. Fielding on one occasion said to me—“Now Jones, if you want to save your life, now is the time. I have spoken to the carpenter, and I intend to be master of this ship.” At another time, Fielding, in my presence, made a motion to show how he would cut Captain McKenzie's throat, saying, at the same time, “Damn you.” This was on the ladder going from the Cabin to the deck, and had his back to him (Fielding.) When I attempted to acquaint Captain McKenzie of it he stopped me, saying, “you demanded Irishman, I want to hear nothing.” While I acted as steward I scarcely ever had a civil word from him. He was continually cursing and swearing at me. One afternoon Captain Fielding said to me. “You did not come on deck as I requested last night; you had best do it. You will lose your one life if you don't. The other watch will do it, and you will be killed.” I understood that he meant by this that we were to take possession of the vessel. I soon after mentioned this to Hazelton, in the galley, by Fielding's directions. Hazelton laughed, and said, with an oath there could not be a better chance; there was a great deal of money on board. Hazelton went out. W. Johnston then came in, and I said to him, “There is a curious work going on; that Fielding is a queer man. He wants to make a haul—Hazelton will probably let you know about it.” Before night it was known to Hazelton, Johnston, and myself. They both told me Fielding had spoken to them about it, and that all was right. A day or two passed over, and on Friday we were bending sails. The Dutchman was getting them out, and I said to him, “There is going to be a curious work on board.” He then asked me what was that, and I said that Fielding, Jack and them were going to take the Ship, and kill Sandy (meaning Captain McKenzie, thus named by the men). Anderson replied to this immediately, “By God I'll take a knife and cut his throat (meaning Captain McKenzie); he shall no more strike me away from the helm.” I then mentioned to Hazelton what Anderson had said, and he replied that he would get him all right—that he would talk to him.—He did so when in the foretop; and Anderson willingly consented, and expressed more satisfaction than any one on board. He taked and laughed about it. Captain Fielding then came to me and said that the vessel must be taken that night (Friday).