

THE RELIGIOUS INTELLIGENCER.

THE APPROACHING EXECUTION.—On Tuesday next, the 15th inst., John A. Monroe must suffer the extreme penalty of the law. It is generally conceded that the Governor General could not, considering the circumstances of the case, do otherwise than he did in declining to grant the prayer of the petition for the commutation of the sentence. The sympathy of the whole community is extended to the aged parents, and the wife and children of the unfortunate condemned, but this does not remove the conviction universally entertained that the life of the criminal must be the penalty of his awful crime. His position is to be commiserated, and may we not hope that he will, before being ushered into eternity, be brought to realize its awfulness, and seek repentence and —News.

The Halifax *Gazette* announces the granting of the coastwise trade which does not appear in the above memorandum.

A HALIFAX VESSEL FIRED AT BY SPANISH SLOOP.—A letter from Captain Alkema, of the brigantine *Teist*, to the owner, John Taylor, Esq., of Halifax, reports a high handed outrage by a Spanish steamer. On the 12th ult., about 1 o'clock, when the *Teist* was about four miles from the light of Cenfuegos harbor, on the passage from New York, a Spanish steamer fired on her twice, first a blank shot and then a ball. The *Teist*'s flag had been hoisted half an hour before, when the steamer was made out to be a man-of-war. Capt. Alkema has no idea why the shots were fired. The intention could not have been to make the *Teist* heave to, as she was running very slowly, and was permitted to proceed after the firing of the shots, without further interference —News.

He is said to have made admissions of his guilt, though up to the time of writing no formal confession has been made, or if made, it has not been given to the public. He will probably make a full confession, at least it is hoped he will, because of the relief it will be to the public mind.

The execution will not be public, but will take place within the goal limits, at 8 o'clock in the morning. The law also provides that a bell shall be tolled for a quarter of an hour before, and a quarter of an hour after the execution. Immediately after the execution of the sentence, the medical officer must examine the body, and certify to the fact of death. A Coroner's jury will then hold an inquest, to ascertain the identity of the body, and declare what was the cause of death. The body cannot be handed over to relatives, but must be buried within the limits of the goal. Sad is the thought, that a fellow-being should have been guilty of a crime which has brought upon him so dreadful a punishment; but "whose shadelid man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed." We must hope that the tragic end of the course of sin in this instance, may be a warning to many who are walking in the ways of the destroyer.

On Tuesday it was rumored that John A. Monroe had been detected in preparing to make an attempt to escape from goal. The Sheriff has been exceedingly indignant, and allowed his family and friends almost unlimited intercession with him. He is not manacled or chained, and the only additional provision made for his security is, that he is to be confined in the prisoner's chamber; it is said that something in the prisoner's manner; a cheerfulness and buoyancy, and gaiety, around the suspicions of the Sheriff, and he caused a careful examination of his person, and of his cell to be made. A number of pieces of tow candles were found on the prisoner's person. For what purpose he had these is not known. It is said that some other articles also were discovered, and that one of the keepers afterwards admitted that an attempt had been made to bribe him to connive at the prisoner's escape. The number of keepers is now doubled; the watch is changed every four hours, and no one is admitted to see the prisoner except the clergymen who attend him. The Sheriff, it is said, alarmed at what he saw, is determined to do his duty vigorously and firmly. —*Freeman.*

EUROPEAN AND NORTH AMERICAN RAILWAY.—The following is a comparative statement of Traffic Receipts for the month of January, 1870, compared with the corresponding months in two previous years:—

1868. 1869. 1870.

Passengers, \$3,110,76 \$24,639,64 \$4,675,28

Freight, 7,743,66 6,185,45 6,185,78

Mails and Sundries, 581,47 792,62 612,77

Totals, \$11,435,91 \$24,649,75 \$11,463,83

THE CREW OF THE BRIG "MARTHA" PROBABLY SAVED.—In the absence of any positive information as to the fate of the crew of Mr. McArthur's brig *Martha*, wrecked at Montevideo on the 3rd ult., it should not be lost sight of, that on the 19th ultimo, Captain Rose, of bark *Kate Sanctor*, reports having passed a brig abandoned and lumber laden, in lat. 43°30', long. 67, but could not make out her name. She had not been long absent, and part of the deck load was still remaining. The *Mart Martha* had been for Cardenas on the 11th ult., and went ashore, as shown on the 23rd, two days after being seen by the *Kate Sanctor*—for there is every probability of the direful vessel reported by her being the *Mart Martha*. If so, the crew in all likelihood were first taken off by a passing vessel.

EXTRA FEES IN CROMWELL.—Messrs. White, Trower, Peabody & Grinnell were destroyed by fire on Sunday morning, between two and three o'clock. The Police were the first to discover it, and notified No. 2, but of course it would be impossible for one of the city engines to reach the place at this season of the year. The building was entirely consumed and nothing but the two chimneys are left standing.—*Tel.*

THE WRECK OF THE "NAVIA."—The following telegram, says the *Telegraph*, was received by Mr. F. Tufts:

Rockland, Me. Feb. 7.—"Navia" lost on Isle Hau, during snow storm, night second. Crew saved. E. F. Ford.

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The *Union Advocate*, describing the operations of a new fishing firm says:

"When the weather is favourable for carrying on the business, Messrs. Babson pay out weekly at Richibucto, roughly estimated, about \$600; and in harbor at Newcastle, about \$200. The above items, showing the workings of our firm only, will give an idea of the sources of wealth which a mercantile Providence has bestowed upon very doors, and which strange to say, our capitalists as a general rule have considered almost beneath their notice; at least, their actions would convein me that."

MAGDOL. Feb. 5.—It is reported that the Duke of Montpensier, candidate for the throne of Spain, will be altogether abandoned. Prince George—Catholic—37 years of age, son of the King of Saxony, is now talked of in some quarters, while others purpose Charles of Prussia.

DETACHES RECEIVED FROM INDIA.—The despatches received to-day from India by the overall head confirm the previous announcement of the arrival of the *Great Eastern* at Bombay. She will soon commence the work of laying a cable across the Red Sea.

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BRITISH AND FOREIGN.—LONDON, Feb. 3.—Since the assembling of the Ecumenical Council seven of its members have died, and four have left the city.

LONDON, Feb. 4.—*Brigit Martha* from St. John, N. B., was wrecked off the coast of Ireland.

Ship *Andrew Lomis*, Captain Perry, from Ardrosson for Philadelphia has put into Cork leaky.

Material reductions in the rates of dockage are proposed in the Birkenhead Docks.

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