

The Morning Star is published every day except on Sundays and public holidays. It is published at the rate of ten cents per copy in advance.

Registered Letters, under the new system, which went into effect June 1, are a very safe means of sending small sums of money.

Obituary notices, tributes of respect, and eulogies are published in the Morning Star at a special rate.

The circulation of the Morning Star is larger than that of any other daily newspaper published in North Carolina.

A striking feature in modern criminal jurisprudence is the constantly growing disposition to extend the justification of crime by the plea of insanity.

The assasination of an entire family in France is a conspicuous instance of crime almost incredible in its enormity and brutality.

The shocking details of this fiendish murder suggest the inquiry, at every step, of the possibility of a sane human being obtaining his own consent to become the author of such a crime.

The development of the case it has been made manifest that Traupmann had been powerfully affected by the perusal of Sue's fiction of the "Wandering Jew," and that he was finally overcome by a morbid aspiration to become the hero of some bloody performance.

Who struck Billy Patterson? once agitated the country to an alarming extent; but that was a trifling affair compared to the important interrogatory: "Who captured the Cuba?"

The family of Belknaps seems to be almost as numerous as the historic house of Smith. Ordinarily the extent of the Belknap household would be a matter of very small moment.

It may well be doubted whether some base motive, avarice, revenge or a passion for shedding human blood, does not prompt nine out of ten of the crimes, for which ingenious Attorneys so frequently and successfully offer the plea of insanity.

In the old style of indictment, it was the custom in charging the accused with a capital offence, in order to make the offence appear more heinous, to speak of the accused "being instigated thereto by the devil."

In these days of superior refinement and more delicate phrases, when "whitewashing" everything that is disputable, is so much in vogue, that phrase is merely the equivalent of saying that the criminal was insane.

The insatiation of Satanic passions has however never been admitted as an extenuation of crime, and why should insanity be assumed to carry with it justification of the horrible deeds for which it is so often the false cloak?

Ultimately courts of justice will be driven to refuse to entertain the plea of insanity, or to regard all criminals as insane persons in the eye of the law.

The general impression existing here concerning the division of the spoils in case the sloop-of-war Cuba is condemned seems, to our mind, at variance with good judgment.

That impression is to the effect that the Collector of Customs of this Port is the party who is entitled to halt the value of the Cuba in the event of her condemnation.

To our mind the conviction is clear that the officers and men of the U. S. gunboat Frolic are the only parties who have even a shadow of claim to any portion of the value of the Cuba.

There has never been any capture of the Cuba except by officers of the U. S. Navy, nor any surrender by Commodore Higgins, except to Lieutenant Commander Pearson of the gunboat Frolic.

If we are correctly informed, there was no legal seizure of the Cuba made by the U. S. Marshal while she lay at anchor near Smithville.

Commodore Higgins brought his ship to the city in compliance with a request of Deputy Marshal Neff, who expressed a desire that the Commodore take this step pending an investigation of the character of the Cuba.

We do not profess to understand the law in this case; but we take a practical view of the question; and, so viewing it, we are led to the conclusion that if there has been any capture of the Cuba it has been effected by the U. S. gunboat Frolic.

It is a matter of no interest to us who "gobbles up" the spoils; but we do not think we err in our judgment as to who the "gobblers" will be.

The cash value of the Cuba is probably \$50,000; so \$25,000 may be considered the prize to which somebody will be entitled, provided the case is decided adversely to the defendants.

Of course the Cuba cost more than \$50,000; but who will pay more than that amount for her?

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was not the present Belknap, and like the friend of the illustrious Mr. Toddes, he was "not this man, but another man."

The Belknap was killed during the "late unpleasantness," or died before the war, which amounts to the same thing, so far as his capacity for an efficient administration of the War Department is concerned.

So far, then, the question: "Who is Belknap?" has not been satisfactorily answered.

Perhaps, like Mr. Richard Dazzie, Belknap would be very much obliged to some one who is good at solving conundrums, to gratify his and the curiosity of the public, as to his personal identity.

Meanwhile the magnificent panegyrics upon the new Secretary of War are just a little cloudy.

In the New York Tribune of a recent date, occurred the following, which taken in connection with the vacillating and disingenuous course of the Radicals regarding Cuba, may fairly be considered as a piece of bitter irony:

One year from Sunday last the Cuban insurrection began with a handful of patriots under Céspedes at Yara.

Yesterday Cubans and Americans heartily celebrated the fact by a demonstration in the City Hall Park, and by a crowded meeting at the Cooper Institute.

On many hotels and private houses the young flag of free Cuba was given to the breeze; nor can its defenders and friends complain that American sympathy was wanting to honor it gladly.

We certainly would not censure the Cubans and their sympathizers for celebrating the anniversary of the first patriotic uprising in behalf of Cuban freedom.

It was a very natural and decorous demonstration. But they would have been equally justified in holding an indignation meeting, and expressing their scorn for the unscrupulous leaders of an unscrupulous party, who encouraged them, by promises of aid and sympathy, to make the effort for freedom, and now, under the pretence of neutrality, harass them with every species of embarrassment and petty annoyance.

There could be no more positive guarantee than was given the Cubans by the Radicals, of aid and sympathy, upon the one condition of abolition of slavery in the island.

This condition was promptly given, and honorably complied with. The Cubans surrendered five hundred millions of productive property, and in return they receive a cold neutrality ostensibly, but really a secret hostility.

It is the mission of Radicalism to make dupes of those who confide in its assurances.

Oliver Logan threatens Boston with a visitation from herself accompanied by a portable olla podrida in the shape of one of her lectures.

Whereat Boston grows uneasy and shows symptoms of a spasm. One of the high-toned organs of that aesthetic metropolis warns the lady's friends that they may well "feel an anxiety" concerning the event of her reappearance before that indignant community, without an "amplé apology" for her disparagement of Boston audiences in a New York newspaper.

This clearly points to a duel. Olive should at once make the amende honorable to the chivalrous Bostonians. Her courage is unimpeachable, but in such a dilemma we question its availability.

A Convention of the "Survivors Association" of the State, will be held in Charleston on the 18th of November.

Rev. W. A. Gamewell, who had charge of the M. E. Church at Sparlingburg, S. C., has been compelled to retire from the duties of his charge on account of feeble health.

A Mr. Hunter, of Columbia, has a machine for pounding and polishing rice. Its capacity is four or five hundred pounds, with pestles weighing 200 pounds—capable of cleaning fifty bushels of rice in twelve hours.

The last issue of the Columbia States Agricultural and Mechanical Society for the sixth annual Fair, to be held at Columbia on the 10th, 11th and 12th of November.

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The Buffalo lunatic cobbler, who built a \$200 pair of boots for Grant, and failed to get an office because he was not a relative, now advertises himself as "Boot-maker to his Excellency." They have not decided what asylum they will send him to.

P. H. Scott, express messenger, who was arrested in Charleston a short time since, on the charge of stealing \$1800 from the express safe at Laurensville, was brought before the grand jury of Laurens county last week, and two true bills returned against him—one for larceny and the other for breach of trust.

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