

M. Jas. E. Renwick

Independent Herald.

"THE TROJAN AND TYRIAN SHALL BE TREATED BY US WITHOUT DISTINCTION."

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We go to press on Thursday evening, therefore, all matter intended for publication in a given week's issue must reach us by Tuesday noon of that week.

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FAITH.

Faith is the soul's clear sight, the inner eyes That gaze abroad with more than mortal powers

Beyond the limits of this world of ours; Through the dark valley that betwixt us lies It sees the pearly gates of Paradise; The golden streets, the fair immortal flowers That bloom perennial in angel bowers, And catches glimpses of the heavenly prize. The shadows fly before its prescient ken, As melt the mists before the rising day; Through the thick gloom it tracks a shining way

From the dim "now" to the eternal "then." Faith is a growth of pure, immortal birth, Oft mixed with doubt as virgin gold with earth.

AN EPIDEMIC OF CRIME.

Some writers are discussing the question as to the connection between hot weather and crime, alleging as a proof of the fact that there is a connection; that crime is more prevalent in warm than in cold climates. The excessively warm summer and the unusual amount of crime recorded in this country during the summer has given rise to the discussion. That there has been an extraordinary amount of crime is a fact, whatever the reason may be, and it has not been confined to any particular section of the country, either. Murders, robberies, burglaries, etc., are matters of daily record, until they have become so common as to scarcely excite remark. One of the reasons, perhaps, is the laxity with which justice is administered, and the loop-holes that defective laws present for the escape of criminals. There is no law-breaker, however bad or desperate, who cannot command the best of legal talent to defend him if he has the money to pay for it, and that talent will exhaust all the expedients the law presents to acquit him, however guilty. The guiltier he is the harder they will work for him and the more assiduously will they explore all the devices of the profession to carry their client through, when the facts and the law itself are against him. The harder the case, even aside from the fees involved, the more professional pride struggles to acquit the man whose cause and defence are espoused.

Another reason for the failure to convict and punish in so many cases arises from the character of juries empaneled, the better class of citizens, as a rule, shirking duty on the juror's bench. But few men like to serve on juries, and eight of ten will evade the call if they can. This leaves duties of that kind, especially in the larger cities, to be performed by men who are a kind of professional jurors and who hang about the court houses with a view of being put upon the list for the sole purpose of drawing the per diem, having no more profitable occupation. There is no remedy for

this unless citizens who have the good of society at heart will do their duty and take their proper part in seeing the laws properly vindicated and enforced, and culprits punished. They should not when, in this respect, they lead a mere passive existence, exclaim in horror at the increase of crime and fly off in denunciation of the officers whose duty it is to suppress it, but who cannot suppress it without the co-operation of the people whose encouragement they need.

It would be much better, and more conducive to the ends of justice, if the substantial, intelligent people of every community would take more interest in the manner of administering justice, instead of acting with indifference, and when crimes become so prevalent and notorious as to enforce attention, organizing themselves into vigilant committees to do what the law, through their neglect, fails to do. Juries ought to be, when practicable, composed of men of more than ordinary intelligence, who could not be confused and bewildered by the mystifying pleadings of lawyers, who, when the law is not with them, depend for success on either winning the jury by their fine talk or by so skillfully mixing up the case as to send them all to sea. Good lawyers study their juries and measure their mental make-up with more precision than the tailor measures their limbs and shape for a suit of clothes.

Another reason, no doubt, for the prevalence of certain kinds of crime, is the common indulgence in intoxicating drinks, the records showing that at least four out of five cases of deaths arising from shooting, robbery, etc., are caused by difficulties originating in liquor. These murders are generally committed on the spur of the moment, without cause, and would not be committed but for the motive power of liquor that propels the hand that deals the blow.

We want reform in the killing and other crime line, and we want it bad.—Charlotte Observer.

THE STORM ON OUR COAST.

The Wonderful Instinct of Birds, Porpoises and Fish.

[Cor. of The Raleigh News and Observer.]

MOREHEAD CITY, Aug. 26, '81.

Your readers have all read the warnings of the storm, which swept our coast on Thursday. On Wednesday, Capt. Gabrielson, of the United States revenue cutter Colfax, received information through the telegraph signal office, at Fort Macon, of a terrible

hurricane passing over St. Thomas, West Indies, at the rate of sixty miles an hour, and of its coming in direction of the Atlantic coast. Hardly had this information been received by electricity, and twenty hours in advance of the wind, when the skies became blackened with sea birds of every kind, size, color and description. As a leader, fast flyer and demoralizer, the white and blue cranes took the lead, then came the curlew, willet, snipe, sea-chicken, and in fact everything in the way of a sea fowl that anyone has ever seen or heard of, and many that your correspondent never knew existed. The fast flyers, the slow flyers, the high flyers and the low flyers, all went west as if the devil were after them.

The strange conduct of the birds was equaled if not surpassed by the finny tribe. In front of the Atlantic, and in immediate view, runs Newport River, a narrow, turbid stream. All through the day the fish, in schools of millions, passed up the stream, jumping, skipping and swimming as if chased by some monstrous sea-serpent. Mulletts, blue fish and mackerel by the million; pig fish, flounders, sheepshead, &c., by the barrel; shrimp and diamond-back terrapin also seemed to join in the rout. Last, but not least, came the shiny black porpoises, in droves so great that the river looked as if it was one slowly-moving stream of ink. Hundreds if not thousands of barrels of fish must have anticipated the great commotion at sea and gone up this quiet little stream. Dr. Arendell, one of the oldest, most respectable and observing citizens, asserts that he never before beheld such a phenomenon. Up at Newport, where the stream is ten feet wide, we are informed that it is entirely blocked up by fish and wedged in with porpoises. Now, how these porpoises can turn around or back out, to let the fish flow back, is more than your correspondent can tell.

To-day the birds are slowly making their way back. Where they went, why they went, and how they knew so far in advance the approaching storm, will ever be a mystery.

Since the birds began their return, a telegram received by Capt. Gabrielson announces the passage of the hurricane at Hatteras. It was of almost unexampled severity. The seas ran like mountains, and broke clear across the banks. The birds were right in their calculations. To-day five boats left for Newport to capture fish and see the strange scenes. H.