The Philadelphia National Gazette contains an interesting notice of a new and authentic work on the Police and Crimes of London, the details of which, it is remarked excite wonder and afford abundant moral instruction. The editor says:—We shall proceed to condense a few, for our readers in order to convey an idea of the extraordinary character of the aggregate. The British metropolis alone would furnish occupation greatly superabundant, to the most zealous and intelligent philanthropist, throughout the longest life that ever was desired for the nvention and accomplishment of schemes of order and benevolence."

The constables in the metropolis are near eleven hundred in number: "those on whom the office devolves by operation of law, are, for the most part, above its functions; those who actually discharge them, are unworthy of the trust."

Crime has increased considerably; in a ratio greater than that of the population. *Drinking* among the lower class —chiefly laborers,—is specified as one of the main causes. Gaming has extended, & reached a dreadful pitch. Some of the many gaming houses, or "hells," are on the largest and most luxurious scale. The net profits of one of these, in one season amounted to more than one hundred and fifty thousand pounds sterling. In one night a million of money was "turned over," and the sum of ten thousand guineas occasionlly staked on a single chance. The total gain, in one year, of the principal "hells," fell but little short of three millions sterling. The amount of sums won and lost by gaming annually is estimated at between seven and eight millions.

From 1790 to 1825, 49,754 commissions of bankruptcy were issued. From returns of affidavits of debts, it appears that in two years and a half 70,000 persons were arrested in and about London —law expences, five hundred thousand pounds sterling or more.

More than eleven thousand persons were deprived of their liberty on the mere declarations of others before any trial or proof that they owed a farthing. In 1827 the number of executions issued was 4408, for £559,134. "Some of the great debtor prisons are known to be perfect hells, in which deeds of the most revolting nature are of ordinary occurrence." Crime and misfortune share the same fate and are brought into the most cruel and degrading fellowship.

Thirty years since the number of beggars in London was estimated at fifteen thousand. It must now be double or treble that number. Ninety-nine out of every hundred are of the idle and profligate class, —more or less of impostors. The number of persons who last year presented themselves for relief to "the Society for the suppression of mendicity in the Metropolis," amounted including their families to nearly *forty thousand*. Upwards of thirteen thousand beggars are annually conveyed out of London by the parishes; they usually return and finally escape detection.

The number of female prostitutes is almost incredible. Dr. Colquhoun subjected himself to some ridicule in computing it at fifty thousand, but our author thinks that his estimate was not greatly beyond the truth—including women unmarried who live in illicit connection with labourers and others. In one parish containing only 9924 houses and 59,050 inhabitants there were in 1817, three hundred and sixty brothels and two thousand public women. In reference to the whole body of these wretched beings,—a considerable proportion of whom are mere children this writer observes—

"Many of them were born and educated to better hopes; others have, doubtless resorted to their degraded course merely to eat the bread of idleness; but the greater number we apprehend, have been the victims of their too good looks and their too confiding dispositions. Among the varied wretchedness which afflicts humanity there are none whose lot is fraught with acuter anguish or more certain or hopeless misery. From the theatres to the streets and thence to some miserable lodging—the workhouse—or an hospital their career is short and fleeting. Of the multitude of unfortunate females elegant in their persons and gay in their attire, who have fluttered in the saloons and other places of amusement during the last twenty years, what has been the fate?—Could their progress be traced and their ultimate situations and exit from this world be disclosed, it would lay open scenes of suffering and remorse far beyond any fancied descriptions in *Anastasius*, or what the imagination of Maturin could conceive."

To illustrate the sum of *juvenile delinquency*, in London it may be sufficient to mention that during the last few years out of 16,427 commitments in Surrey, 7292 were of persons under twenty years of age and 370 under twelve.—Out of 4000 convicts on board the hulks 300 boys under sixteen were taken at once to be placed in a separate ship. On the morning of the 26th September last, one hundred and twenty children of this miserable description were brought up at one of the London police offices; they had been found sleeping in a brick field. Eight out of ten of the boys sentenced for a *short period* to transportion or confinement on board the hulk, return to their old wicked courses. The experience of the British metropolis—which is complete—proves the utility of *Houses of Refuge* such as have been established in the United States. Our author remarks, that it is from the many thousands of children who have no regular employment and no moral asylum that is derived the chief mass of criminals who crowd the prisons the hulks and the convict-settlements. A very considerable portion of them are found to have been taught to read and write;—idleness the want of a home or a vicious home are the principal causes of their ruin.

The annual average loss of property by fire in London is near £200,000, with a number of lives. Half the fires is supposed to be the work of incendiaries.—Attached to the different courts are about 800 officers; to which may be added 450 Barristers 2000 attorneys, 130 conveyancers 69 special pleaders, 84 proctors, 40 public notaries, 4000 clerks, assistants and others, besides doctors at law masters in chancery, serjeants-at-law and king's counsel—making a legal phalanx of nearly *eight thousand*. Lawsuits have vastly multiplied and involved an amount of property and professional practice of eight, ten or more millions sterling. In the five principal prisons, 6000 persons have been annually shut up for debt. A few years ago the number of students of anatomy was about one thousand; there are about ten thousand general practitioners of medicine in England and Wales.—Receivers of stolen property in London agents & legal solicitors for criminals, and persons who undertake to recover property by compromise with roguery make large fortunes. An eminent solicitor related to the Police Committee that when he regretted to a chief officer of police the increase of crime, the officer answered—'Well, master, you and I have no reason to find fault because, with us, you know, the more the merrier.'

The pride of character, integrity and honour has "fallen at least fifty percent, within the last fourteen years." There has been a great increase in the sale and consumption of ardent spirit. The use of them in London, "may be said to be universal." "*Decent* females, as well as those of dissolute character, are addicted to dram drinking." It is noted of a certain *gin*-shop in Westminster, that the proportion of women who enter it to the men, is as *nineteen* to one. No where in the world is beastly intoxication more common. Captain Hall would ascribe it we presume, to the influence of the democratical part of the English constitution. The author of the book before us, connects it with other circumstances, such as the following—

"In the great woollen and cotton districts of the country, as well as the metropolis, there has long been advancing a process of *consolidation of capital*, or its accumulation into large masses which have either swallowed up or reduced to the level of a very bare subsistence all the subordinate manufacturers traders, dealers, and cheapmen. But the depression in the price of labor below the means of comfortable subsistence, from the competition of workmen, is an evil of greater magnitude. The statesmen must be blind indeed who cannot foresee the dreadful catastrophe which must ultimately ensue from the indefinite increase in the number of the people, unaccompanied with a corresponding increase of employment and subsistance, still it is impossible to imagine how the legislature can successfully interfere till some national distresses, more palpable and convincing than the reasoning of philosophers shall have demonstrated even to popular conviction, its usefulness and necessity. Meanwhile the stream continues to flow; and when events shall occur which may cause a serious interruption to the ordinary means of employment and production we anticipate a revulsion of misery and discontent, like the retrocession of a torrent suddenly obstructed in its course."

FROM THE BOSTON DAILY ADVERTISER.

Some account of the Siamese Boys, lately brought to Boston.—DEAR SIR,—In compliance with your request, as well as in obedience to what I consider to be a professional duty, I undertake to give some account of the Siamese boys, and particularly of the medium, by which they are united together.

The boys are supposed to be about 18 years old. They are of moderate stature though not as tall as boys of that age in this country. They have the Chinese complexion and physiognomy. The forehead is more elevated and less broad than that of the Chinese, owing to malformation.—They much resemble each other, yet not so much but that upon a little observation, various points of dissimilarity may be noticed.

The substance by which they are connected is a mass two inches long at its upper edge, and about five at the lower.—Its breadth from above downwards may be four inches; and its thickness in a horizontal direction two inches. Of course it its not a rounded cord, but thicker in the perpendicular, than in the horizontal direction. At its lower edge is perceived a single umbilicus, through which passes a single umbilical cord to nourish both children in the fetal state. Placing my hand on this substance, which I will denominate the cord, I was surprised to find it extremely hard. On further examination this hardness was found to exist at the upper part of the cord only; and to be prolonged into the breast of each boy. Tracing it upwards, I found it to be constituted by a prolongation of the *ensiform cartilage of the sternum* or extremity of the breast bone. The breadth of this cartilage is an inch and a half; its thickness may be about the eighth of an inch. The cartilages proceeding from each sternum meet at an angle, and then seem to be connected by ligament, so as to form a joint. This Joint has a motion upwards and downwards, and also a lateral motion the latter operating in such way, that when the boys turn in either direction the edges of the cartilage are found to open and shut. The lower face of this cartilage is concave; and under it is felt a rounded cord, which may be the remains of the umbilical cord. Besides this there is nothing remarkable felt in the connecting substance. I could distinguish no pulsating vessel.

The whole of this cord is covered by the skin. It is remarkably strong, and has no great sensibility; for they allow themselves to be pulled by a rope fastened to it without exhibiting uneasiness.—On ship board, one of them some times climbed on the capstan of the vessel, the other following as well as he could without complaining.

When I first visited the boys, I expected to see them pull on this cord in different directions, as their attention was attracted by different objects I soon perceived that this did not happen. The slightest impulse of one to move in any direction, is immediately followed by the other; so that they would appear to be influenced by the same wish. This harmony in their movements is not the result of a volition excited at the same moment. It is a habit, formed by necessity. At an early period of life it is probable they sometimes differed. At present this is so rarely the case that the gentlemen who brought them, have noticed only a single instance. Having been accustomed to use the cold bath, one of them wished it when the weather was cool, to which the other objected. They were soon reconciled by the interference of the commander of the ship.

They never hold a consultation as to their movements. In truth, I have never seen them speak to each other, although they converse constantly with a Siamese lad, who is their companion. They always face in one direction; standing nearly side by side; and are not able, without inconvenience, to face in the opposite direction; so that one is always at the right the other at the left. Although not placed exactly in a parallel line, they are able to run and leap with surprising activity. On some occasions, a gentleman, in sport, pursued them round the ship, when they came suddenly to the hatchway which had been inadvertently left open. The least check would have thrown them down the hatchway & probably killed one or both; but they leaped over it without difficulty.

They are quite cheerful: appear intelligent: attending to whatever is presented to them, and readily acknowledging any civility. As a proof of their intelligence it is stated, that in a few days, they learned to play at drafts well enough to become antagonists of those who had long been versed in the game.

The connexion between these boys might present an opportunity for some interesting observations in regard to physiology and pathology. There is no doubt, a network of blood vessels and some minutes nerves passing from one to the other. How far these parts are capable of transmitting the action of medicines and of diseases and especially of what particular medicines and of what diseases, are points well worthy of investigation. Captain Coffin informed me they had never taken medicine since they had been under his care.—Once they were ill from eating too heartily, but were relieved by the efforts of nature. He thinks that any indisposition of one extends to the other; that they are inclined to sleep at the same time; eat about the same quantity, and perform other acts with great similarity. Both he and Mr. Hunter, the gentleman who united with him in bringing them here, are of opinion that touching one of them when they are asleep, awakens both.

The pulsations of the heart are exactly alike in both boys. I counted seventy-three pulsations in a minute, while they were sitting; counting first in one boy, then in the other. I then placed my fingers on an arm of each boy, and found the pulsations take place exactly together. One of them stooping suddenly to look at my watch, his pulse became much quicker than that of the other; but after he had returned to his former posture in about a quarter of a minute, his pulse was presisely like that of the other boy. This happened repeatedly. Their respirations are of consequence, exactly simultaneous.

This harmony of action in primary functions shows a reciprocal influence which may lead to curious observations, and important deductions.—Whether it will be in my power to obtain any further information in regard to them is uncertain.—If not some one else can better accomplish the task.

Let me add that there is nothing unpleasant in the aspect of these boys.—On the contrary, they must be viewed as presenting one of the most interesting objects of Natural history, which have ever been known to scientific men.

You are at liberty to employ the above statement in such way as you think likely to be useful.

I have the honor to be, your's &c.

JOHN C. WARREN.

WM. STURGIS. ESQ.

The Hagerstown Mail says—by an endorsement on the Way Bill received this morning from Cumberland we learn that George Swearingen has made a confession, in which he accusses Rachel Cunningham with the murder of his wife.

Pat.

From the Hagerstown Torch Light.

SWEARINGN'S TRIAL.

The examination of the witnesses commenced on Friday 14th, and closed on Wednesday 19th inst.—The pleadings were opened on Thursday 20th, by Mr. Dixon, on the part of the state, who was followed by Mr. Buskirk & Mr. McMahon same day, on the part of the prisoner.—Mr. McMahon occupied the greater part of the day on Friday, and was followed the same day, by Mr. Price, who concluded his speech on Saturday. Mr. Dixon closed the pleadings on Saturday. Mr. Dixon spoke about five hours in the case Mr Buskirk one hour, Mr. McMahon seven and a half, and Mr. Price about five hours. At 4 o'clock on Saturday, the jury retired, and after an absence of ten minutes returned with a verdict of "*Guilty of murder in the first degree.*"

For the following brief sketch of the testimony we are indebted to a gentleman who was in Cumberland during the trial and in whose statement we have the utmost confidence:—

The testimony commenced with the marriage of the accused, which it was attempted to be proved was on his part, from mercenary motives. His conversations in relation to this fact were proved and from them it appeared that he was previously attached to another lady who returned his affections, but that this connection had been broken off by the interference of his relations. Evidence was then adduced to show his coldness and indifference towards his wife, and in June or July 1827, that he upset her in a gig on Martin's mountain, on which occasion she was dreadfully injured, and her recovery was a long time doubtful.—His connection with a lewd woman, named Rachel Cunningham was next given in evidence, his acquaintance with her commenced in August or September, 1827 immediately previous to his election.—On that occasion he took this woman to a camp meeting in Washington county, in a barouche. The nature of his intercourse with this woman, was then proved the testimony consisting chiefly of his own conversation with different individuals at different times. From those it appeared that, he built a house in Hagerstown, into which she was put—that he visited her here, openly and daily,—that the indignation of the public arose on one occasion to such a height as to threaten a mob for the purpose of pulling down his house that he armed himself on the occasion and threatened to kill the first man who approached,—that he then sent her off to Virginia, where he occasionally paid her visits, and ultimately removed her to the farm which he held in right of his wife, in Allegany county.

It was proved also that his wife left him in consequence of his connection with Rachel Cunningham and in a short time afterwards consented to come back and live with him, it being understood that his intercourse with his paramour was entirely broken off. He then made promises to his friends of a reformation in his life and habits, and for a time was seen walking out with his wife, and conducting himself towards her as became a husband.

The facts immediately connected with the death were then proved and were as follows. That he left Cumberland on Sunday, in company with his wife, and proceeded as far as Mrs. Peggy Cresap's, where they remained all night. In the morning they set out to go to another Mrs. Cresap's, and left the road when they arrived opposite his farm. At this point he was met by a drove of cattle, at the head of which was young Hilliary, who swore that he saw the accused and his wife, leave the road, he riding before and carrying the child and she following at a short distance. At the distance of about two hundred yards from the path where they turned off, they reached the foot of a steep hill, when he got down, hitched his own horse, and put down his child. That he then took his wife's horse by the bridle, and led him up the hill, at which point young Hilliary lost sight of them.

When the drove had proceed about three fourths of a mile, Swearingen overtook it, riding at a moderate gait, with his child in his arms. He asked the drover his name and where he was from.—After which he told him that his wife had been thrown from her horse, that he was afraid she was dead, and wished him to take his horse and ride to Cresap Town and send Robert Kile to him immediately. Which the drover did.

When Kile came to the ground he was about passing the road leading to Swearingen's farm, when he heard a whistle, and looking in that direction, saw the accused sitting by the dead body. She was lying on the side of this by-road about a hundred yards from the main road about a quarter of a mile from the place where according to the statement of the accussed the horse fell with her.

A Coroner's inquest was held the next day, which determined that she came to her death by an act of Providence. The death happened on Monday. The ground was explored on Wednesday, by several persons, who commenced their examinations at the point where young Hilliary lost sight of the accused.

At this place it was supposed he left the road, & the track of a horse was traced by some persons through a laurel thicket, over the hill, coming out into the road where the corpse lay, about fifty yards above the place. They discovered also a place by the side of a log, where the leaves had been pressed down forming a hollow in the leaves. On the log was a stone.—At a little distance they discovered where a horse had been hitched, a little further a club apparently cut in a hurry. The leaves of the bushes in the direction of the track was spotted, as some of the witnesses thought, with blood. On this subject there was some contrariety in the evidence. Some of the witnesses did not think they were the tracks of a horse & one thought there were no tracks at all. There was a difference also among the witnesses about the appearances in the woods some thinking that all of them were natural appearances to be found at all times in the woods.

The accounts given by the accused were very contradictory. He said to all that she was killed by her horse falling with her in the main road, but to some he stated that she was killed dead, to others that she was killed by falling from the horse after he had put her on for the purpose of taking her to some place of safety. To some he said she fell when the drove came in view, to others that the last of the drove was just getting out of sight when she fell.

A second inquest was held on Thursday night. The body was disinterred and examined by physicians, who at first thought that from the putrescent state of the body, it was impossible to assign the cause of her death, and gave such an opinion in writing to the inquest. They afterwards came to the conclusion that her death was occassioned by suffocation. There was also a difference of opinion among the physicians examined. One of them giving it as his decided opinion that no judgement could be formed as to whether she was killed by suffocation or not, without an examination of the lungs and brain, neither which were seen by the examining physicians, the others thinking that the swollen and turgescent state of the neck and face sufficiently indicated a death by suffocation.

His flight was proved to have taken place immediately after the second inquest was convened and after a summons was issued for him by the Coroner.

It was proved that the knees of the horse were injured and several witnesses swore positively that the injuries were not occasioned by the horse's falling but were cut with a knife or some sharp instrument.

During the argument, and while the last of his counsel, Mr. Price was speaking a letter written by the accused in prison to Rachel Cunningham, was read by the prosecutor to the jury.

The final sentence of the law was pronounced on Monday last by the Hon *John Buchanan*, who accompanied it with the following prefatory remarks:—

Upon a full and minute investigation before a jury of your country, commensurate with the character of the offence with which you stand charged and the awful consequences of conviction you have been found guilty of the horrible crime of murder of the first degree; and it has become my painful duty as the organ of this Court, to pronounce the solemn and appalling sentence of the law.

Of your guilt, not a shade of rational doubt is perceived to exist.

Three different juries have pronounced you the murderer of your wife—the jury of inquest, the grand jury that found the indictment on which you have been tried & finally the petit jury of your own choice, after an attentive and patient hearing of the elaborate argument of the counsel engaged in your defence, by whom nothing was left undone, that zeal and ingenuity could suggest.

Far be it from me, to entertain any the remotest wish, to insult, or unnecessarily offer violence to your feelings—they must be already sufficiently harrowed.

But I am constrained to say,—(would to God it were otherwise,) that wilful, deliberate & premeditated purpose, though essential to the murder of the first degree does not give to the offence of which you stand convicted, its deepest die; does not constitute its blackest atrocity.

Murder is shocking to humanity under any circumstances, and a well regulated mind, one not callous to every proper and correct feeling, always turns from the contemplation of it, with shuddering and abhorrence.

Yet there are degrees of turpitude even in murder of the first degree and that perpetrated by you, mounts to the highest grade of enormity.

Yours is, an instructive, but melancholy lesson; a practical, but shocking illustration of the awful truth, which cannot be too often nor too strongly inculcated that one false step is ever followed by another.

Reared and educated in an enlightened society, surrounded by respectable and numerous friends and relations, and enjoying in a high degree the esteem and confidence of all who knew you, you found your abused and unhappy victim at a boarding school, a young, inexperienced, innocent and guileless girl;—the daughter of a wealthy parent who had sent her abroad for her education.

Alas! he little thought, he was sending her to her destruction; and that, what was intended for the advancement of her respectability and happiness in this life, was destined soon to prove her ruin.

Departing from the path of rectitude, in which until then, you seemed to have trodden; and uninfluenced by any of the finer feelings of the heart, but attraced only, (as it appeared in evidence) by the allurements of wealth, you sought and won her affections; and with no corresponding attachments, made her at an inauspicious moment, the confiding partner of your bed,—but an alien from your bosom.

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