

SERVICES AT THE BAPTIST CHURCH.

Sunday school every Sunday at 9:30 A. M.

On the 1st of Sunday in each month, preach at 10:45 A. M. and at the usual hour in the evening.

Covenant meeting, Saturday before the 1st of each month, at 2:00 P. M.

Prayer meeting every Wednesday evening.

All are cordially invited to attend any of these services.

U. M. McGUIRE.

Ans., etc., lower than ever, at the port office.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE.

Things Necessary to Be Done if Civilization Is to Survive.

Of the things necessary to be done to save our civilization, the first and most important is to cause a complete change of attitude on the part of society toward wrong-doing. What is now the attitude? It is one of indifference, toleration, or connivance, or one suggestive of paralysis of the power of indignation, and of every faculty needed for the repression of crime. Toward the criminal the attitude of the public is that of weak pity, not unmingled with admiration. The criminal is an unfortunate man, to save whom from punishment seems to be the chief end of the law. Look for a moment at his trial in a court of justice. The jury, carefully selected for their ignorance, are made judges of both law and fact; to convict they must be unanimous; if they have a reasonable doubt of guilt, they must acquit; they are themselves to determine what is a respectable doubt; and to crown all, they are instructed that it is better that ten guilty men should escape than that one innocent man should be punished. These rules and maxims, devised centuries ago by merciful judges, then met the ends of justice, since, as the laws were, as against the crown officers, seeking to convict, a person accused had no chance of acquittal, for he was allowed neither counsel nor witnesses; but now they operate to screen the guilty from punishment, save in a few cases where there is a general cry for vengeance against some atrocious offender. The maxim about the ten guilty men is pressed upon juries by every felon's lawyer as the great safeguard of private rights. In truth, however, the interest of justice would be best subserved by making it read: "It is better that ten innocent men should suffer than that one guilty man should escape." Were that declared to be the policy of the law juries would be made to feel, not that the innocent were less deserving than before of acquittal, but that the guilty were a hundred times more deserving of conviction and punishment, and the result would be most salutary. In not one case in a million could an innocent man suffer; and hardly one in a thousand of the guilty, instead of three out of four, as now, would escape. How necessary such a change of attitude is, may be seen from the constant recurrence of voluntary movements of private citizens intended to supply the defects of the law. Because great criminals generally escape punishment, lynching parties are of weekly occurrence in our country. Citizens' associations have been found necessary to secure the execution of our municipal laws. From the announcements constantly appearing in the public journals that from such a day laws, long in force, but left unexecuted, would be rigidly enforced, one might infer that the duty of an executive officer is to cause the laws to be executed when he pleases to do so, or not at all if such be his will.—Judge Jameson, in North American Review.

Official Encouragement of Talent.

A fact noticed in the Belgian correspondence of one of the Parisian papers affords another illustration of the inefficacy of the official encouragement of talent by the state. The King of the Belgians has regularly offered every year, for the last ten years, a prize of £1,000 for the best work on some subject of general interest, the greatest latitude of choice being allowed the candidates, provided the work came within the sufficiently comprehensive category of "œuvres d'intelligence." During the whole ten years the prize has only been awarded once. Year after year the jury appointed to decide on the merits of the different essays sent in have had to make the melancholy return that not one of them came up to a decent standard. Macaulay (himself a writer of prize poems) has somewhere said that prize sheep are only fit to make candles of, and prize poems to light them with. Young Oxford would probably object to the dictum; but in Belgium, if prize essays and prize poems may be placed on the same footing, it would seem to be in part true.—Full Mail Gazette.

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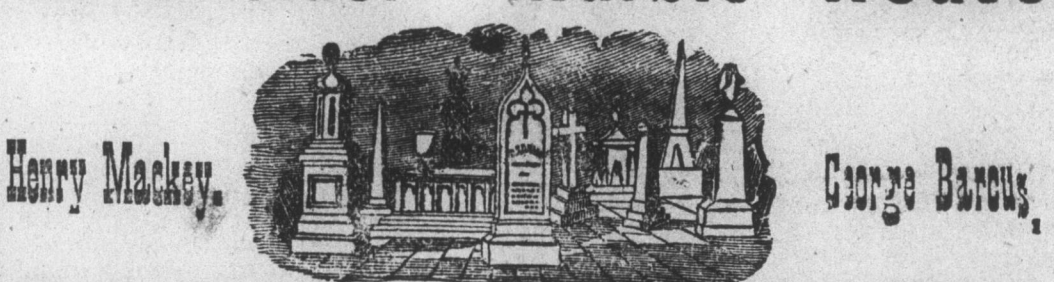
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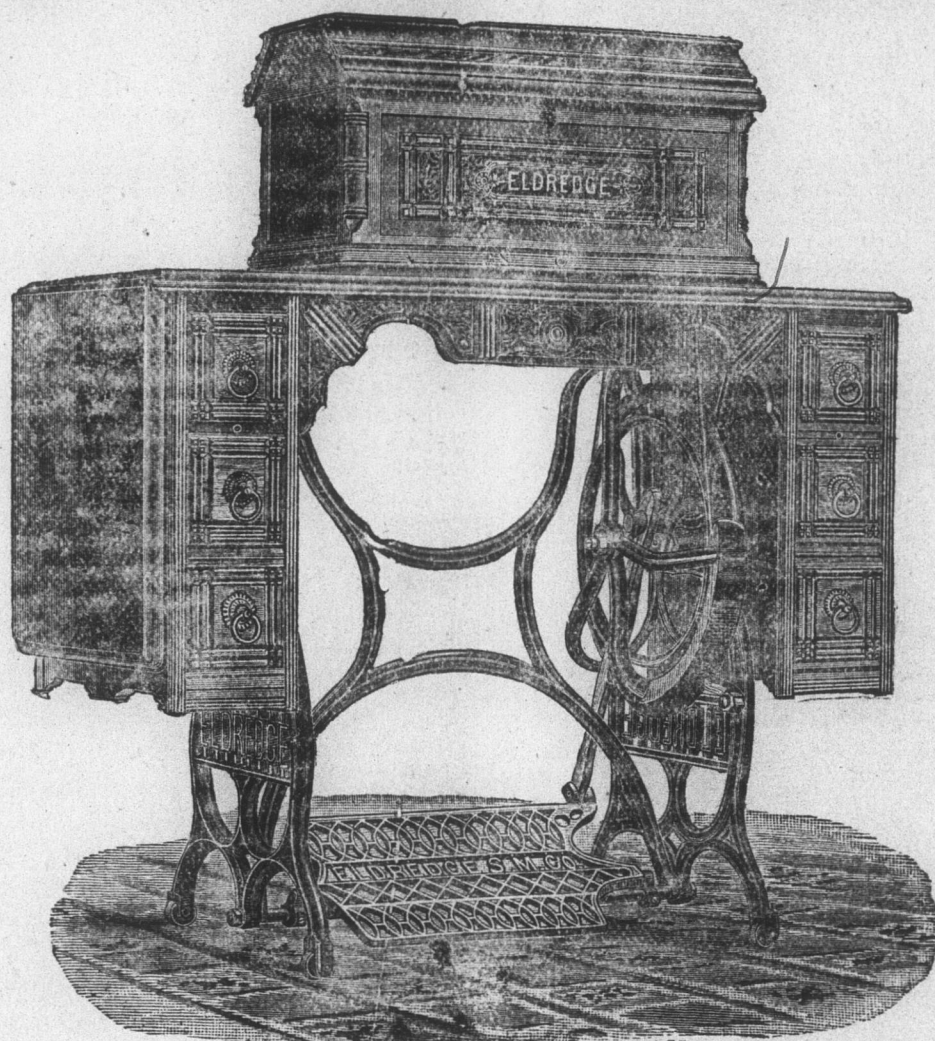
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