The Paris Secret Service and Its Thorough-Going Methods.

AT PAPA DEIBLERS' DEATH MATINEES.

n Execution by Guillotine and How it Affects the Populace-No Sentiment Wasted Over the Condemned Men.

"A good police is the corner-stone of civilization." This is the motto adopted by the chief of the Paris secret service, M. Gustave Mace, for the guidance of his justly celebrated body of men. Heart and soul have been put into the work. The results, as shown by M. Mace's series of official reports, have been' wonderful. "We have now," writes that gentleman to the French government, "not only rascality to deal with, but the powerful agents of steam and electricity, which farnish comfort and aid to the escaping criminal."

One of the many innovations introduced by the Paris secret service is the French system of measuring criminals, says a writer in the New York World. This has been partially adopted in this country and England with much success. M. Bertillon, a clever aid of Mace, is the inventor. It is known in France by the somewhat scientific title of Anthropometry. The implements used are two small measures. One is shaped something like the instrument used by a shoemaker in taking the dimensions of the feet of a customer. It is a plain carpenter's rule with a sliding scale attached at right angles. This is properly called the sliding compass. The other is a cir-cular arrangement, also with a movable scale. This is the thick compass. As soon as a prisoner is arrested and brought to the station-house he is immediately measured and the figures placed opposite his name, occupation. etc., in the blotter. At the same time he is mode to open his eyes so that the color can be taken. His body is examined, and any birth-marks tattooed emblems or physical deformity carefully noted and jotted down in the book. Should the prisoner resist he is at once clapped into a straight-jacket and his bearings taken, nolens volens, "I regard this system," says Mr. Mace, "in some instances better than the old style of photography. We avoid con-tortions, grimaces, etc., which prisoners frequently resort to in order to escape further detection. The record is almost perfect and many criminals have been identified by referring to the pages o this register."

The sliding measure is made to take the proportions of the body lengthwise while the thick measure is for the head, the face, roundness of arms, legs and trunks. The measurements of height taken by the sliding apparatus give the dimensions of the prisoner in his bare feet. There has been some objections raised to this system on the ground of cruelty. As every person under arrest has to suffer anthropometry, it has been sometimes a source of great annoyance to people who have been acquitted of a misdemeanor, who object to their bodily defects being on file. M. Mace consoles these unhappy persons with the cold comfort that they should have avoided in the first instance getting into the hands of the police. This is a bit of advice easily to be observed in Paris, where arrests for personal or political spite are unknown, and a clubbing gendarmes would be a curiosity. To the ignorant, however, the measuring is of ghastly suggestion. Every gamin and every vagabond knows that just be fore the condemned is hurried away to the guillotine he is measured for the last time and anthropometry is looked upon by criminals, outside of other considerations, with well founded dread.

When sentence of death is pronounced on a criminal at the court of assizes, where he is tried by judge and not by jury, and where he is allowed almost unlimited freedom in his methods of de fense, he is brought to La Roquette, the tombs of Paris, to await his execution. He is placed in that part of the prison reserved for condemned criminals, but which has not the suggestiveness of Murderer's Row. He has a very short time before him-two months at mostbefore his head is gathered into the basket. So much latitude is allowed at the trial that red tape appeals are very rare.

Sometimes there is hope of a pardon from the president of the republic. M. Carnot is not very free with these pardons, but M. Grevy, his predecessor, was called "the father of criminals" by his political enemies on account of his elemency. The execution always takes place at about an hour before dawn and its date is supposed to be kept secret. The press, however, is always on hand, and all Paris knows within an week when the interesting event will occur. All but the luckless prisoner. He is kept in total ignorance of his doom unless some kind friend smuggles in the news. Tickets are given out to a favored few by the government entitling the holder to an orchestra chair or a seat in the gallery. They are also on sale at the principal cases on the boulevards, and there is always a good house at the soirces, or rather matinees—as they are called—of Papa Deibler, the official headsman of Paris.

An hour before the curtain rises the prisoner is awakened and the cheerful intelligence of his doom broken to him by his confessor. He is then hurried, often still dazed with sleep, to the office of the prison, where he at once goes through that dismal ceremony known as he last toilet of the condemned. The re is no death watch, no last breakfast with its inevitable beefsteak, fried potatoes and eggs. The free cigars are missing and so are the tears and farewells of train of tender-hearted turnkeys. The Frenchman goes to the scaffold on an empty stomach. The doctors eat the breakfast. Nevertheless, with all these disadvantages, the guillotine and its attendant ceremonies are quite dramatic. It would never be French with-out a proper display of red fire and a little slow music. Much is made of the toilet, and the subsequent march to the scaffold is operatic and fully recompenses the sympathizer for previous

lack of melodrama. There is no prison in the world which has so dismal a setting as that of La Roquette, Newgate in London, with the roar of High Holborn and the clanging bells of St. Sepulchre, is rather cheerful. and the Tombs, although a little forbidding in itself, is situated in anything but a dismal neighborhood. La Roquette-two dark, sombre buildings shut in by high, stone walls, bristling with iron bars and guarded by massive gates —is in one of the most miserable quarters of Paris. It is almost in the suburbs, but its environment possesses neither the charm of country nor the cheerfulness of town. Wretched hovels, tumbiedown rookeries, the resorts of thieves and malefactors, long, low barracks de-

RUNNING DOWN THE THUGS. of a few blighted willow trees and several old wooden benches, occupies the space between the two prisons, and is graced by the name of La Piace de la Roquette. It gives birth to a narrow street, paved with high cobble stones and without sidewalks, which climbs up a steep hill, and with grim observance of the proprieties, finds its terminus a

few blocks onward at the great white gates of the Cemetery of Pere la Chaise. Each side of this doleful thoroughfare is lined with the yards of tombstone designers and marble cutters and the shops of dealers in those hideous black-bead death emblems which the French are so fond of placing on the tombs of their de parted friends. Bt the entrance of both orisons-known as the Grande and the Petite Roquette—walk perpetual senti-nels. It is in the yard of the Grand Roquette where the death dealing Inven-tion of the Paris doctor, and named after him-the guillotine-stands ready to do

For several nights before the performance of the tragedy the Place de la Roquette is taken possession of by a howling mob of the worst characters of Paris. These seem attracted to the scene as beeves led on by the smell of blood will

surround a slaughter house. They jest, sing and make night hide-ous waiting for the time when the news of the beheading within shall have reached them. It is impossible to see anything. The high walls, the closed batten gates and the sentinels, reinforced by soldlers, present a formidable barrier to the intrepid and morbid sightseer.

The modern guillotine looks some thing like an old-fashioned scale. On a pedestal there are two parallel columns et at a proper interval. On-the inside of each of these columns there is a roove in which the knife fits and runs. Underneath the knife and between the grooves there is a long board with a smicircle chiselled out at one end. This s almost the counterpart of the boards ladies have for sewing or cutting out gowns. The semicircle, however, is smaller, and made to fit an ordinary neck. The parallel columns are movable and can also be adjusted to the re-

quirements of the executions. There are different sized boards for different sized people, a glance at the police blotter giving the exact measure ment for a comfortable fit. A "basket," so called, which is nothing else than an a bath-tub lined with zine, receives the head. As soon as the prisoner, dressed in his best suit of clothes, has been remeasured and registered, M. Deibler, the headsman, place, his signature across the blotter and the history of the con-demned man is finished. He belongs to his executioner.

He is made to sit on a low stool, while one of the aids binds his legs with knot-These ligatures are wound ted cords. around the lower part of the leg near the ankle. Another deputy sheriff ties the hands together. The cord is knot-ted "for precaution's sake," according to M. Mace. Two other cords are tightly drawn around the shoulders and are fastened in one big knot with those kinding the hands. These tight ligatures compel the "patient" to hold his head erect, throw back his shoulders and present a military appearance.

A last binding unites the legs with

the hands, tying the man up in a heap until he resembles a fowl trussed for roasting. "Thus prepared," said M. Mace, "the man walks slowly,"—as well he might—"held up by deputy sheriffs until he reaches the board with the semi-circular end underneath the fatal knife. As this board is long, the sawed-off end, with its place for the head, rests up in the air, in the manner of a see-saw. The condemned is placed face downwards on this board, which immediately rights itself by reason of his weight. The victim, bound and tied as he is, is simply helpless. Above him, at an oblique angle, is the knife. Attached to the knife are two eighty-pound weights operated by pulleys. The sig-nal is given and the pulleys freed. The knife at once descends with lightning rapidity, and with one fell stroke severs

the head from the body. The head tumbles into the zinc repository and all is over. The modern guillotine has been so improved that the headsman is simply a figurehead. He touches the button and the machine does the rest. It has been proposed to attach the mechanism of the guillotine to an electric wire, and by touching a button —placed perhaps near the head of his bed—the future executioner of Paris can perform his duties without being present at the scene of action, and return to his warm couch and his morning nan con scious of having done a good deed. This very utilitarian method, however, sins against the mise-en-scene—the delight of a Frenchman's heart,

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LIKE FATHER DAMIEN.

Heroism of Father Bakker Among the Lepers of Guiana.

Bishop William Wulfingh, of Dutch

Guiana, preached at St. James' Catholic church, Eager and Aisquith streets, recently at vespers, says the Baltimore Sun. Rev. Charles Currier, the bishop's companion, spoke interestingly of Guiana, the nature of the country, its physical features and the work of the Redemptorist fathers among the lepers. In the Sun of Saturday mention made of a priest who has spent his life at the leper colony of Batavia and is now dying from the loathsome disease. This hero is the Rev. John Bakker. He is about fifty-seven years old and was born in Amsterdam, Holland. He

entered the Redemptorist order and was ordained a priest in his native country. In 1865 the Redemptorists, at the earnest request of the pope, accepted the work in Guiana. It had previously been conducted by secular clergymen, but as they were not so thoroughly equipped for such an undertaking as the religious orders Pope Pius offered the duty to three different orders before the Redemp-

torists were asked to assume it. Each

declined to accept the task. The Rev. John Bakker was one of the pioneers of his order to go out to the afflicted community with spiritual and physical comforts, and he worked with unremitting zeal for their welfare. About 1880 the first symptoms of the dreadful plague manifested themselves upon the good priest. He, however, remained at a little plantation called Livorno, outside the city of Paramaribo, the capital, until about five years ago, when he was removed to the leper settlement of Batavia, where he is expected to die in the near future. Rev. Mr. Bakker is perfectly helpless, and has to be dressed and undressed by the assistant physician, who is also a leper. Bishop Wolfingh once asked Mr. Bakker if he wanted any favor of him, saying he would grant him anything he wanted. He at first smiled and refused to accept anything. Upon being pressed to make a request he only asked to be allowed \$10 a year to spend for his phy-sician. He is obliged to keep his room, but in the midst of all his suffering he is

always very cheerful. Rev. Charles Currier has spent about thirteen months in Guiana. About two years ago he was stationed at the Church of the Sacred Heart, Canton, for about voted to the storage of nothing and slowly falling into decay, mark the approach to La Roquette from the city. A dingy plot of ground, with not an oasis of grass, and whose ornaments consists of grass, and whose ornaments consists of grass.

on the banks of the great rivers on plantations. A great portion of the in-habitants are heathens. They consist of the aborigines, or Indians, and of blacks who some centuries ago ran away from their masters and live today in precisely the same manner as the inhab-ltants of the African continent. It is believed that savages live in the depths of the woods who have never seen the

face of a white man. "The work of the missionaries in that country is in the first place to convert the heathens. These unknown inhabit-ants of the forest must be reached at any But the work is accompanied by no ewer difficulties than those which Staney encountered in crossing Africa. The plan which the bishop has in mind is to rect a series of mission stations by which the fathers may be able to cross the forests. But he has no means to carry on the work. Those savages whom we know must also be attended to, but as their life s completely nomadic the only way to work for them efficaciously is to collect them together in villages and teach them

the arts of civilization.
"A great drawback to all the efforts of the missionaries is the deplorable immorality of the country, to which the whites have contributed no little. The only hope for the present population is to be found in the children, whom the missionaries endeavor to remove from the obnoxious influences that surround

The present governor of the colony, a most estimable man, shows himself disposed to second the bishop in all his efforts to prevent the spread of the disease and if possible to stamp it out. The bishop intends, if means are forthcoming, to erect a hospital and obtain the aid of sisters to attend the lepers. Had the laws been hitherto enforced leprosy would not have spread as much

Father Currier says there are 3,000 in-habitants inflicted with leprosy. Of these the majority live in the capital city. They keep witnin their homes during the day, but at night come out into the streets and mingle freely with the population. Bishop Wulfingh is about flity-two

rears old. He was born at Bois le Dus, Holland, and entered the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer at the age of twenty-two, and was ordained a priest During his labors in his native country he enjoyed the reputation of being a great speaker and filled some of the most important positions in his order Two years ago he accompanied his pre. decessor, Bishop Schaab, to Surinam. After, the latter's death he was appointed by the pope as successor in the Sec. Bishop Wulfingh was consecrated in the cathedral of Bois le Duc; where he had been baptised by the bishop of that city. The bishop has a brother who is also a Redemptionist priest in Holland. He is one of the most distinguished pulpit orators in the country, and is also president of a society of literary gentle-men in Amsterdam.

Bishop Wulfingh is trying to collect funds for his work in Surinam. During the week he remained in Boston both Catholies and protestants responded generously to his appeals. He says he hopes Baltimore will show itself no less generous. The bishop will be a guest at St. James's church until Wednesday, where any gift for his cause will be re-ceived. He will go next to Reading Pa. thence to New York, from where he will sail for Holland on July 5. On July 24 he expects to sail from Holland for Paramaribo. Rev. Mr. Currier will stay with the bishop until he takes the

Immense Australian Estates. Roman nobles sometimes had whole provinces for estates, but these are almost paralleled in Australia, where immense estates are numerous. Three are advertised for sale in a Melbourne The area of the first is 454 square miles, of which the rent is 321 pounds 1s. 6d. only, and the cattle on the pasture are valued at 2 pounds 10s. each. The second comprises 648 square miles and the third 553 square miles. All these are in Queensland. The first lot is described as watered by a river, and having a town ninety miles distant on one side and 150 on the other. The advantage of the second is that its lies between three towns which are respectively 180, 300 and 350 miles away; and the third, apparently most fortunately located of all, is "lithin one hundred miles of a railroad."

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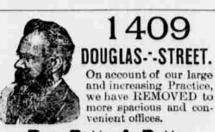
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"Harper's Magazine" for July is ready, and there has never been a better July number. The vari-ety is all that could be desired, the pictures are beautiful; but, when all is said and done, it must be conceded that Daudet is immense 'Port Turascon" is alone worth the price of admission .- N.Y. Sun.

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subscription to the paper for a year, at some absurdly low figure for the two?

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pose to offer, anyhow? I never heard of it

before. Now if it was the original Encyclo

pædia Brittannica that you were offering, I

would give you my subscription in a hurry. There's a fellow convessing one for it now,

and he wents sixty dollars for the set, twice

what you ask for THE OMAHA BEE and

That's exactly what he said, the very

words. He said, too, that it was accepted as

the standard work of reference by all English-speaking scholars, and in every English

Why, no, and I don't believe it'sso either

General Grant was as well known in Eng-

Hold on, hold on! Just tell me me in one

So. Well, I certainly don't want an encyclopædia that will not tell me anything

about the greatmen of the world until after

they are alive that I want to know about

them most. But see Pere. What you say

doesn't hold togeth r. Why in 't there any thing said about General Grant. He was

deadlong before the last edition of the en-

cyclopædia Brittannica was published,

ittle bit, my friend.

Why, of course I do

Guess you've travelled off the record just a

Why of course he did. He said it was only

Dear me, what a world this is, to be sure.

An lis there anything else the matter with

What a question. Why, I being an Ameri-

can, I want the most detailed information

about matters of American interest, of course.

All I am ever likely to want to know about

an English town or county is its location,

population, manufactures or other products

I sed, I see. We need an American'zed edi

I see, I see. Why, it's a perfectly splendid

thought of it before. And I suppose there's a biography of General Grant in your edit on?

Upon my word, I'm glad I told that can-vasser to call again. If I hadn't met you I

should have been finely stuck. Oh, by the way, how large a work is this of yours?

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Why, you see, I hate to wait a year to get

the books comp etc. Can't I pay for them a

little sconer and get them quicker in that

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only just one thing I wou dlike.

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word if it says anything about anybody.

your Encyclopædia together.

land as he was in this country.

and American library.

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So it is; he was right enough so far. It's a monumental work and cost more than a million dollars to get it up. But there are spots on the sun, you know, and there are detects even in the Encyclopædia Britannica. Did he mention to you that you might look for Ulysses S. Grantin it and not find a word about him?

Of course he was; or pretty nearly so. But the Encyclopædia Br.tannica doesn't mention him for all that. And it doesn't say a word about Sherman either, nor about Sheridan, nor Hancock, nor Blaine, nor Cleveland, nor Harrison, nor Harriet Beecher Stowe, nor Julia Ward Howe, nor Elizabeth Stewart Phelps, nor Charles Stewart Parnell, nor Bismarck, nor Jeff Davis, nor --

Oh, yes, indeed. It contains some of the most magnificent biographies that ever were written. Macaulay's life of Dr. Johnson for example. But, you see, what they called "the plan of the work" excluded all mention of living characters. They wanted to see how a man would turn out first before they made room for his life in their volumes.

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Only published by HIS publishers he meant. But if he had spoken the truth about the matter he would have told you that the first volume of the latest edition of the Encyclopædia Britannica was issued fifteen years ago, and the greater part was compiled at that date. So you see they didn't get General Grant in it after all.

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