

Two Dollars Per Annum.  
Always in Advance.

**{NUMBER 37.**

**Paddy McPaddy, J. P.**

An Irishman by birth, a sealawag by inclination, and justice of the peace by some mysterious gubernatorial dispensation, Paddy McPaddy furnished one of the brightest illustrations of "the insolence of office" that we ever had the misfortune to witness.

Paddy's judicial career ran its brief course in one of our newly reconstructed States. This single fact must be accepted as an explanation of whatever there may be in this sketch that appears incredible or absurd. With this introduction we will now attempt to synopsise one of the most remarkable cases that ever set the court-room in a roar.

Meinherr Pretzel was before his Honor, charged with the flagrant misdemeanor of "keeping open a tippling-house on the Sabbath." The statute in such cases made and provided was rather loosely drawn. In fact, no conviction could be had unless the defendant kept *intoxicating* liquors for sale. Now, Meinherr Pretzel sold nothing but lager beer, and scornfully denied that this mild beverage had anything intoxicating about it. It cheered but did not inebriate. His lawyer determined to make the most of this position, and at the proper time, introduced witness number one, a stout persuasion who solemnly testified that "he" was less than a barrel of lager would muddle a man in even the slightest degree.

The learned counsel on the side of the prosecution was considerably upset by this testimony, and evidently regarded it as a gone case. He declined to make any argument.

But the defendant's lawyer, animated by the prospect of success, delivered himself of a spread-eagle speech. He had quoted a legal precedent, when Justice McPaddy opened his judicial lips.

"Starp!" shouted his Honor.

"If your honor please, what is it?"

queried the lawyer.

"Be jabers, an' I wud jist loike to know where that coomes from!" replied the Justice.

"That—why that is from Archibald's Criminal Pleading—shall I read it?"

"No! gimme the bow!"

On brief glances at the title-page was enough. McCaffady's eyes twinkled.

"Divil a bit of artharity is that," he exclaimed. "What d'ye mane, sur-r, by bringing British law into an American court? What is our independince wurth, if we are to be subject to British law?"

The spectators roared, and the astounded counsel stammered out

the only explanation that could be made—that it was still the common law, and had not been repealed by statute.

"Common law!" cried his Honor, red with anger, "that d'ye mean, yer spalpeen, is tryin' to palm off yer common old British law on me?"

"Bedad, I'll fine yer for contempt!"

"Here is the same thing in 'Bishop,'" said the persecuted advocate.

"Gimme!"

The book was handed to McPaddy, and the title-page examined as before.

"I won't have it," said he; this book is printed in *Barston*!"

"But, your Honor—"

"Starp!" roared McPaddy, "I'll

in this case now. The Court decides that lager beer is an intoxicating liquor, becase the only toime the Court was iver dhrookt in his loife, bedad, an' it was on lager beer! The Court finds the defendint guilty—fifteen dollars and carsts!"

The defeated lawyer balled in disgust, and his German client paid the fine without a word. But as he sadly descended the stairs he was heard to mutter with much emphasis: "Shoostie! shoostie! And dese is shoostie! Py tam!"

Poor McPaddy! His career was brief. He is now shorn of his official honors, and he walks the streets a private citizen. But he is happy—he escaped the penitentiary!

CORRECTION.

[Mr. McPaddy typifies only too

large a class of characters prevailing in our American political life. The average justice of the peace in town is a burlesque of law.]

The first law of gravity—Never laugh at your own jokes.

An ambitious young lady was talking very loudly about her favorite authors, when a literary chap, asked if she liked Lamb. With a look of visible disgust she answered that she cared very little about what she ate, compared with knowledge.

Mr. Marrowat rather snappishly remarked to his wife, last Sunday.

that a man can't always be thinking of his immortal soul. He must have time to eat his meals.

Perhaps even more, that He  
Hath chastened the best glory from my life.

But sacred to this loss  
One small sweet chamber of my heart shall be;  
No foot shall ever cross  
The silent portals sealed to love and thee.

And sometimes, when my lips  
Are to my first-born's clinging close and long,  
Draining with bee-like sips  
All its sweet lily heart—will it be wrong?

If, for an instant, wild  
 With precious pain, I put the truth aside  
 And dream it is thy child  
 That I am fondling with such tender pride?  
 And when another's head

Sleeps on thy heart, if it should ever seem  
To be my own instead,  
Oh, darling, hold it closer for the dream.

God will forgive the sin,  
If sin it is: our lives are sweet so dry.

So cold, so passion-clean,  
Thank Him death comes at last--and so  
good-by!

That is a despair never to be either  
spoken or felt by a man, and, through  
all its assumption of spiritual resig-  
nation, pitifully eloquent of the just

nation, plucking eloquent of the just judgment of the Creator upon women who love not where they wed. The stanzas are the wonderful epigrams of unblest passions, and must surely have had an unhappy story behind

It is related of the late Senator Wigfall that on the collapse of the Confederacy, while crossing the Mississippi to make his way into Mex-

ico, in the assumed character of an ultra Union man, he was informed by a Federal soldier, who was on board the ferry boat, of the intense satisfaction he would experience if he could fall in with and hang to the

Texan arch traitor. "Yes, I, too, would be pulling at one end of the rope," vehemently responded Wigfall.







**Alabama & Chattanooga Railroad**

**Important Change**

Trains leave Birmingham for Chattanooga, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, at 10 o'clock, A. M., and for Chattanooga, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, at 7 o'clock, A. M.

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Trains leave Birmingham for Atlanta, Monday, Wednesday, Friday, at 10 o'clock, A. M., and for Atlanta, Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, at 7 o'clock, A. M.

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**Spring Term of Circuit Court in Tuscaloosa.**

After a recess of two weeks and two days, Judge Mudd opened the court last Monday afternoon. An extraordinary session of the court was held, the most interesting term known in Tuscaloosa for a great number of years. There were many cases, civil and criminal, of considerable importance and of a character calculated to, and did, draw out most of the people of the city to the court-house. Many of the speeches delivered would bear a favorable comparison with those of the more pretentious bars of large cities; besides, a degree of legal wisdom was evinced, in the theoretical examination of witnesses and discussion of nice points, that was without precedent at this court. The able Judge, too, added largely to his already enviable reputation for legal learning, impartial justice, dignity of manner, and firmness mingled with a due amount of amiability. Generally the court-room was filled with attentive seers and listeners of the instructive, interesting, and, at times, a feeling of relief pervaded communities wherein litigation having prevailed, cessation of the excitement ensued. Not so here in the case of the court just adjourned, but satisfactory to a large number of people, possibly excepting the immediate dramatic persons, including Judge, counsel-officials, lawyers, prisoners, plaintiffs, defendants, witnesses, and jurors. In conclusion, Tuscaloosa has sufficient cause to be very proud of her promising court, composed in the main of young and tolerably young men.

**One of the oldest and ablest lawyers at this Bar** assures us, that all the charges delivered by Judge Mudd during the late session of our circuit court, were the clearest and most comprehensive of any ever before emanating from this Bench.

The case of *Elissa H. Thornton*, charged with assault with intent to kill Smith, of Greene Co., Ala., was reached Thursday afternoon, and, after two days of trial, was disposed of; the verdict of the jury being for acquittal of the prisoner on the ground of insanity. The testimony of Dr. Bryson was all that a lawyer could desire. This case, though a very long one, was by no means tedious; it was exceedingly interesting and novel for this circuit; no similar case having ever been tried by Judge Mudd or any of his predecessors on this Bench. About forty witnesses appeared for the State, and some dozen depositions were read in behalf of the accused. Messrs. Morgan and Jolly appeared for the prosecution, and Messrs. Coleman and Crawford for the prisoner. Great ability marked the progress of the trial, on the part of all the counsel. Such speeches as were delivered may not be rivaled at this Bar in our generation. Judge Mudd, in his equally able charge to the jury, highly complimented counsel on both sides. The jury remained out about two hours, before rendering their verdict. Whilst there is some scepticism expressed in this community as to the actual insanity of Thornton, yet all are agreed that the jury did their duty in the premises, as there was a reasonable doubt of the prisoner's sanity. The poor, grief-stricken wife and two bright little children of Thornton, were present in the court-room throughout the trial. Thornton has been sent to the Ala. Insane Hospital. As he is a subscriber to the *Birmingham Post-Herald*, he is a subscriber to the *Birmingham Post-Herald*.

**Col. Jolly delivered a brief political speech** in the Court House, Friday last. He told the court and slunk anecdote, and applied it, rather offensively, to independent candidates. Whilst we are opposed to such candidates at this time, yet, in our humble opinion, any attempt to drive them into measures is ill-judged and impolitic. Many men may be led—few can be forced.

**A Judicious Challenge.**—One day last week, a jury was being organized for the trial of an assault with battery case. The counsel for the defendant wisely objected to Stokes, undertaker, on the supposition ground that said Stokes was interested; and, indeed by a desire to bury the prisoners, might hang the jury by maintaining the illegal claim that said prisoner should suffer death. Stokes was excused.

Judge Mudd made a very clear sweep both of the civil and criminal docket, and in the last term of our Circuit Court and the prospects of business for the fall term are rather gloomy for the lawyers.

As notified heretofore in these columns, the crop prospects of Tuscaloosa County are any thing but flattering. Though the river has receded, the bottom lands have baked very hard, and rain is needed badly. Much of the cotton now on uplands has died by reason of the cold nights in the latter part of April, and there are few or no stands of the weed to be seen any where. Corn is puny and backward, having been stunted in growth because it could not be worked. Therefore we say, that the crop prospects of this section are gloomy enough. The acreage in grain crops is probably larger than in any preceding year.

An invitation is to be given to the Ala. Press Association and their New York brethren, to visit Tuscaloosa about "doing" Birmingham. Several hundred dollars have been subscribed by our citizens to defray the expenses of a splendid supper to be served at Miller's Hall, by Aleck Simpson, of the "Home." Private notices will be opened for their reception during the night of their stay in our city. Prof. Lamborn has made arrangements to give a grand concert at the T. F. College, for their benefit. The Mayor will, of course, extend to the expected distinguished visitors the hospitality of the city, and do what he may feel authorized to do toward making the reception a perfect success. Now, if the A. & C. R. R. authorities will aid us by furnishing an extra train for the occasion, the affair will be a full success.

**Mrs. Smallwood** will open her **NEW MILLINERY** on **Monday, March 30th, 1874.** **CHOPRA FOR CASH!** March 26, 30th.

**L. D. Brown** never sells any cheap coal, but always sells **GOOD COAL** cheap.

**THE BEST & CHEAPEST**

**Now for it, Boys!!!**

We have just received the latest styles in White Vests—"The *Parisienne*," the noblest thing out. The very latest novelty in Scarfs and Linen Collars. A new lot of Fancy Cassimeres and Fancy Cassimere Pants, Ready Made. A new lot of Canfield's Hand-made Boots and Shoes, of the latest styles and most superior workmanship and material; and in fact, gentlemen, you can always find a stock of goods adapted to first-class trade, at **D. M. SCOTT & CO'S.**

The American Sash Co.'s Sash are made to order, and less than the cost of imported Sash. **25% Ready Made.**

A Large Stock of New Styles of Spring Goods daily opening at the **Atlanta Store.** Call and examine the pretty novelties.

Farmers heading rain badly.

**NEWS ITEMS.**

Gen. N. B. Jones is several days in bed, owing to a cold, and is unable to attend to his duties.

Mr. Thomas W. Roberts, the present city clerk, has been elected to the position of city clerk, and will be sworn in on the 1st inst.

The Livingston Journal wants Enoch Morgan, Esq., of Eufaula, to be nominated by Democratic Convention, for Chancellor of the Western Division.

Col. Geo. W. Chitt died at his home near Birmingham, on the 4th inst. Was a native of Virginia.

A Chain, Buckle, Room and Agricultural Implement Manufacturing Co., has been fully organized in Birmingham.

A table-spoonful of fine salt or horse-radish in a pan of milk, will keep it sweet for several days.

Regret to learn, from the *Selma Times* of the 7th inst., that its gifted editor, Col. Ruffalo, got one of his fingers painfully mashed the day before while boxing up a large press.

Albert Taylor, a brother-in-law of Col. John W. A. Sanford, of Montgomery, met with a shocking accident the other day on the N. & W. railroad, on which he was conductor. He accidentally fell between the cars when in motion, having one of his legs crushed so terribly as to render amputation necessary.

Serrano has taken possession of Bilbao, and succeeded in scattering the forces of Don Carlos. But replying to congratulations, Serrano stated that the Carlist government was shaken only, and not vanquished. Don Carlos has issued a proclamation to his followers expressing confidence, and that his cause will yet triumph.

We find the following press dispatch going the rounds of the papers:

(Washington, May 7.)—The President and Mrs. Grant request the pleasure of your company at the marriage of their daughter, at the Executive Mansion, on Thursday, May 21, at 11 o'clock A. M.

The Montgomery News thinks that Col. Joseph Hodgson is associated with the Mobile Register.

Dr. T. O. Summers, Jr., has been made a professor in Nashville Medical College. So much for having a father.

At the late General Conference of the M. E. Church South, in Louisville, about 3,000 delegates, from every State except Virginia, were present, including all the six Bishops. Rev. Dr. Paine presided, Dr. T. O. Summers, Secretary.

Cum gratias, Judge of the City Court of Montgomery, has granted the Radical official papers, for the first time, a new trial. The decision was very satisfactory. The *Advertiser* says that "his final conclusion, i. e., granting the new trial, will not serve to dissipate the feeling, that indictments against officials of the Radical party are so much waste-paper."

The New York visitors, to be in Birmingham on the 19th inst., will remain in the State only five days.

James Boyce, of Louisville, presided over the late Baptist Convention at Jefferson, Tenn.

Abram Minkoff, for many years the sharp president of the *Mobile and Ohio Railroad*, was at length being ousted, and another, Tanker, named Duncan, of the firm of Duncan, Sherman and Co., New York, has been elected in his stead.

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[Editorial Note.]

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**To the Members of the Alabama Press Association.**

The annual meeting of the Alabama Press Association will commence on Tuesday, the 19th inst., at Birmingham. Members of the Association will come prepared to pay their dues. A cordial invitation is extended to the Press of the State to join the Association.

A full attendance of the Association of New York, Georgia and Tennessee is expected, and many ladies with them. Birmingham has extended the hospitality of the city to the entire assemblage, and we sincerely hope that the attendance of the Association will be very large. The Press of the State will please copy.

SEABORN J. SAMPFORD, Pres't Ala. Press Association.

**Something to be Understood!**

Why do the retail furnishing houses of New York and elsewhere sell dry goods so much cheaper than our merchants here at home? Simply because *goods have fallen in price* and until now our merchants have not felt the reduction. If the ladies will give E. Snow & Co. a fair trial, they will be convinced that a fair trial of stock of Dress Goods, Linens, Ribbons, Embroideries, Fancy Articles, etc., of which they have a beautiful and complete assortment, will be sold on as low terms as any to be found in this country. They are here, at home, and ask a trial.

**County Nominating Conventions.**

The following question has been asked by one of the ablest men in Alabama, at the conclusion of one of his esteemed favors:—

"What do you think of calling county nominating conventions in advance of the State Convention? Answer in the *News*."

I think it unprecedented and unwise.

We do not, of course, intend to be understood as expressing any other than a strictly newspaper opinion on the subject, entitled to no more weight than a mere individual utterance. It would be better, we think, to await the action of the State Convention, with the resolutions there passed, and the ticket there nominated, before making county nominations, provided it does not involve additional expense, and a serious loss of time. Delegates, however, have to be sent to the State Convention, and a convention must assemble for that purpose. To postpone nominations until after the State Convention will enable the County Conventions to act more intelligently; but whether it may be expedient to do so, on the ground of additional expense and trouble, raises the only doubtful point. We believe the usage has been to await the assembling and proceedings of the State Convention. What is, then, of the very last importance is that County Conventions shall be held in every County of the State, and that all conservative candidates shall submit their claims to the decision of these County Conventions of their fellow citizens. Let us all stand together in good faith towards each other, and with the inspiring cry of a White Man's Government, and rights for all, for the good of the white and black, and our triumph can be made sure.

—*Montgomery News.*

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Yours truly, G. S. ADLER.

P. S.—If you can't hear from these parties, please send this letter to the Sheriff at Tuscaloosa, Ala. The little boy says he has been to Tuscaloosa.

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