

**Saint Paul Pioneer.**

**PRYOR, THE MURDERER.**

**A Visit to the Doomed Man.  
HE STRENUOUSLY DENIES HIS  
GUILT.**

Our reporter yesterday visited John Pryor, the murderer at Fort Snelling, condemned to be hung on Oct. 10, two weeks from to-day. We were in company with Wm. H. Grant, Esq., the prisoner's attorney. Col. McLaren, commandant of the post, kindly went with us, to secure for us passage through the triple line of guards on the interior and exterior of the "Military Prison."

**THE MILITARY PRISON.**

This prison is a stout stone building erected last fall for the secure keeping of military prisoners under arrest for various crimes, and combines in one edifice (three large apartments in a row) a guard house, a prison and a dungeon with cells. In the first room is the common "Guard House," where soldiers are placed for a few hours for trivial offences (drunkenness, disorderly conduct, &c.) This is guarded only by a sentinel at the door, which is open. In it were a few men lounging around. Passing through another door, guarded by sentinels with fixed bayonets, the visitor finds himself in another large room. Here are several men confined awaiting trial or sentence. "Shakopee" and "Medicine Bottle," the two Indian murderers, are also kept in this room, in irons. Passing into the third apartment through another door guarded as above, we find ourselves in a room where those guilty of the higher offences are kept, as we infer from a row of cells or dungeons on one side.

**THE PRISONER'S CELL.**

In the corner cell of this row Pryor, the doomed man, is imprisoned. A couple of days since a small room was partitioned off from the rest of the apartment, thus making a kind of ante-room to his cell, and allows those who visit him some sort of seclusion from the gaze and curiosity of the other prisoners in the room. Inside this ante-room to Pryor's cell, a guard with loaded musket and fixed bayonet paces up and down, so as to prevent any attempt at escape on the part of the prisoner, or any collusion at escape, by the passing to him of instruments to break his way out, on the part of the other prisoners. We may remark here, en passant, that the building is not only a strong one, but sentinels are continually pacing up and down the outside, so that, with those also on the inside, a prisoner's chance for escape is by no means encouraging.

**HOW PRYOR ACTS.**

On entering Pryor's room we found the prisoner lying down on his cot. His guard informed us that he spends nearly his whole time in lying down, occasionally pacing up and down in a very dejected manner, and says but little. He advanced to meet Mr. Grant, his counsel, in a very eager manner, with a sort of expectant look. If we interpret

**MORE HANGING.**

**Shakopee and Medicine Bottle  
Sentenced to Swing.**

**THEY RECEIVE THE NEWS WITH  
STOICAL COMPOSURE.**

Yesterday Gen. Corse received orders from Washington approving the finding of the Military Commission which tried the two Indians Shakopee and Medicine Bottle, and an order from Major General Pope directing their execution at such time as Gen. Corse may fix. The order from Washington is as follows:

THE PRESIDENT APPROVES THE SENTENCE.  
[General Court Martial, Orders No. 508.]

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJ'T. GEN'S. OFFICE,  
WASHINGTON, Sept. 7, 1865.

I. Before a Military Commission which convened at Fort Snelling, Minnesota, November 25, 1864, pursuant to special orders No. 244, dated November 18, 1864, and No. 248, dated November 23, 1864, Headquarters District of Minnesota, Department of the Northwest, St. Paul, Minnesota, and of which Capt. John R. Jones, 2d Minnesota Cavalry was President, were arraigned and tried.

1. *Tahla e-chash-nah-manne*, alias Medicine Bottle, a Sioux Indian.

CHARGE I.—"Murder."

CHARGE II.—"Participation in the murders, massacres and other outrages committed by the Sioux Indians upon the white settlers in the State of Minnesota."

To which charges and their specifications the accused plead "not guilty."

**FINDING.**

The Commission, having maturely considered the evidence adduced, finds the accused, *Tahla e-chash-nah-manne*, alias Medicine Bottle, a Sioux Indian, as follows:

CHARGE I:

Of the 1st specification "Guilty."  
Of the 2d " " " " "Guilty."  
Of the 3d " " " " "Guilty."  
Of the 4th " " " " "Guilty," except the words "Renville and other counties."

Of the 5th specification "Not Guilty."

Of the Charge, "Guilty."

CHARGE II:

Of the 1st specification "Guilty," except the words "Brown, Renville, Nicollet and other counties."

Of the 2d specification, "Guilty."

Of the 3d specification, "Guilty."

Of the Charge, "Guilty."

**SENTENCE.**

And the commission does therefore sentence him, *Tahla e-chash-nah-manne*, alias "Medicine Bottle," a Sioux Indian, "To be hanged by the neck until he is dead, at such time and place as the Brigadier General commanding may direct; two-thirds of the members concurring."

2. *Shakopee*, alias "Little Six," a Sioux Indian.

CHARGE I. "Murder."

CHARGE II. "General participation in the murders, massacres and other outrages committed by the Sioux Indians upon the whites in 1862."

To which charges and their specifications the accused pleaded "Not guilty."

**FINDING.**

The commission, having maturely considered the evidence adduced, finds the accused, *Shakopee*, alias "Little Six," a Sioux Indian, as follows:

CHARGE I.

Of the first specification, "Guilty," except the words "in company with other Indians of the same tribe," and the word "Brown."

Of the 2d specification "guilty," except the words "did in company with other Indians of the same tribe," and the words "three or

their execution has not been fixed; but it is improbable that it will be the same day as the execution of Pryor. The long delay in the view and approval of the finding had almost induced our citizens to believe that the fiends were to escape the punishment due the crime, as scores of others did in '62 and '63. But Justice though often slow, is always "sure," and those who desire can soon see Messrs. Six and Bottle shuffle off this mortal coil in a public manner.

**ARRIVAL OF HORACE GREELEY.—**

Horace Greeley arrived on the Itasca yesterday morning, and proceeded to the International where he remained several hours. In the meantime he was waited on by the Lecturers Committee of our Library Association, whom he promised to deliver a lecture this evening in aid of the institution.

A committee of Minneapolis gentlemen took Mr. Greeley in charge, and escorted him to the Falls. To-day he goes down, in company with a number of invited guests, on a sort of excursion to celebrate the opening of the Minnesota Central Railroad from Minneapolis to Dundas. He will return to this city on the Albany this evening at 7 1/2 o'clock, and deliver a lecture here. See notice elsewhere.

To-morrow, we learn, Mr. Greeley lectured at the State Fair, and will be compelled by engagements to go down the river on Thursday.

**HON. HORACE GREELEY AT INGERSOLL**

HALL, THIS EVENING!—The veteran editor of the *New York Tribune* has consented to deliver a single lecture in St. Paul, in compliance with an invitation of long standing from the Library Association. He will, therefore, speak this evening, at Ingersoll's Hall, commence promptly at eight o'clock.

The subject of the lecture has not transpired, but being before the Library Association, it will, of course, be of a purely literary character. Mr. Greeley, from his long participation in public life and his contact with leading minds, as well as by his untiring industry, has made himself capable of speaking with interest on almost any subject. Our citizens will all be glad of an opportunity of seeing Mr. Greeley, and of contributing towards filling the Library shelves with fresh matter for the writer's reading.

The price of tickets will be fifty cents, and may be had this morning at Combs' drug store, under the International, and at Combs' bookstore, next the Post Office. Seats can also be reserved, at the same price, at Munger's Music Store, until six o'clock this evening.

**THE OKRA PLANT OR "GUMBO."**

—L. Wedelstaedt has laid on our table a quantity of this plant, so popular in the Southern States for soups, &c. It can be raised here just as well as at the South, and is even more productive. It is quite easily cultivated, requiring no more attention than a crop of Indian corn. The pods are most delicious in soups, but many persons prefer them stewed. They should be plucked when perfectly tender, consequently when only a third or half their natural growth—otherwise they are worthless for the table. In this state, too, they can be strung up with twine, and hung up to dry for winter use.

for some time, eagerness and anxiety depicted on his whole countenance. He did not seem to notice Col. McLaren or our reporter until he had finished his business with his attorney. After being introduced to him he conversed with us freely, and made the following statement:

#### PRYOR'S STATEMENT.

I was born in the city of Cork, Ireland. I am about 30 or 32 years of age, I don't know which exactly. I came to this country about seven or eight years ago. When this war broke out I was living at Liberty, Mo., where I have a sister married. I have also a brother at St. Mary's Mission, Kansas, and my mother is still living in Ireland. In the winter of 1862-3 I was conscripted into the rebel army. It was done when I was beside myself from liquor. I was sent to a large camp, and afterwards placed in the Third Missouri Regiment. I served with them about six or seven months, seeking a chance to escape. There were quite a number of us in the same fix. We escaped to the Union army at Vicksburg. Afterwards, we were in great danger of being recaptured by them. Our troops were once taken prisoners by the rebels, but we extricated our way through rather than be captured by them. I was then put in the Sixth Indiana Cavalry, and afterwards sent to this State.

I did not intend to kill Stelfox. I had nothing against him. I was out of my mind with liquor at the time, and did not know what I was doing. I had been on a spree for four or five days, because I was so overjoyed at the news that I was to be mustered out of service. I was greatly astonished when I heard I had killed Stelfox. God knows my heart that I did not mean to. I am innocent of this crime—because I was out of my mind—kind of "moo-ney" like, you know. Liquor has caused all my troubles.

This is about the substance of his statement, which we print in justice to him, and out of pity to a man who, whether guilty or not, is certainly to be pitied. After answering every question put to him, his mind seemed to revert to the murder, and he kept repeating "I didn't intend to kill him. I was out of my mind." His whole appearance is that of a broken-down, abject, miserable being, suffering terrible mental agony.

#### HIS PERSONAL APPEARANCE.

Pryor is a spare-built man, about 5 feet 6 inches in height, and weighs about 140 pounds. He has black hair and eyes, and his complexion is dark. He looks somewhat rough, as his beard was unshorn. He speaks with a strong, Celtic brogue, and we should class him among the most ignorant and uneducated of his countrymen. He can neither read or write, and his intellect seems very dull. His descriptive list is endorsed: "This man has been a good soldier."

#### HIS RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CRIME.

It is difficult to tell how far to believe his plea of being "out of his mind at the time of the murder." When he was first arrested, his demeanor was bold and defiant. To one officer who said: "You must have been crazy to have done such a thing in the presence of so many witnesses," he replied: "No I wasn't crazy—I knew what I was about." He also told some one who spoke to him in horror of the deed, "John Pryor is not the fellow to be fooled with." A day or two after his confinement at Fort Snelling, while passing by the Dead House in which Stelfox's body lay, he remarked with an air of levity to his guard—"that fellow has got his deserts." He still

and except the words "in said county of Brown or Renville."

Of the 5th specification "Not guilty."

Of the charge "Guilty."

#### CHARGE II.

Of the 1st specification "Guilty," except the word "Brown."

Of the 2d specification "Not guilty."

Of the charge "Guilty," except the word "general."

#### SENTENCE.

And the Commission does therefore sentence him, *Shakopee*, alias *Little Six*—a Sioux Indian—"two thirds of the members concurring, to be hanged by the neck until dead, at such time and place as the Brigadier General commanding may direct."

II. The proceedings, findings, and sentences of the Commission in the above cases of *Tah-ta-e-chas-nah-menne*, alias *Medicine Bottle*, and *Shakopee*, alias *Little Six*, Sioux Indians, were approved by the proper commanders and the records forwarded for the action of the President of the United States.

The findings and sentences are approved and confirmed, and will be carried into execution under the orders of the commanding General, Department of the Missouri.

By order of the President of the United States.

E. D. TOWNSEND, A. A. G.

GEN. POPE'S ORDER FOR THE EXECUTION.

HEADQUARTERS, DEPARTMENT OF THE

MISSOURI, ST. LOUIS, MO.

September 15, 1865.

[GENERAL ORDERS No. 49.]

[Extract.]

3. The sentence of the Military Commissioner in the case of *Tah-ta-e-chas-nah-menne*, alias "Medicine Bottle," and *Shakopee*, alias "Little Six," as published in "General Court Martial Orders No. 508, C. S., War Department, A. G. O.," will be carried into execution under the direction of Brevet Major Gen. J. M. Corse, commanding District of Minnesota, at such time and place as he may designate.

By command of Maj. Gen. Pope.

D. G. SWAIN, A. A. G.

A copy of these orders were at once forwarded to Col. McLaren, commander of the post at Fort Snelling, and by him communicated to the prisoners.

#### HOW THE ABORIGINS RECEIVED THE NEWS.

Our Reporter was also permitted to visit the doomed Chieftains, and found them in the middle room of the Military Prison. They were both lounging on a bench drawn up alongside a dining table, surrounded by several white men confined in the same room. *Little Six*, or *Shakopee*, was leaning down whittling a stick, and seemed to pay no attention to any thing around him. He is an elderly man (if we should use such a term to speak of a fiend who murdered thirty-six men, women and children) and slightly bald on the top of his head. His hair is long but not so coarse and raven black as is usual with his tribe. He has a somewhat mild expression and is bleached so that he might nearly pass for a white man.

*Medicine Bottle* is a regular black, "big ingen." He has coarse features, coarse hair, and a bad expression. Both the prisoners are clothed in army uniforms, and both have heavy chains on their ankles and around their waists. They are fat and seemed to have lived well.

Col. McLaren, accompanied by an interpreter, (an Indian named "Ozhee") having called *Little Six* and Mr. *Bottle's* attention, proceeded to read them the order for their execution. When *Ozhee* had signified to the murderers their fate, both grunted "Ugh!" and appeared to receive the news without the change of a single muscle, or any apparent sign of feeling.

Mr. *Shakopee* dramatically drew himself up

occasionally changed, otherwise the yearly grow shorter.

#### STATE FAIR—WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY.

—All persons going up to the St. Paul and Pacific Railroad with nibusses and hacks at Saint Anthony which will take them direct to the fair. From St. Anthony north half fare to be sold good during the three days.

Between St. Paul and St. Anthony will be charged, and regular trains of run, except perhaps on Thursday, when a train may go up at 11 o'clock A. M.

#### PERSONAL.—Wm. R. Carver,

the firm of Cooley, Carver & Co., 1 day for New York and St. Louis in place he will engage in business, and his establishment here. He designs in years, however, to open a branch for the sale of some few specialties which he will devote his attention to him abundant success.

—S. E. Gee, late agent in this city & Baker's sewing machines, also yesterday for the East. He purposes on some future day, although at present removed from the city.

—Rev. Dr. S. Y. McMasters left this morning to attend the Triennial Convention of the Episcopal Church, at Philadelphia.

—Charles Stuart Wagner left on Troy, New York, where he designs to reside in future.

—The census-taker will have a few additions and additions to make in his list. A. Stees received a visitor a day or so of "standard weight"—10 pounds.

#### NEW GOODS.—STRONG'S CARPET

HOUSE.—R. O. Strong yesterday received other very large consignment of goods, pets, and household furnishing stuff. He has now a very full assortment of goods wanting goods in his line shown once, as his stock is complete.

#### THE STATE FAIR.—To-morrow

Fair opens, at Minneapolis, and will continue until Friday evening. The officers of the fair will be in attendance to day at the Fair Grounds to receive entries. Ample accommodations made for stock, and there will be no charge for all who wish to exhibit—so that need be afraid to become an exhibit of lack of room.

#### BURGLARY.—On Sunday night

the post office of Dr. D. C. Price, in Market Block, was broken open by some burglar. Doubtless expected to find gold plate, Price keeps those articles in a little safe, and the burglars were compelled to part no better off than when they went.

#### ATTENTION, SIR KNIGHTS!—The

be a convolve of Damascens Commandery, No. 1, K. T., at the Asylum this (Tuesday) evening at 7 1/2 o'clock. Members are particularly requested to be present. Stranger Sir in good standing are cordially invited. By order of E. C. C.

L. E. REED, Rec.

#### BRYANT, STRATTON & Co.'s great

national chain of commercial colleges last triumphantly carried off the blue