

of the Editor, from *Linnæ's Weekly Newspaper*, May 3rd, 1863.

THE appearance of Mr. John Stuart Mill as a gallows advocate is a public misfortune. It is an event so important, that we feel bound to follow the philosopher with scrupulous care through the train of reasoning which has lodged him where he stands. The force of his example, and the power of his intellect, contributed to put Mr. Gilpin in the sad minority of 23, against a majority of 127.

Mr. Mill opened with the confession that he regretted to

have accomplished, ~~the~~ application of capital punishment. But he deems the extension of their principles to the complete abolition of capital punishment an irrational application of it. According to him, they have failed to perceive the proper point at which they should stop. Mr. Mill having pondered anxiously the question of capital punishment, as applied to the murderer, has come to a conclusion, which he puts into one emphatic sentence, "When there has been brought home to any one, by conclusive evidence, the greatest crime known to the law, and when the attendant circumstances suggest no palliation of the guilt—no hope that the culprit may even yet not be worthy to live among mankind; nothing to make it probable that the crime was an exception to his general character, rather than a consequence of it, then, I confess, it appears to me, that to

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Scardale