

GRIT.

A PAPER FOR THE PEOPLE.

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Price One Penny

A MAN?

(SPECIAL TO "GRIT.")

A man! What, that?
A muddy pair of trousers, and a battered
bowler hat,
A ragged coat, boots half undone—a dirty
tattered shirt,
A man? No, 'tis a scarecrow, that has
fallen in the dirt,
It moves, it rolls, it tries to walk, but
walk it never can,
'Tis a snivelling, drivelling drunkard, yet
it calls itself—A MAN.

A man! Take note:
Its face is coarse and bloated, and it's
bulky round the throat.
Its eyes are bleary, beery eyes, it has a
flabby lip,
And its nose is ornamented with a pimple
on the tip,
Its tongue is hot and swollen, like a sau-
sage in the pan,
It dribbles like a baby, yet it thinks itself
A MAN.

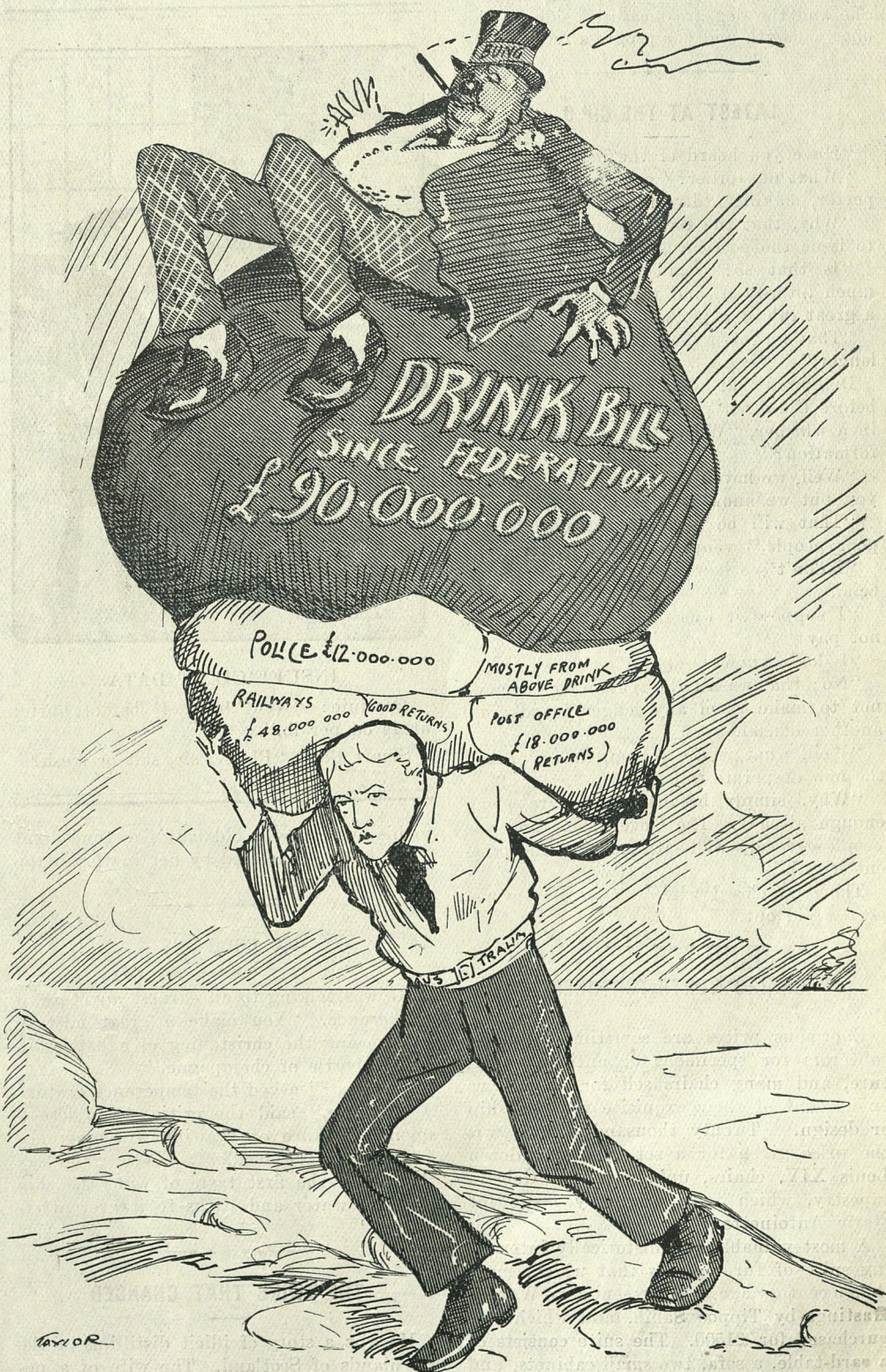
A man! Just see—
It rams its penknife in the lock, and thinks
it is a key,
And when its wife comes down the stairs,
to let it in the door,
It enters rather suddenly, and lands upon
the floor.
And now it cannot find the stairs—it quite
forgets the plan
Of the house and all that's in it—yet it
claims to be A MAN.

A man! Why now
Its wife has got it through the hall, it
couldn't tell you how—
At last it grasps the banisters, its wife is
far too kind,
And every step it takes itself, she props it
up behind.
At last they reach the bedroom, the bed is
spick and span—
But, it tumbles in, boots, clothes and mud,
yet calls itself A MAN.

A man!—next day
It gets up with a headache, in a disagree-
able way.
It says the eggs are rotten, and the bacon
miles too fat,
It throws a saucer at the dog, and tries to
kick the cat,
It calls its wife—well everything a drunken
husband can.
It swears at all the children, yet it calls
itself A MAN.

Take heed! Take heed!!
Oh snivelling, drivelling drunkard, and be
a man indeed:
A man more worthy of the name, that all
the world may see,
GOD'S MAN, clean bodied, and clean
souled, as he was meant to be,
And pure of lip, and life, and heart, live
out your little span,
That you may rise to heights beyond—the
spirit of A MAN.

MARJERY BROWNE, Drummoyne.



"ADVANCE! AUSTRALIA."

—"What! with such a Load as this to Carry?"

A FORTUNE FOR GROWING

One of the most remarkable wills on record was that left by Herr Hugo Hecht, a wealthy Berlin banker and dog-fancier, who, although he was the possessor of a large fortune, had been handicapped by Nature with the stature of a dwarf.

His lack of inches so preyed upon Herr Hecht's mind that he became very eccentric in the last years of his life, and was ever haunted by the fear that his little girl might inherit his deformity. By his will he left instructions that his prize collie dog, Bruno, should be the constant playmate and companion of little Alice, and that at the death of his widow his only child should receive his entire fortune, "provided that she had grown as tall, or taller, than the dog when extended, standing on its hind legs." If the child's height failed to exceed that of the dog, or if Bruno died before little Alice grew up, all the money save £200 a year was to be divided among certain charitable institutions.

When Alice was three years old her father died. She is now four, and, much to the delight of her friends, is growing rapidly. She and the dog are measured side by side once a month and her progress recorded.

LATEST AT THE G.P.O.

"Have you heard of the new order?"

"What new order?" eagerly asked the reporter, making a dive for his pencil.

"Why, that the Government is not going to issue the post-cards any longer."

"Is that so?" said the reporter, very much interested, and this time pulling out a great tab of paper and a stubby pencil.

"That's a fact; they will not be made any longer."

Delighted that he had obtained some news before the other papers, the reporter asked in a whisper, "Where did you get your information?"

"Well, we haven't any official information yet, but we know it is so."

"That will be a great hardship to the poor people," ventured the reporter.

"I don't see how it will," replied the official.

"I suppose it was done because they do not pay?"

"I don't know."

"No; that wasn't the reason they decided not to make them any longer," spoke up another official.

"Well, what is the reason, then?" asked the now desperate reporter.

"Why, simply because they are long enough already. The Government and the people are very well satisfied with the present length."

The door closed with a bang, as the reporter slid out.

CHAIRS WORTH FORTUNES

Enormous prices are sometimes paid by collectors for specimens of antique furniture, and many chairs sell for huge sums on account of their exquisite workmanship or design. Twenty thousand pounds was the price given for a set of half a dozen Louis XIV. chairs, upholstered in Gobelin tapestry, which were originally made for Marie Antoinette.

A most valuable and historically interesting suite of furniture is that which, more than a century ago, was presented to Warren Hastings by Tippoo Sahib, and which was purchased for £1500. The suite consists of a card-table, a sofa, two small cabinets, and four armchairs, all of solid ivory most exquisitely carved.

But probably the most costly chair in the world is one that belonged to the late Shah of Persia. It is of solid gold, thickly en-

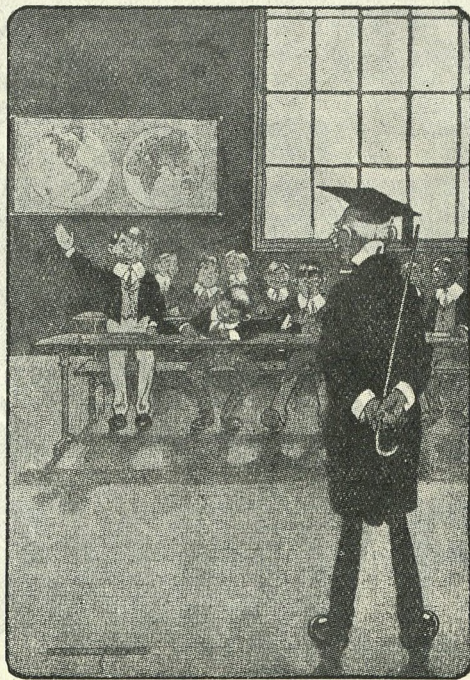
crusted with diamonds, rubies, pearls, and sapphires, and its value is estimated at half a million pounds.

In the House of Commons at Westminster are two armchairs which are highly valued for their historic associations. They once belonged to Gladstone, and one of them was his favourite seat when at Downing-street.

Some time ago a romantic story was told in the French papers of two dilapidated arm-chairs which were sold among the effects of a Mme. Borg, a widow, who died at Dellys, an Algerian seaport town. The widow was reputed to be rich, but a search of her rooms failed to disclose any of her hoardings, and it was assumed by her relatives that she had died practically penniless.

Not long after the sale of her furniture, however, it was observed that the purchaser of the chairs, a Spanish stevedore named Perez, ceased to work, began to walk about in fine clothes, to purchase land and houses, and generally gave evidence of having come into a fortune.

Suspicion being aroused, Perez was arrested, and accused of having appropriated



INSUFFICIENT DATA.

Dominie: "Now, boys, 4½ lbs. of butter at 1s 3d per lb."

Smart Boy: "Please, sir, salt or fresh?"

to his own use the old lady's fortune of at least £5000, concealed by her in the dilapidated armchairs.

A GOOD ONE

He was talking to an earnest advocate of temperance. "You make a great mistake in opposing the christening of a battleship with a bottle of champagne."

"Why so?" asked the temperance orator.

"Because," said the critic, "you lose a splendid chance of drawing a temperance lesson from the incident. You could say that after the first taste of wine the ship takes to water and sticks to it ever afterwards!"

THE TWINS THAT CHANGED

Here is a story of illicit distilling in the Highlands of Scotland. The wife of a notorious smuggler was standing at her door one day, when she saw a gauger approaching. She clapped her hands at the hens, gazing at the sky with fine unconcern, and then went leisurely indoors. When the

gauger entered the house, she was seated with a child in her arms, while she rocked with her foot the cradle which contained another; and she was crooning a quaint old Gaelic lullaby, with that coaxing, heart-reaching accent that is peculiar to the Highland tongue. The gauger looked around, felt for loose boards, groped up the chimney, but, discovering nothing that would arouse suspicion, at length went off without even a surly "good morning." And the good-wife droned on with her song: "Child of my heart, child of my heart, my joy." But had the gauger re-visited the house half an hour later, he would have found that the "twins" had evolved into two two-gallon jars.

15,000 DOCTORS AGAINST 16

Speaking at the annual business meeting of the National Temperance League, held at Sion College, London, the Dean of Hereford, who presided, said that against the manifesto in favour of alcohol signed by sixteen doctors, they had the opinion of 15,000 medical men, who strongly recommended Government powers to introduce hygiene and temperance teaching.

Dr. Claude Taylor endorsed these remarks. They had a harder task than ever before them, he said, and that was to prove that moderation was not good, that what was wanted was total abstinence.

THE STORY OF THE SAPPHIRE

The romance of mining is again exemplified in the discovery of "New Mine." A while ago a party of old miners were prospecting on the Yogo dyke, near the border that divides the United States from Canada. They found gold; the find proved lucrative, but the difficulty was water; this had to be brought from a distance. In panning the gulch the miners picked up a few little bluish stones. These proved to be sapphires, and of a rich quality. Views of "New Mine" and the methods of mining, specimens of the output in the rough, and the processes, including sorting, cutting, and setting, through which the stone has to pass before it becomes an article of jewellery are the objects of an exhibition that is to open in the Quest Gallery, 172 New Bond-street, London. As in the instance of most of the precious stones, the lichen of mythology has encrusted itself round the sapphire. The prophets, evangelists and poets use the gem as a type to convey the idea of extreme beauty. The sapphire is one of the stones set in the High Priest's breast-plate. In the calendar of the Saints it is the gem of St. Andrew, and is emblematic of his heavenly faith and good hope.

Among the ancients the stone was typical of Jupiter, and also dedicated to Apollo. To-day the romancers assign the stone to the month of April, and invest the gem with the powers of constancy, virtue, and truth. It is also held that the gem induces sleep, and impels the wearer to all good works. Next to the Diamond the Sapphire is the hardest known mineral. The largest stone ever seen in Europe weighs about 250 carats, the stone next in size is some 165 carats; the latter has changed hands at a value of between £7000 and £8000.

The too common custom of "drinking healths" had a most curious origin. In the days when the Danes lorded it over England they had a very common habit of stabbing Englishmen in the throat when drinking. To avoid this villainy, a man, when drinking, would request some of the sitters-by to be his pledge, or surety, whilst taking his draught. Hence the custom.

The Doom of Drink

The Saloon Outlawed in Indiana—Most Important Judicial Decision in 50 Years

"Not since the day of the Dred Scott decision have the words of authority spoken from the bench caused such disquiet and rejoicing as have come since Judge Artman, of Indiana, declared that the Liquor License is unconstitutional" (says an American journal). The disquiet is among the liquor-sellers, the rejoicing is among the hosts of temperance, who are fighting the drink traffic to a finish.

The history of this famous case is as follows: In 1879 the Supreme Court of Indiana held that a lottery might be legally conducted in Indiana under a charter granted to Vincennes University in 1807, one clause in which charter provided for the conducting of a lottery for the support of the library of the university. Four years later the Supreme Court was induced to review the case, and they reversed their former decision, and held that a lottery in Indiana was unconstitutional, quoting a decision of another court in which it is declared that "no legislature can bargain away the public health or the public morals. The people themselves cannot do it, much less their servants."

In 1890 the United States Supreme Court said: "There is no inherent right in a citizen to thus sell intoxicating liquor at retail; it is not a privilege of a citizen of the State or a citizen of the United States." In 1893 the Supreme Court of Indiana granted damages to a Mrs. Haggart, because her cottage on College Avenue, Indianapolis, was next door to a saloon. In this decision they practically said that "an orderly saloon in an orderly neighbourhood may be a nuisance per se."

Many other decisions showed the inherent bad character of the saloon business. The Supreme Court of Indiana has decided that a law authorising prize-fighting would be unconstitutional on account of the bad character of the business.

Putting all these decisions together, although not an attorney, Charles E. Newlin, of Indianapolis, became convinced that the saloon could not be constitutionally licensed in Indiana. It was decided to use as a test the application of a German grocery keeper, who was asking for a license to conduct a saloon where he was conducting his grocery, in the Tenth Ward of the city of Indianapolis. The firm of Doan and Orbison were selected to file a remonstrance in the name of Schuyler Young and William J. Trefz, voters of the Tenth Ward, against the granting of this license. The attorney for the county commissioners advised the commissioners to overrule the remonstrance and grant the license, which was done. An appeal was at once taken to the Circuit Court. A change of venue was taken from Marion County, and Judge Henry Clay Allen sent it to Boone County. Judge Samuel R. Artman, of the Boone County Circuit Court, set January 25th as the date upon which to hear argument on the case. Wilson S. Doan and Charles J. Orbison, of Indianapolis, each spoke about an hour in presenting the case for the remonstrators, and arguing that the license should not be granted, as such a license would be unconstitutional on account of the character of the business to be licensed.

They denied, on the following grounds, the right of the board of commissioners and of the court then in session to grant a license:

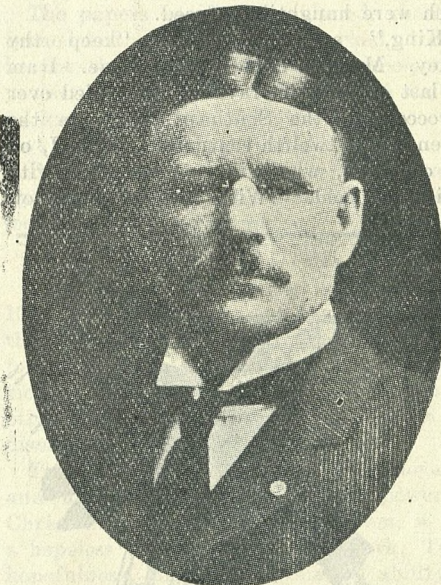
First, because said board of commissioners did not have jurisdiction over the subject matter of the public morals, the public health, and the public safety, and is there-

fore inherently immoral and unlawful, and cannot be licensed under the constitution of the State of Indiana, or the constitution of the United States.

Second, because the sale of intoxicating liquors at retail, to be drunk as a beverage upon the premises where sold, is destructive of public morals, the public health and the public safety, and is therefore inherently immoral and unlawful, and cannot be licensed under the constitution of the State of Indiana or under the constitution of the United States.

Third, because Sections 1219, 7281, 7283, 7284, of the Burns' Revised Statutes, 1901, and being license law of 1875, under which said license is sought to be granted, are unconstitutional, as being in conflict with the spirit and purpose of the constitution of the State of Indiana, as set out in the preamble of said constitution.

John W. Kealing, of Indianapolis, spoke about an hour and a half for the appli-



SAMUEL R. ARTMAN,
Judge of the Circuit Court of Boone
County, Ind.

cant, holding that license was a restriction under the police power of the State, and that the character of the business was a matter for legislative determination, and not a judicial matter.

Judge Artman took the case under advisement and stated that he would give the most careful study of the briefs filed by both sides, and would hand down his decision on February 13th. When Judge Artman took the bench at 9.30 on the morning of February 13th, every seat in the large court-room was taken and many were standing. Almost the entire bar of Boone County honoured the judge by their presence, and many attorneys from other cities were in attendance, as well as numerous other visitors from Indianapolis, Lafayette and other points. For more than an hour the large audience hung breathlessly on every word of Judge Artman's, as he spoke the momentous words that for the first time officially declared the license of the saloon unconstitutional.

The judge held that the police power of a State is exercised in order to promote the health, safety, comfort, morals and welfare of the public; that, measured by the common law, the saloon business is unlawful and therefore without a legal existence. He found that common-law prohibition exists and prevails except where revoked and

nullified by statute. The counsel for the applicant argued that it was the exclusive province of the legislature to determine what measures are appropriate and useful for the protection of the public morals, the public health and the public safety, and that its determination of the question, and the character of the measure cannot be inquired into by the courts. Judge Artman held that to maintain that our federal or State legislatures possessed such powers would be a political heresy, altogether inadmissible in our free republican governments. The counsel for the applicant held that to strike down the State law legalising the saloon would subject society to the innumerable woes and vices of an unrestrained liquor traffic, without any means of protection; that in such case there would be no criminal law by which it could be suppressed.

Judge Artman was careful to show that the effect of the counsel's petition was to maintain that an unlawful business must be legalised before it can be suppressed. If it were legalised the most that could be done would be to regulate and control it as a lawful business, but treating it as unlawful, it can be suppressed, abated, prohibited and absolutely annihilated, and this can be effectually done without any criminal statute.

"If the proposition, that any business, the inherent tendency and effect of which is to destroy the public health, the public morals, or the public safety, is immoral and unlawful, is sound, it must follow, as the day follows the night, that the business which is the source of a greater amount of crime and misery in every State, than any other cause, is the most immoral and most unlawful business there is in any State."

At the close of the reading the entire audience broke into applause and hearty cheers until called to order by the vigorous rapping by Judge Artman.

The liquor people have refused to appeal—the case, thus advertising their fear to meet the issue before the Supreme Court. Because of this fact the decision will affect only the one saloon, but it has inspired the temperance forces of not only the State of Indiana but throughout the nation. Three new cases have been started in three different counties. Within ten days several others were to be instituted. The temperance forces of the State are determined to have a decision from the Supreme Court on the question. It is stated that similar cases are to be begun in three different States, with the view of taking them to the United States Supreme Court in each instance.

When the American judiciary outlaws the liquor traffic, the liquor interests may well tremble. The prohibition crusade is no longer to depend for its support upon the church and the temperance organisations. The conscience of the whole nation has been awakened to the fact that the issues are not merely of moral but of economic consequence, and that the health, the well-being and prosperity of this great people are so intimately involved in this problem that the solution cannot be left to chance or the doubtful contest of vested interests and corporation greed with out-and-out reform principles. It is now apparent that the saloon is a violation of fundamental law, a menace to public safety, and the prolific mother not merely of drunkenness but a multitude of other crimes, all a source of constant irritation and utterly subversive of good citizenship.

"Have you never said anything you were sorry for?"
"Yes," answered Senator Sorghum; "but I never yet made the political blunder of owning up that I was sorry."

Talk about People

The Prime Minister's Ruse

A good story is being told in England of the manner in which the Prime Minister managed to get a hearing at a hostile meeting. The back of the hall was packed with his opponents, who had decided he should not be heard, and the moment he stepped forward they began to shout and groan and effectually to drown his voice. Deakin, quite unmoved, went on addressing them, though not a word was audible. The deafening noise went on for some minutes; then the front rows began to laugh. The ripple of laughter went on till it reached the back benches. "Shut up, you fools! He ain't worryin'," said a strident voice, as a sudden silence fell. Deakin's mouth opened and his right hand went out, but there was no sound, and for one second you could have heard a pin drop. Then speaker and audience joined in the laughter. He had only been making dumb show.

Not Much Left

The Queen of Italy recently noticed a pleasant-faced little girl, and her Majesty spoke to her, asking the child what she could do in the way of needlework. "I can knit stockings, signora," replied the girl. "Do you know who I am?" continued the Queen. "Yes, signora; you are the Queen." "Well, then, make me a pair of stockings, and send them to the palace." A few days afterwards the articles arrived, and the Queen, in return for the gift, sent the child a beautiful pair of silk stockings, one filled with sweets, the other containing money. Next day the Queen received a letter from her little friend, as follows: "Signora, your gift has caused me many tears. My father took the money, my big brother took the sweets; and as for the stockings, why, mother took them for herself."

Turning the Tables

The one man from whom the King has no secret is Lord Knollys, who has been His Majesty's private secretary for thirty-six years, and discharges the many duties of his office with marvellous tact and ability. A good story is told of him in the days when practical jokes were a source of much amusement to the then Prince of Wales. The famous sportsman, "Bay" Middleton, had a trick, after dinner, of seizing a man's coat-tails and splitting the garment right up to the collar. One evening at Sandringham, Lord Knollys placed himself in a tempting position, and Middleton could not resist it. The Prince was highly amused, but could not understand why Lord Knollys laughed even more heartily than anyone else in the room, until the secretary demurely explained. "I took the precaution, sir, of borrowing one of Captain Middleton's own coats to wear this evening—" But the rest was drowned in the roar of laughter which greeted this neat turning of the tables.

Bridget's Retort

The Right Hon. Lord Justice Cozens-Hardy, who has just been appointed British Master of the Rolls in succession to Sir R. Henn Collins, is a good storyteller. One of his favourite jokes concerns a lady who had in her employment an excellent girl. She had one fault—her face was always smudged. Her mistress tried to tell her to wash her face, without offending her, and at last resorted to strategy. "Do you know, Bridget," she remarked, in a confidential manner, "it is said that if you wash your face every day

in hot soapy water it will make you look beautiful." "Will it, now?" answered Bridget. "Sure, it's a wonder you niver tried it yourself, mum."

Found his Equal

Dr. Coke, the genial, fun-loving bishop of a Canadian diocese, is a very ugly man. He was one day travelling by train when he noticed a man sitting opposite staring at him. After some time the clergyman turned to the man, and said: "Well, my friend, you seem to be staring at me a good deal. Do you think you know me, or would you like to know me, or what?" To which the man rudely replied: "Well, sir, my wife has always told me I am the ugliest man she ever saw, but I think if she saw you she would change her mind."

King Alfonso's Talisman

A very interesting story of King Alfonso is told by the "Cri de Paris."

Some time previous to his journey to England King Alfonso encountered an old gipsy woman, to whom he offered some duros, but which were haughtily refused.

"King," said the woman, "keep thy money. My race is older than thine. I am the last of the Almoravides, who ruled over Morocco and the South of Spain in the eleventh and twelfth centuries. It is I, on the contrary, who will present thee with a piece of gold." With this the gipsy of-



QUESTION.

Is a Musician a Labourer?

ferred the King a sequin bearing the effigy of Ishag, son of Tachefin, the last of the kings of the Almoravides. "Take good care of the talisman," she added; "it will guard thee against all dangers. There exists only one other sequin like it. I gave it to an exquisitely beautiful and highly charitable young lady when I fell into a ditch one day. I was badly wounded, and she dismounted and bound up my forehead with her handkerchief. Those who accompanied her addressed her as Her Highness. King, if ever thou shouldst marry, wed this young girl; she alone can make thee happy."

This legend is spoken about a good deal in Madrid, and it is asserted that the King was just showing the sequin to M. Loubet when the bomb was thrown at him on his last official visit to Paris. This talisman thus saved his life. The story also goes that when in London the King ascertained that the other golden sequin was in the possession of Princess Ena of Battenberg. As soon as he discovered this he resolved to make her his bride, and that is why she reigns as Queen Victoria of Spain.

Centenarian Clergyman

In spite of the fact that he has just celebrated his hundredth birthday, the Rev. Thomas Lord, the doyen of English Congregational

ministers, is still able to conduct Divine service. This remarkable old gentleman, who was cradled the year after Pitt and Fox died, and was a full-grown man while George IV. was still on the throne, has been preaching for more than three-quarters of a century. Mr. Lord has, however, a formidable rival in the Rev. Richard Rymer, who has been a Methodist minister for eighty-one years, and is now within three years of his century. Only a few weeks ago the Rev. Hugh Pritchard, of Anglesea, completed his hundred years, and until recently was a keen sportsman—fishing, hunting, and shooting being his favourite pastimes. Mr. Pritchard was ordained seventy-seven years ago, when Queen Victoria was playing with her dolls.

Patti and the Wasp

One of Mr. Santley's most amusing experiences occurred at Brecon about four years ago, when he assisted Mme. Patti in giving a concert for the local hospital. The prima donna appeared with Mr. Santley in a duet. The vocalists had just recommenced singing, when the baritone burst out laughing, and left the platform. His companion almost immediately followed, although she attempted to continue. In response to loud cheers, Mme. Patti returned and said: "The cause of all this merriment is that a wasp has been trying to get into my mouth, and we could not go on."

CARE OF THE TEETH

WHY THEY ARE LOST, AND HOW THEY MAY BE KEPT.

Dr. R. Denison Pedley lectured at the Parkes Museum, London, recently on "Our Teeth: Why we lose them, and how we may keep them." He maintained that it is not sweets or sugar, but starchy foods, which are at the bottom of the destruction of teeth.

Dealing with the important question of children's teeth, he said: "At birth a child has in its lower jaw the germs of fifty-two teeth, and, if brought up under good conditions, well nursed and nourished, it should have no pain whatever from cutting its teeth."

"But children's teeth are badly neglected. Not bottles or teats, but feeding-cups should be used in cases where the proper food cannot be naturally administered. The suction required in the process of unnatural feeding causes severe deformity of the jaw."

"I look forward to the time when it shall be a criminal offence to deprive a baby of its natural means of food."

By means of a series of clever lantern slides Dr. Pedley illustrated the process of decay, showing how various bacteria assist in the destruction of the teeth. He mentioned incidentally that there are about sixty different kinds of bacteria found in the human mouth.

"Bad teeth," he said, "spoil the digestion, spoil the food taken into the mouth, upset the nervous system, impair the circulation, and lower the vitality of the human body to such an extent that the door is opened for all sorts of diseases to enter."

A noted college president, attending a banquet in Boston, was surprised to see that the dandy who took the hats at the door gave no checks in return.

"He has a most wonderful memory," a fellow diner explained. "He's been doing that for years, and prides himself upon never having made a mistake."

As the college president was leaving, the dandy passed him his hat.

"How do you know that this is mine?"

"I don't know it, suh," admitted the dandy.

"Then why do you give it to me?"

"'Cause yo' gave it to me, suh,"

✦ A Day with the Parson ✦

(SPECIAL TO "GRIT.")

The true Parson may be described as "every man's servant for Christ's sake," and such a man is never allowed to be idle.

The sick, the unemployed, the intemperate, the hard-up, and those in trouble expect much from the Parson.

To those who believe that the Parson has an easy time, except on Sunday, the following description of a day's work will seem an exaggeration. All days were not so interesting, but all his days were equally busy, and the following record is absolutely true.

Having gone to bed tired at 1 a.m., the Parson felt reluctant to rise at 7, but he did so, in spite of his feelings. An applicant for work and one for breakfast before 8 o'clock, and family prayers, interrupted by the telephone, and the day was well begun.

TO THE PAWN SHOP.

A fine looking woman called at 9 o'clock in great distress. A few days before she had pawned her wedding ring for drink, and the Parson had got it out for ten shillings, to enable her to meet her husband, a seafaring man, who was expected home. He had been delayed and the ring had been pawned again. She had then borrowed her neighbour's wedding ring.

Her husband had to leave without giving her his money, which was to be sent from Newcastle, so she had pawned the borrowed ring, and her neighbour was in a frantic state to get it, as her husband was coming back.

Why did the Parson get it out? Well, it would be appreciated as a kindness, and give him a further hold on a woman who was well worth an effort to save.

WITHIN A BEE'S KNEE.

On arriving home and walking into the study, he found a man sitting in the arm-chair, who never moved, but simply asked, "Who the — are you?"

"Well," answered the Parson, "I would like to ask you the same question, in another way—"

"I am —, and some fellow brought me here, and I am within a bee's knee of the D.T.'s."

He was a clever professional man, and the Parson tried to get him to bed, then to get him to go for a trip on the harbour, and, finally, after two hours, he cleared out, and was almost immediately "run in."

The morning post of over a dozen letters was answered, with several interruptions from the 'phone, and the Parson welcomed three men to lunch, having a few minutes alone with each of them.

MATRIMONIAL PRELIMINARIES.

After dealing with several uninteresting and equally hopeless cadgers, an old friend arrived, and sought an interview.

He wanted the Parson's advice on a knotty point. A friend of his had seen a likely-looking lady in a Surry Hills lane, and passed the time of day with her. They had met and had an evening out, and then the friend suggested she should move into a room in his lane, and the move took place.

Being nearer, the intimacy grew, and then he suggested a room in the same house as he lived in, and the suggestion was acted on.

"Now," said the man, "my friend told me last night that it was a pity to pay rent for two rooms, when one room was big enough for two."

Here the Parson broke in and said, "Well, I think you are the man, and it is time you saw the Parson. Where is the lady?"

"Now, how did you guess it was me?"

"Never mind, where is the lady?"

"Oh, she is waiting outside." And, true enough, she had been patiently waiting the half hour in which these preliminaries had been narrated. She came in and the final arrangements were made.

UNKNOWN WITNESSES NECESSARY.

The time fixed was 7 p.m., and the intended bridegroom requested the Parson to furnish two witnesses.

"You see," he said, "if I bring two of my old cobbles, they will expect to be treated, and invited to the wedding breakfast, and as I have only a promise of a day's work the day after to-morrow, I can't stand it; but if you get two of your friends they will go off with you, and me and the Missus will go and have peas and saveloys."

THE FORGOTTEN ACT.

The church was beautifully decorated for a big wedding in the morning, and the happy pair had all the advantage of the decorations, and as they came back into the vestry, the groom said, "I hope you did not go to all that trouble for us?"

The papers having been signed, the lady turned to the Parson and remarked: "Ain't he the slowest bloke of a bridegroom ever you struck?" Immediately the man wanted to know what she was driving at. The fact was he had forgotten the kiss.

It was worth a good deal to see him make up for lost time, and then they went to look for peas and saveloys.

UNEMPLOYED.

At 4 o'clock the Parson addressed over 100 men out of work, and then interviewed the most hopeful until 6 o'clock. Clothes for some, beds for others, soup kitchen tickets, promises of help, invitations to other meetings, and finally they were all dismissed.

These men were nearly all unemployable, and until they experienced the power of Christ in making new men of them, it was a hopeless thing getting them work. Their hopefulness, and their professed ability to do anything, was only equalled by their unreliability and their ingeniousness in making excuses.

However, from such men the Parson now numbers some of his truest friends and best workers, and this fact is the unanswerable argument for Christianity.

Two men in to tea, as the only way of getting them to an evening meeting, and, after an open-air service, a meeting specially for men.

Tired out, the Parson got rid of the last man at 10.15, when a rap came to the door.

A CASE OF CONSCIENCE.

A man well known to the Parson wanted a word with him, but would not come in. He said that a miserable sixpence had kept him from enjoying his Christian life. He had been coming to the meetings for some time, and had lately commenced the new life.

He reminded the Parson of some parcels he had taken to the station, and he had added sixpence to the receipt, and said there was no change. After starting out to be a Christian, he had begun to worry over this sixpence. He made up his mind to send it in stamps, or to put it in the plate, but still felt unsatisfied, and at last screwed up courage to confess himself a liar and thief. The Parson gripped his hand in the dark, for it was a fine thing to make such a confession. He then handed back the sixpence and a thank-offering of 10s for the work.

After midnight the Parson turned in, and, while thankful for the day's work, was most of all so for this sign of an awakened conscience and the power of the new life.

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GRIT.
A PAPER FOR THE PEOPLE.

THURSDAY, JUNE 20, 1907.

THE APPROACHING STRUGGLE

The liquor party and the gambling fraternity have made it abundantly clear that they intend to fight at the ensuing general elections, to place in power men who are pledged to the amendment of the laws which have been passed for the better and more effective control of these two vices. The gamblers, by medium of the Sporting League, have told the electors that they consider it an injustice that gambling should be allowed at Randwick, and prevented at other places. But the friends of social reform are not answerable for that. The restriction of gambling to certain places was a compromise effected with the gamblers' own friends, and there are but very few of their opponents who would not gladly see an end made to the whole vile business. Had it not been for those who are leading the crusade against the new Acts, the Lotteries Bill would have undoubtedly passed into law, thus removing a glaring anomaly. It is the merest moonshine for the gamblers and their allies to talk of "clean sport." No sport can be clean which allows a lot of vultures to bat upon it. Any sport worthy the name should surely be able to live by virtue of its own power to bring out the manly qualities of its participants. In regard to the Liquor Act, the chief trouble seems to be that money compensation has not been provided. This question was fought out three years ago, and the electors decided against saddling the State with an unjust financial burden. If the people decide that the liquor traffic must go, it will be because they consider it has no useful place in the community. Other things have had to go in the process of social evolution, but compensation has

neither been asked for nor paid. Wherein, then, lies the justice of the claim in this instance? In view of these facts, the present political situation demands the most serious consideration of all electors. The attempt to capture Parliament by what Mr. Judkins recently termed a set of "social bandits," should not be tolerated for one moment. It is the duty of all to vote only for those men who will pledge themselves to leave the Liquor and Gaming Acts unmolested, so that they may have a fair trial. The social and moral health of the community is far above any considerations of party, and those who wish the best for their country should bear this in mind when asked to pledge their votes.

ALCOHOL AND HEALTH

The manifesto recently issued by sixteen medical men in the columns of the "Lancet," has provoked a reply from the other side. A number of members of the profession, including such well-known and highly-respected men as Sir Frederick Treves, Dr. Theo. B. Hyslop, Dr. T. N. Kelynack, and Professor Sims Woodhead, have written to the "Medical Press," with a view to counteracting the effect of the statement made in favour of alcohol, and which has had such a wide circulation. This communication says: "Without asserting that alcohol has no value in the treatment of disease, we believe that its use is occasional rather than regular, and limited rather than wide. We regard the word 'life-preserving' in connection with alcohol as misleading, and we consider the expression that alcohol has 'the power to sustain cardiac and nervous energy' rests on no certain clinical or experimental evidence. On the other hand, we strongly believe that alcohol is unnecessary as an article of consumption in the case of healthy men and women, and that its general use could be discontinued without detriment to the world's welfare. Further, believing as we do that alcohol is one of the most fruitful sources of poverty, disease, and crime, we are pleased to add that it is now sparingly employed as a remedy by the majority of medical men." Such a declaration from such men must do a very great deal towards remedying the mischief caused by the previous manifesto. The "man in the street," however, is apt to ask himself how he should order his conduct in view of the strongly opposing views of men so high in the profession. But no person of average intelligence need trouble himself on the matter. It does not need the scientist to demonstrate the evil effects of alcoholic liquors used as a beverage. The experience of almost every family in the land can furnish evidence, often, alas! too much evidence, of the destruction which follows the use of strong drink. Granting that alcohol is a useful and necessary drug in the hands of the duly-qualified practitioner, it by no means follows that it should be sold as it is now at almost every street corner. The publication of manifestos by either side in this professional dispute cannot alter the plain, every-day fact that, but for strong drink, thousands who to-day are in gaol, in hospital, in the lunatic asylum, in the

poorhouse, or on the streets, would be living useful, honoured lives and filling important positions in business or society.

A MEETING OF SYMPATHY

A meeting to express sympathy with, and confidence in, Mr. William Winn, on account of the recent libel action, was held at the Y.M.C.A. Hall, and attended by about 200 representative citizens.

The Rev. Canon Boyce presided, and there were also on the platform the Rev. John Penman (President Methodist Conference), Mesdames Courtenay Smith and Masterman, Messrs. R. Booth, M.L.A., A. J. Riley, Templeton, and others.

The chairman read a number of letters of apology for non-attendance, containing expressions of sympathy.

Mr. A. J. Riley moved, "That this public meeting of citizens offers its sincere sympathy to Mr. William Winn in the trying circumstances in which he is placed by the result of the late law suit, and expresses the unabated confidence of his friends in his character for truthfulness, integrity, and kindness of heart." It was seconded by the Rev. J. Penman, and carried unanimously.

It was also resolved, on the motion of Mrs. Courtenay Smith, seconded by Mr. G. Crawshaw, "That, with a view of affording Mr. W. Winn's friends and other sympathisers an opportunity of giving tangible effect to their feelings, a subscription list be opened to defray the cost of the verdict."

A collection was then made, and the sum of £426 realised, besides other promises of assistance.

The following gentlemen were appointed to carry out the objects of the meeting:—Hon. treasurer, Mr. A. J. Riley; joint hon. secretaries, Messrs. G. Crawshaw and A. B. Pursell; executive committee, the Rev. Canon Boyce (chairman), the Rev. R. B. S. Hammond, the Rev. W. Woolfs Rutledge, Messrs. A. Bruntnell, M.L.A., J. A. Packer, Treadgold, T. H. England, W. Buckingham, Spicer, and Mrs. Masterman.

A VOTER'S HYMN

(To the tune of "Onward, Christian Soldiers.")

(SPECIAL TO "GRIT.")

Onward, Christian Soldiers,
List the Trumpet call,
Boldly forth to battle,
Fighting Alcohol.
Christ, the Royal Master,
Leads against the foe,
Forward into battle,
With His banners go.
Onward, Christian Soldiers, etc.

Women, children call you,
Young men call you too,
Kill this giant evil,
As you ought to do.
Homes are ruined by it,
Men and women fall,—
Rouse then, brothers, sisters,
Hear the Master's call.
Onward, Christian Soldiers, etc.

Yours is now the duty,
Yours is now the right,
Draw the sword for freedom,
Shrink not from the fight.
Save from fierce temptation,
Those who fall in sin,
Save the young and stainless,
Whom Christ died to win.
Onward, Christian Soldiers, etc.

On then, Christian Soldiers,
Fail not at the Poll,
One who halts in duty,
May destroy a soul.
Forward, Christian soldiers,
Go in all your might,
Go, and God will speed you,
In the coming fight.
Onward, Christian Soldiers, etc.

—W. H. Ash, The Manse, Crow's Nest.

The Cry of the Children

By GEO. R. SIMS, in the London "Tribune."

FIFTH ARTICLE.

In so far as these articles furnish a chronicle of "Things Seen," they have been written with one definite object. That object is to enlist public sympathy for the tens of thousands of little children whose chances of health and happiness, of life itself, are being utterly ruined by the ignorance, carelessness, or selfishness of the mothers who bore them.

I have been told while these articles were running in "The Tribune" that the housing conditions in many of our poverty areas contribute largely to the heavy infant mortality.

The better the people are housed the better for the people, but statistics prove beyond the shadow of a doubt that the conditions of housing and environment do not lie at the root of the evil.

Among the bonniest babies and the healthiest children to be found in London are the little ones to be found in Italian quarter.

THE CHILDREN OF "LITTLE ITALY."

Compare the children in one of our schools in a poverty area with the school-children of "Little Italy." Among the Italian children you will find few pinched, pale faces, sunken, lack-lustre eyes, or attenuated frames. You will see rosy cheeks, bright, laughing eyes, and plump little bodies and sturdy limbs.

And these are the children of organ-grinders, roast-chestnut sellers, ice-cream vendors—of the aliens whom we have been accustomed to look upon as "dirty folks."

In this quarter the housing conditions were, until recently, as bad as those to be found in the slums of London, but the children thrive in spite of their environment.

These people lived under the same external conditions. What was the secret of the higher death-rate among the English infants? Many of the English mothers took their babies into the dram shop; the Italian mothers did not. The English babies were hand-fed, the Italian babies were breast-fed.

A striking instance of the truth of the contention that housing and environment do not lie at the root of the evil is to be found in the report of Dr. Howarth, the Medical Officer of Health for Derby. Dr. Howarth, in "The Influence of Feeding on Infant Mortality," shows that in the period 1900-3 the infant mortality was three times higher among hand-fed children than among breast-fed children, although the environment and housing conditions were better for the hand-fed.

The same marked conditions of well-being that are found among the Italian children of Eyre-street-hill and its environs will be found among the poor Jewish population of the East End—a quarter we will visit.

PERIODS OF DRINKING.

But first I would ask the reader to accompany me on a Monday morning tour of a busy district in South London.

I entered thirty public-houses in this quarter last Monday morning, and up to noon I found women and babies and children in all but three of them. Some of the children were having their share of the morning dram.

From home to the pawnshop and from the pawnshop to the public-house is the conventional Monday morning trip of a vast number of poor married women.

The three great drinking periods of the week are Saturday night, when the wages are in hand, Sunday, when a good deal of drinking is crowded into a short space of time owing to closing hours, and Monday morning, when the money received from the pawnbroker is available.

The women meet their neighbours at the pawnshop and adjourn to the public-house for a glass and a gossip.

One woman stands treat perhaps to her friends, and then each of the friends in turn stands treat all round. The little children sprawl about the public-house floor all the morning long.

When it is time to think about buying the piece of meat, it is often found that



A MAD LEAP.

Many a young man lets go the reins and rides headlong to his ruin on the steed of so-called Pleasure.

the money—owing to the disbursements at the bar—is short. Instead of buying the piece of good meat she intended to, the woman, in order to meet the "shortage," buys meat of an inferior quality, and only "scraps" of that.

The whole family thus suffers in the matter of the quality and the quantity of its nourishment. Many of these women are also such bad buyers, housewives and cooks, that they get and give less value for a shilling than a good housewife would get and give for threepence.

The greatest number of drink cases in the London police courts occur on Monday and Tuesday mornings. Among the women charged there are always a large number who are the mothers of infants and little children.

The Saturday night drinking leads, as things are, to the presence of enormous numbers of babies and children in the dram shop. The children on Saturday night are of all ages. On Monday morning the babies are plentiful, but the children are usually under four years of age. The elder children are at school.

AN ALIEN EXAMPLE.

Let us now compare the practice of motherhood among the Jewish population of the East End with that prevailing among the native population.

There is one street in the East End to which I frequently take friends who are interested in the problems of child life in London. One end of this street is almost entirely inhabited by Russian and Polish Jews. The other end is principally occupied by native families.

Among the aliens you will never see an unshod child, and rarely a ragged or a dirty one. Among the natives many of the children are shoeless, and very few of them, even in the depth of winter, are warmly clad. The alien children are in the street till a late hour of the night. They form always a pretty picture, dancing merrily in their gay-coloured frocks and ribbons and white pinafores to the organ.

The native children, ragged and unkempt, wander dejectedly in the dark courtyards, or stand about outside the public-houses in which their mothers are drinking. The scene on Saturday night is this street is an object-lesson in sobriety and careful motherhood, as opposed to intemperance and neglectful motherhood.

The Jewish mother feeds her infant naturally, caters skilfully for her children, and does not frequent the public-house. The sobriety is racial, and so is the instinct of family life that is the abiding virtue of the Jewish race.

It is to their sobriety and their devotion to their children that the Jewish aliens largely owe the early success in a strange land which enables them to push on, and, gradually improving their condition and adding to their means, to displace a less sober and less domesticated people.

CONVINCING FIGURES.

In the Jewish quarters the birth rate is high. The mortality among Jewish infants in these quarters is low. Among the native population the birth rate is decreasing, and the rate of infant mortality is increasing. Slowly and surely the sober race is ousting the intemperate race.

I have watched the process for years, not only in the East End, but in certain crowded quarters of the West, and as an Englishman, loving my own land and my own people, I cannot—while greatly honouring all that is splendid in the sobriety, the motherhood, and the family life of an alien people—recognise without a pang of shame that two of the great causes of the displacement of the native are to be found in the greater devotion to motherhood of the Jewish woman, and the greater sobriety of the Jewish toiler.

There is no need to raise the cry for the Jewish children, "Out of the Dram Shop!" and "Back to the Breast!" The little ones are never taken into the former, or denied the latter.

The lowest rate of infant mortality in Manchester is in the Jewish quarter.

The rate of infant mortality in the wretched wards in East Side, inhabited by poor Russian Jews, is lower than for all New York.

Good motherhood triumphs over all external conditions. Bad motherhood is the first great cause of our appalling infant mortality.

Have you money to lend on Mortgage? I will get you six per cent. or more. Wm. Lawson Dash, 108 Pitt-street—*

THE HISTORY OF HANSARD

The Select Committee of the House of Commons appointed to consider the question of Parliamentary debates sat on the 19th ult., Mr. C. P. Allen in the chair. Mr. Bailey, Comptroller of the Stationery Office, was first examined. He explained that the publication of Hansard's Reports was commenced in 1803, and this was the first detailed account of the proceedings issued. It was, however, a purely voluntary undertaking, and until 1855 was without any assistance from the Government Departments. After that date copies of the proceedings were officially subscribed for, and in 1879 £3,000 was granted to Messrs. Hansard on condition that the proceedings after twelve o'clock were reported and certain matters in relation to private Bills were dealt with. In 1881 the subsidy was increased to £4,000, and in 1882 a kind of sliding-scale was introduced. A subsequent Committee reported that the Reports were inadequate, the cost unduly large, and the publication unduly delayed. They further reported that the reports should be in full of all speeches alike. The recommendations of this Committee were substantially in existence up to the present time.

AS STRANGE AS FICTION

Details that are now being published of the claim for £192,000 made against the Empress Eugenie, as heiress of Napoleon III., read like an extract from fiction of the marvellous school. It is a story (says the "Newcastle Chronicle" correspondent) made up of loans, of lost securities, of cellars, walled-up documents, and long years of fruitless search that would not make a bad chapter in a shilling shocker. Briefly, the claimant, a man of 75, now living at Nice, states that his father, a wealthy shipowner of Nantes, lent the money to Napoleon in 1855, on a written promise to pay before July, 1870—a curious date in the light of history—that the outbreak of the war with Germany that very month rendered payment impossible, that the Emperor summoned the present claimant, his father being dead, and gave another written promise to mature in 15 years, that claimant had this and other papers walled up for security against the invading armies in a cellar of the Chateau de Guesne, near Tours, and that the walling was so well done that after a search of years the hiding place was only found two years ago. The promissory note, which has been shown to a newspaper man, contains a couple of curious errors in grammar for an Emperor to make.

IS THERE ANYTHING NEW?

According to an examiner in the Patent Office at Washington, discovery, like history, repeats itself, and this official is disposed to believe that we are not so much ahead of the ancients as it pleases us to think. Many of our discoveries, continues the examiner, are but rediscoveries, improved upon, no doubt, but not altered in nature.

For instance, the ancients knew of the lightning-conductor, or, at all events, the method of attracting lightning. Celtic soldiers in a storm used to lie on the ground, first lighting a torch and planting their naked swords in the ground by their side with the point upward. The lightning often struck the point of the sword, and passed away without injury to the warrior.

The Romans, too, seem to have known the lightning-rod. On the top of the highest tower of the castle of Dunio, on the Adriatic, there was set from time immemorial a long rod of iron. In the stormy weather

of summer it served to predict the approach of a tempest. A soldier was always stationed by it when the sea showed threatening signs of storm. From time to time he put the point of his long javelin close to the point of the rod. Whenever a spark passed between the two pieces of iron he rang a bell to warn the fishermen. Gerbetti, in the tenth century, invented a plan for diverting the lightning from fields by planting in them long sticks tipped with very sharp lance heads.

In 1662 France was already in possession of omnibuses. The Romans sank artesian wells even in the Sahara, and they had better mills than ours for pounding olives. The Chinese invented iron houses as early as 1200. Glass houses were found among the Picts in Scotland and the Celts in Gaul, and many centuries earlier in Siam. Grass cloth was used many hundreds of years ago by the Chinese.

Even the telephone was anticipated centuries ago by a tribe of South American Indians, who devised a means of communicating over long distances.

26,000 PLAYING CARDS

The master and wardens of the Worshipful Company of Makers of Playing Cards have just received a magnificent present, the bestowal of which is causing them great concern.

Mr. H. D. Phillips, "father" of the Company, is eighty-three years old, and has made over to the guild the whole of his incomparable collection of playing cards, which is insured for £1500, and has graced his gift with £500 for the provision of a receptacle for it.

Mr. Phillips's collection comprises some 26,000 separate cards and numerous books and miscellaneous articles. A condition of the gift is that it shall be available for general inspection and study.

WHY DID THE COMPANY SMILE?

A pessimistic young doctor publicly deplored the impossibility of getting rich, and the difficulty of earning a decent living in the medical profession, without incessantly burning the candle at both ends.

"Stuff and rubbish, my lad!" a boastful old doctor cried. "There's as much money to be made now, in spite of competition, as ever there was. Take my case, for instance. I've lots of patients and I'm making money quick; but do I look overworked? Do I ever seem pressed for time? Have I not always plenty of leisure?"

"You certainly take life easily," the pessimistic young doctor replied, smoothly.

Then the company smiled, and the boastful doctor fell into a train of thought.

Then the company smiled, and the boastful doctor fell into a train of thought.

DRINK CLAIMS A VICTIM

SCION OF A NOBLE HOUSE SENT TO PRISON.

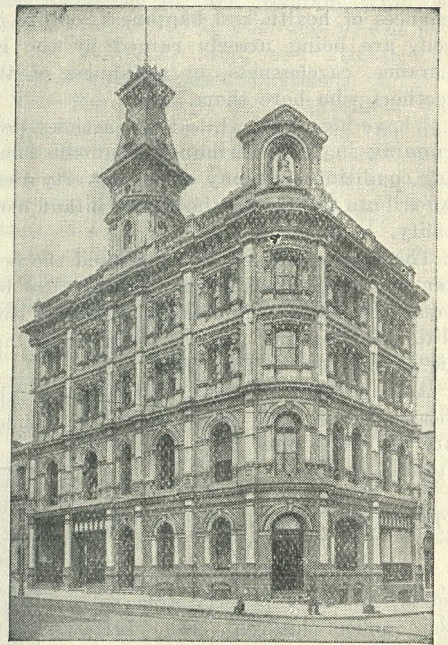
An audacious swindler who claims a distinguished pedigree was sentenced to a year and nine months' imprisonment the other day for felony by the Recorder of Birmingham.

His name was given as Granville Cooke, and his counsel said he came of noble ancestry. His mother, it was stated, was a French countess, whose grandfather was a victim of the guillotine during the Revolution. Prisoner's father was a fashionable London physician, and he himself was a man of superior attainments. He had, however, developed criminal propensities, and had suffered penal servitude. He was now alleged to have obtained a quantity

Where Shall I Stay in Sydney?

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Airy, Comfortable Bedrooms. Spacious Reception Rooms.

Good Table. Terms very moderate

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of astrakhan fur from one tradesman and two tails of human hair from another by an ingenious system of fraud. He pleaded guilty.

His counsel said the prisoner got his coat lined with astrakhan in order to look smart in the eyes of his sweetheart, from whom he had been estranged. The hair was to have been a present to her, and the prisoner intended to pay for the goods, which had been returned to their owners. Drink was the cause assigned for the prisoner's downfall.

CRICKET IN IRELAND

As matters were getting serious, we changed the bowling, and put on our one and only Irishman to attack his compatriot. The first ball of the new over was a fast yorker on the middle stump. The usual leg was there alright, and the bowler had got as far as "How's" before grasping the fact that at the last appreciable fraction of a second the bat had intervened.

"Out!" said the umpire, as the ball travelled to the boundary, and everyone except the batsman laughed. There followed an awkward pause.

"Am I to go, really?" inquired the batsman.

Under the circumstances it was a somewhat delicate question, and one that required a diplomatic answer.

"Do whatever you like. But don't you think that, taking one thing with another, you have been there about long enough?"

The batsman, after a momentary reflection, nodded, smiled, and walked back to the pavilion.

Eight per cent. for your savings is better than three. I will give it you. Wm. Lawson Dash, 108 Pitt-street.—*

IS ALCOHOL A POISON?

By E. P. FELCH, M.D.

Is alcohol a poison? It may seem a little strange that science regards any substance as a food and also as a poison, but this point can be cleared up when we take into consideration the definition of a poison. The popular conception of a poison is something which is capable of producing death very promptly, but the scientific definition is less exacting, and is briefly this: "Any substance which, when applied to the body, or digested, causes disease." The term is a relative one, and means that a substance to be a poison does not necessarily need to be capable of producing death instantaneously. Many articles which are used as foods, if indulged in to excess, will produce irritation and disease, and hence are, in a technical sense, poison. Toxicologists classify poisons as corrosive, irritant, and narcotic. Alcohol ranks with tobacco, chloroform, caffeine, ether and nitrous oxide gas as a narcotic poison. The effects are very similar, the first being that of a stimulant; the second, that of a narcotic, and if pushed too far will produce death. The reason why the system can tolerate so much alcohol is because it becomes gradually immune in the same way as immunity is produced by antitoxins. As a poison its first effect is that of a stimulant, increasing functional activity for a time, but its second effect is that of a paralyzer, so affecting the brain cells that they refuse to perform their functions, and we have the blunting of the higher sensibilities, the incoherent speech and the staggering gait. By its local action the secretions of the stomach and other digestive organs are changed, and it produces structural changes in the liver and kidneys. Persons subjected to it are more liable to disease, more easily fatigued, and are more susceptible to heat or cold. If immunity has not been produced, it is perfectly possible to produce death if sufficiently large doses are given.

TAX ON BEARDS

A member of the New Jersey State Legislature has introduced a bill imposing a graduated tax on men with beards. This legislator has pronounced ideas on the subject of beards, which, he says, men cultivate only to save barbers' bills, and to hide their features for ulterior and often base motives. His scheme for the tax is as follows:—

For ordinary beards	£1
For a goatee	£1
For whiskers exceeding 6 inches long (per inch)	£2
For a bald man with whiskers	£5

It is also stipulated that when the beards are red the tax shall in all cases be increased by 20 per cent. In the preamble to the bill it is pointed out that Holmes the trunk murderer, and Palmer, the poisoner, had whiskers.

AN ASTRONOMER FISH

Here is an account of the extraordinary fish Palolo, which appears in Captain Gambier's "Links in My Life on Land and Sea." As Mr. T. P. O'Connor remarks in quoting this extract, "no materialistic theory can possibly explain the phenomenon":—

"Here I first saw," says the Captain, "a dried specimen of that inexplicable marvel of nature, the Palolo, a fish which may vary from an inch to a foot long, and about an eighth of an inch thick. It appears in shallows over coral reefs during the months of October and November, and then

only with certain phases of the moon, disappearing again as suddenly as it came until the following year. For some inscrutable reason these fish keep accurate solar time for their arrival; but, as the librations of the moon through certain errors of motion and other complex conditions do not give this time accurately when spread over a long course of years, an instinct infinitely beyond human understanding has taught the Palolo to divide these lunations into two cycles extending over twenty-nine years. Thus by a process of calculations sufficient to turn the brain of a Senior Wrangler, they keep 'on time'—as an American would say—whereas if they followed the lunations pure and simple in a century or two they would be months out of their reckoning, and would not appear in these particular phases. But every year they come exactly at the right time. It is idle to dismiss the marvels of the Palolo as merely instinctive, according to the meaning we attach to the term. No theory, no science, can explain why these creatures breed on a certain astronomically and mathematically calculated day, and only on that day out of the three hundred and sixty-five." This is all the more inexplicable in a fish like the Palolo, "an invertebrate, without any structural development higher than an alimentary duct, which lives but one year, and appears but for one day in that year."

A DEATHBED MARRIAGE

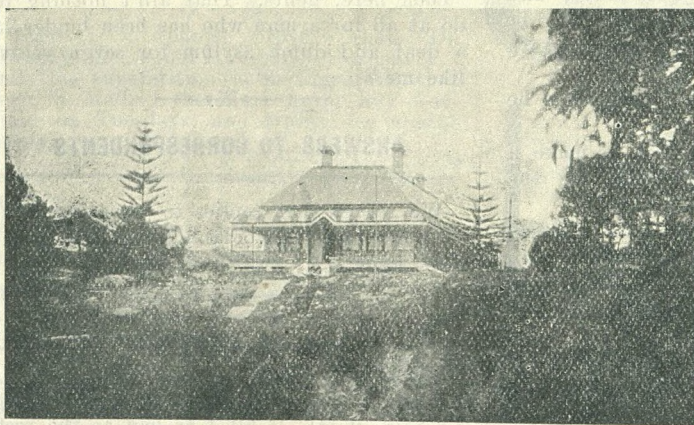
In 1903 Count Pius von Chamare was mortally injured in a motor accident at Vienna. He survived the occurrence for a week or two, and a few days before his death went through a marriage ceremony with Vanda Blaustein, formerly a Viennese actress, whom he thereupon made sole heiress to his property, estimated to be worth 7,000,000 marks.

Both will and wedding were, however, contested by the present head of the family of Chamare on the ground that the count was not in a normal mental condition when he signed the one and undertook the other. The first trial went in favour of the supposititious widow, but judgment was appealed against, and has now been reversed by the chief provincial court at Breslau. Letters written by the count, showing that before the accident he really intended to marry Fraulein Blaustein, were not regarded as having any bearing on the case.

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Arrangements have been made for a duly qualified medical man to visit the Home at regular intervals to examine and prescribe for the patient, if necessary.

We are pleased to say that several cases already dealt with have been attended with highly satisfactory results. Copies of Testimonials can be seen on application.

All personal applications and correspondence will be treated with the strictest confidence. Write to the Social Secretary, Salvation Army Headquarters, Goulburn Street, Sydney, or direct to the Manager at the Home.

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Secretary**SYDNEY**

The lady has still a chance of recovering the millions before the Imperial Court at Leipzig.

Amateur Sport: "I say, I've been asked to go shooting next week. What ought I to give the keeper?"

His Friend: "Oh, well, it depends where you hit him, you know."

Do you want to borrow on Mortgage? I have money to lend at from five per cent. Wm. Lawson Dash, 108 Pitt-street.—*

CAMPAIGN NOTES AND NEWS

Three-fifths is a big majority! Are you helping to get it?

A branch of the Alliance was formed at Granville last week.

The workers at Glebe are sparing no effort in the campaign.

The Rev. Thos. Fee spoke to a large audience at Ashfield on Tuesday evening last week.

The Redfern No-License Committee is working hard. They expect and deserve a big vote.

Don't forget to question all candidates as to their attitude towards the Gaming and Liquor Acts.

The I.O.G.T. Executive have determined to purchase a quantity of literature for use in the campaign.

Half of the second edition of Canon Boyce's No-License pamphlet has been sold, and orders are still pouring in.

The "Medical Press" has published a strong reply to the recent manifesto on Alcohol, by sixteen medical men.

Rev. Thos. Fee has gone to Melbourne for a brief holiday. On his return he will be available for lecturing engagements.

There has been a great demand for Alliance campaign literature lately. New leaflets are in hand, and will shortly be issued.

Miss Anderson Hughes will complete her tour of the Southern District this week. The next month's work will be in the Illawarra District.

Mr. Judkins addressed great audiences at Balmain and Leichhardt last week. At the former place there was a deal of opposition manifested, but at the latter there was an infective enthusiasm.

Mrs. Courtenay-Smith has lately addressed a number of No-License meetings with excellent results. A special meeting for women only will be addressed by Mrs. Smith at Alexandria Town Hall on the 26th instant.

Some very cheering reports of work in connection with the No-License Campaign have been received by the Alliance. Canvassing is actively proceeding in a number of districts, and good results have been obtained.

DULY QUALIFIED

While the proprietor of a lung-tester was expatiating upon the benefits to be derived from the free use of his instrument, a cadaverous individual stepped out of the crowd and remarked to him:—

"Mister, do you think it would help me any to blow into that can?"

"Yes, sir, certainly; it would expand your chest, give elasticity to your lungs, and lengthen your life. Why, you'd soon be able to blow five hundred pounds and win a prize."

"Why, does a fellow get a prize when he blows that many pounds?"

"Yes, sir; wouldn't you like to make a trial?" With a knowing wink to the crowd.

"I don't mind if I do," said Greens, walking around and throwing down a coin of rather a greasy appearance. Then, taking the mouthpiece in his hand, he made ready.

He opened his mouth until the hole in his face looked like a dry dock for ocean steamers, and began to take in wind. The inflation was like that of a big balloon, but not so disastrous.

The fellow's chest began to grow and distend until he resembled a pouter pigeon more than a man, at which point he put

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Unrivalled Worcestershire Sauce
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SELLER OF (From Milsom and Son, Bath, England)
Pianos & Organs, Tuner, Regulator, Etc.
THE RED HOUSE
55 FLINDERS ST. (off Oxford St.) SYDNEY

the mouthpiece to his lips, and blew with such force that that can-top went up like a flash and the needle of the indicator spun around like a button on a country school-house door, until it stood at 500lb.

The crowd cheered, and the keeper of the can paid over 10s with a mutter of astonishment. But Greens pocketed the money coolly, and, turning to the spectators, said, "Look here, gents. That ain't nothing to do at all for a man who has been bugler in a deaf and dumb asylum for seven years, like me."

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

We regret that replies to various correspondents are unavoidably held over until next issue.

"Is this the best hotel in town?" asked the stranger.

"Well, replied the native, "I dunno as I'd put it as strong as that, but I guess it's safe to say it ain't as bad as the rest of 'em."

Wm. Thos. Dash, Solicitor and Conveyancer, 108 Pitt-street, Sydney, has trust moneys to lend at five per cent.—*

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GARDEN HOSE AND ALL REQUIREMENTS FOR SAME.

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STEEL STAR WINDMILLS
All Sizes Stocked.

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SEND FOR CATALOGUES OF OUR GOODS.

A.M.P. LIFE OFFICE.—If you desire full and reliable particulars ring Telephone 2179, and I will see you. JOHN B. YODALE, City Agent, 108 Pitt-street, opp. G.P.O.

How the World Moves

Twins occur once in 69 births.

The first typewriter patent was taken out in 1714.

British mines and quarries employ nearly a million persons.

The chief wine cellar of the House of Commons is 200 feet long.

The duty on a gamekeeper in England is £2 yearly; in Ireland, £3.

The British Customs duty on imported playing-cards is 3s 9d per dozen packs.

Stamp duty is payable upon all bank-notes except those of the Bank of England.

Artillery fire has been heard at 370 miles.

Never judge a man by his stylish clothes—perhaps his wife paid for them.

After you do a man a favour he is apt to be afflicted with a partial loss of memory.

Before casting their bread upon the waters some people tie a string to it.

Nothing makes a woman laugh so much as a new set of teeth.

We may be near-sighted, but we can always tell a five-pound note from poetry.

During courtship a man acquires a lot of good habits that he has no use for after marriage.

Few ladies have enough strength of mind to wear a glove over a new engagement-ring.

Many couples that intended to live on love have come to tough steak and under-done pastry.

The worker-bee lives six months, the drone four months, and the female bee four years.

Book muslin gets its name from Buke, the district in India where it was first manufactured.

Among the new professions there is one of teaching conversation to persons desirous of shining in table-talk.

In the past ten years Britain has settled no fewer than sixteen differences with other countries by arbitration.

The longest public procession in England was the funeral of the great Duke of Wellington. It was nearly four miles long.

Draughts were known to the ancient Egyptians, and pictures 4,000 years old represent a quarrel over the game.

Twelve years ago one sailor in every 106 who went to sea lost his life; now only one in 256, it is said, is lost.

There were men of colour in the Coldstream and other British military bands up to the year 1840.

TWO BABIES IN WHITE.

"Dear Mrs. Petite, how do you keep your babies always so clean and always in white?" That's what they all say.

"Why, that's no trouble at all."

"Yes, but think of the wash!"

"Wash! It's nothing if you go at it right."

"Go at it right! What other way is there but boil and scrub?"

"What other! I have long ago left off the boil and scrub, boil and scrub way."

"What is it?"

"Did you ever really read the wrapper of Sunlight Soap?"

Often they say they never did. They had seen the soap, and they took off the wrapper and threw it away without reading it, for they had seen printing on other soap wrappers that meant nothing.

"Oh, but the most of those wrappers are printed as like Sunlight Soap wording as possible without copying."

"No woman need have her baby's clothes dirty who has read Sunlight Soap wrapper and tried the Sunlight way. I wash in the Sunlight way, and so I can afford to dress my babies in white, and they are always clean." 418

The Senior Army and Navy Club House cost £180,000, and its plate, pictures, etc., are worth nearly as much more.

There are a good many fish in the matrimonial sea waiting to be caught with a hook of gold.

Spain beats the world as the home of the donkey. While there are fewer than 350,000 donkeys in the United Kingdom, Spain has over a million.

Sir William Gomm, who died in 1875, held the extraordinary record of having spent eighty-one years in the British Army.

Lord Wolesley's title will descend to his daughter, the Hon. Frances Wolseley. The great general only accepted a peerage on this condition.

The fellow who calls tight boots comfortable defends his position by saying that they make a person forget all other miseries.

England buys nearly a million pounds' worth of potatoes yearly from France, and four hundred and thirty thousand pounds' worth from the Channel Islands.

The flying lemur of the Indian Archipelago, which is only about 30 inches long, can lean fully 300 feet by the use of the membrane connecting its limbs with each other.

In the Royal Navy the master-at-arms, as the chief of the ship's police is called, is the only man on board under the rank of an officer who is authorised to wear a sword when in the performance of his duties.

The tolling of a bell at a funeral is a purely pagan custom. The idea was to drive away evil spirits. Funeral bells are known to have been used by the Church in the sixth century A.D.

The Chinese detective force is a secret body, and the best organised in the world. They have an eye upon every man, woman, or child, foreign or native, in China, and, in addition, watch over each other.

Major-General Baden-Powell has two favourite mottoes. One is "Don't flurry: patience wins the day"; and the other is, "A smile and a stick will carry a man through almost any difficulty."

There is a Spanish proverb that "On Tuesday one should never travel or marry," and this superstition is so ingrained that even in Madrid there are never any weddings on Tuesdays, and trains are almost empty.

BUSINESS NOTICE.

All business communications and applications for advertising space should be made to the Business Manager, Box No. 390, G.P.O., Sydney.

All literary communications should be addressed to the Editor, Box No. 390, G.P.O., Sydney.

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Coloured Straw Plaits...from 6½d doz. yards
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Black Tipsfrom 6d each
Dark Astrachan Tam-o'-Shanters.....
From 1s 4½d each
Navy Cloth Tam-o'-Shanters.....1/-
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From 1/11

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Ladies' Navy Melton Skirts, 7-gore.....
6/11, etc.

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