

HUMOROUS.

A Toronto alderman of the typical ample dimensions, wandered around for a while on the first of April, with a placard on his back, inscribed: "Widened at the expense of the corporation."

"Do you pay for poetry?" asks a young lady in Ohio, "We do. If written on white paper it is worth a cent a pound. Most papers do not pay for poetry, but we want to encourage genius in a substantial manner.—Atlantic Monthly.

Artemus Ward once told us that the funniest story he ever heard was about an incubated reporter who leaned over the railing of the reporters' gallery in the English House of Lords, and enquired, "Will shun noble lord please a comic shong?"

Lord Dufferin is said to have related, with great gusto, to a friend, that when he came home from India to be married, he found no carriage awaiting him at the little Irish railway station, and had to hire a common jaunting-car. Going along he asked the driver if there was any news. "Nothing," said he, "except that pretty Kate Hamilton is to be married to that one-eyed Dufferin."

Board Schoolmaster, desiring to explain the word conceited—"Now, boys, suppose I was always boasting of my learning; that I knew a good deal of Latin, for instance, or that my personal appearance was what I was very good-looking, 'y' know—what should you say I was?" "Stright-forward boy—'I ah' say you was a liar!"

A person who has recently called into court for the purpose of proving the correctness of a doctor's bill, was asked by the lawyer whether the doctor did not make several visits after the patient was out of danger? "No," replied the witness, "I considered the patient in danger as long as the doctor continued his visits."

Dr. Chalmers said, just before his marriage, "Diminishing all anticipations of heaven upon earth, may I betake myself soberly and determinedly to the duties of the married state." Whitfield informed his fiancée that he was free from the giddy passion that the world calls love. "You are married because his confessor advised it, telling the poet that by that means he might overcome his unfortunate propensity for making verses."

A story is told of a certain Irish magistrate, noted for his severity, that, on one occasion, upon an offender being brought up for sentence, he confessed to his brother magistrate his intention of inflicting the full rigor of the law. Then, turning to the prisoner, he began to rebuke him upon his situation. "The fellow's face brightened, and he burst forth in a rapturous expression of thanks. "What do you mean?" said the surprised magistrate; "what have you Honor'd never have the heart to be hard on a poor fellow after jokin' him that way?" The Justice felt the rebuke, and imposed a much lighter sentence than he had intended.

DIVORCE AND CHASTITY.

WHAT NEW ENGLAND THEORIES OF DIVORCE LEAD TO.

[From the Boston Congregationalist.] It is sometimes urged that a strict divorce law would discourage marriage and increase licentiousness. Then a loose law ought to produce the contrary effect. But if we take the State of Massachusetts in 1860-1870, the ten years covering the change from the strict to the loose system of divorce, we shall find these facts: Divorces become more than two and one-half times as numerous; but marriages were only about ten per cent. more frequent in the last five years of the period than in the first five—and this while the population of the State had considerably increased.

Take the leading crimes against purity by periods of five years—one at the beginning, and the other at the end of the period of twenty years—and we find that in the first there were 134 convictions for adultery, against 367 in the last five years. The convictions for adultery, however, had increased only one-third. The convictions for fornication rose from 243 in the first five years, to 934 in the last five; and even polygamy does not seem to be avoided by increased legal facilities for the exchange of wives, for convictions for this crime rose in that period from eighteen to fifty. Conviction for one or two other lesser offenses gained but little; one suspects because the law against them was not vigorously enforced. But during this period of twenty years, all convictions of crime taken altogether, aside from so-called liquor cases, have increased only twenty per cent. "Hille, then, crime generally is increased, but crime against chastity are three times as numerous as formerly. The explanation of this alarming fact is not attempted here. The reader is left to draw his own conclusion.

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Table with columns: MAILS AS UNDER, CLASS, AM. P.M. P.M. Lists various mail routes and their schedules.

For Great Britain—The latest hours for dispatching letters, etc. For Great Britain, etc. For the Continent, etc.

L. LAWLESS Postmaster, London Post Office, 10th Dec, 1890.

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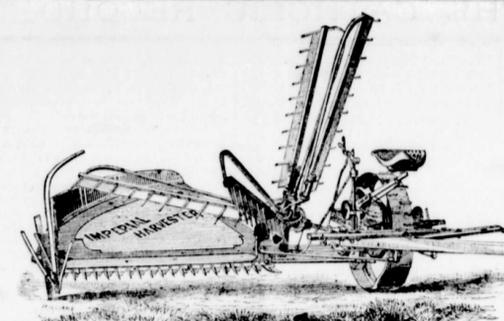
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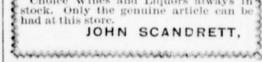
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