

of statutory duty be a mere technical one which no one could reasonably have foreseen as leading to an injury of the kind which in fact happened, a conviction would not be proper. (82 J.P. 133.)

In *Regina v. Jones* (1870), 11 Cox C.C. 544, Lush, J., ruled that contributory negligence on the part of the deceased would not be allowed as an excuse in a criminal case, and expressed disapproval of the decision *contra* in *R. v. Birchall* (1866), 4 F. & F. 1087. Other cases excluding a defence of contributory negligence are: *Regina v. Swindall* (1846), 2 Cox C.C. 141; *Regina v. Dant* (1865), 10 Cox C.C. 192; *Regina v. Hutchinson* (1864), 9 Cox C.C. 555; *R. v. Bunney* (1894), 6 Queensland L.J. 80; and see Archbold Criminal Pleadings, 25th ed., 855. But the like evidence as would be relied upon in a civil action as shewing contributory negligence may still be relevant on a manslaughter charge as directed to the main question to be tried by the jury—was the death caused by the culpable negligence of the prisoner? *R. v. Bunney*, 6 Queensland L.J. 80, at 82, *per* Griffith, C.J.

TAXATION FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL PURPOSES.

A Bill has been introduced into the Ontario Legislature to provide free text books in public, separate and industrial schools. We object. It would be most unfair to many who need protection from taxation. The Bill should not become law. There are many objections. We refer to a few of them. Why should taxpayers not blessed with children, but with limited incomes, or women with small properties without children, and perhaps having no matrimonial prospects, and who, under present conditions, can scarcely make ends meet, be compelled to help in the education of the children of well-to-do business men, or others who are wealthy and prosperous? Why should not these bear their own burdens? The present burden of education in this Province is enormous already. One-third of the taxes collected go to public schools. In addition to this, it would be an easy matter to point out the many great defects in the teaching and the subjects thereof in our public schools. True "Education," i.e., the development and training of the mind of the child, is neglected and subjects are taught which do not make for the education necessary to fit children for the practical duties of everyday life, and useful citizenship.