
THE DRY PICKWICK

*England's Greatest Writer Adapted to America's
Greatest Legislation*

INTRODUCTION

THE demand from the American colleges for a revision of the works of Charles Dickens has now become so insistent that something must be done. "How can we put before the eyes of our literature classes," writes the president of the Mush Academy, "such scenes as those of the Maypole Inn, or the taproom of the Ipswich White Horse?" "Our girls," writes Professor Lydia Leftover, "are tough enough already. If they start to read the drinking episodes of the *Pickwick Papers*, we can't hold them." "We must have legislation in this matter," declares a well-known Senator from a Middle West State. "Our people are accustomed to lean on legislation. They can't progress without it. What we need is a State law to declare that Charles Dickens is not funny."