

craze so far that at one time the ladies of the court had to come to the Winter Palace with their dresses so adjusted that the Empress could whip them at once if she should feel so inclined.

While the instruments of torture used in Russia were of great variety, the most formidable "punisher" was the knout, an instrument of Tartar origin, and of which descriptions differ. In its ordinary form it appears to be a heavy leather thong, about eight feet in length, attached to a handle two feet long, the lash being concave, thus making two sharp edges along its entire length; and when it fell on the criminal's back it would cut him like a flexible double-edged sword. "Running the gauntlet" was also employed, but principally in the army. In this the offender had to pass through a long lane of soldiers, each of whom gave the offender a stroke with a pliant switch. Peter the Great limited the number of blows to be given to twelve thousand; but unless it were intended to kill the victim, they seldom gave more than two thousand at a time. When the offender was sentenced to a greater number of strokes than this, the punishment was extended over several days, for the reason above stated.

Whipping, after dropping out of sight for a time in England, was re-introduced in 1867, in order to put a check on crimes of violence. The law was so framed that the judges might add flogging at discretion to the imprisonment to which the offenders were also sentenced. The first instance of this punishment being used was at Leeds, where two men received twenty-five lashes each before entering their five and ten years' penal servitude for garrotting. The whip used in this instance was the cat-o'-nine-tails.

The whipping-post is also still used in some parts of this country, notably at Newcastle, Delaware, where the "cat" is still administered for minor offences. Judging from a whipping that the writer once witnessed, it appears to be a very mild form of punishment.—*American Notes and Queries.*

INSOLVENT NOTICES, ETC.

Quebec Official Gazette, Nov. 15.

Judicial Abandonments.

- Béliveau & Arochambault, importers, Montreal, Nov. 4.
 Henriette Dompierre, milliner, Montreal, Nov. 8.
 Evariste Gélinas, boot and shoe dealer, Montreal, Nov. 10.
 Jean Hugues Gendron, trader, Sherbrooke, Nov. 11.
 James Jessop, trader, Newport, County of Gaspé, Nov. 5.
 Kenniburgh & Boyce, traders, Lachute, Nov. 11.
 Larivée & Raymond, fish dealers, Montreal, Nov. 8.
 Chas. A. O'Leary, contractor, Quebec, Nov. 12.

Curators appointed.

- Re Eugène Arcand, St. Césaire.—A. Girard, Montreal, curator, Nov. 8.
 Re P. Isaïe P. Boivin, Quebec.—N. Matte and D. Arcand, Quebec, joint curator, Nov. 7.
 Re A. & P. Bourgeois.—C. Desmarteau, Montreal, curator, Nov. 3.
 Re David Brady, plumber, Montreal.—David Seath, Montreal, curator, Nov. 5.
 Re Arthur Demers.—A. F. Gervais, St. John's, curator, Nov. 12.
 Re A. P. Desroches.—C. Desmarteau, Montreal, curator, Nov. 8.
 Re Bruno Duperré, saddler, Quebec.—H. A. Bedard, Quebec, curator, Nov. 12.
 Re Drolet & Co., boots and shoes, Quebec.—N. Matte, Quebec, curator, Nov. 5.
 Re F. X. Gagnon, trader, Quebec.—H. A. Bedard, Quebec, curator, Nov. 10.
 Re Hormidas & Wilfrid Landry, butchers, St. Scholastique.—H. Langlois, Ste. Scholastique, curator, Nov. 10.
 Re F. X. Mercier, trader, Lévis.—H. A. Bedard, Quebec, curator, Nov. 10.
 Re Louis Alarie Mongeau.—Kent & Turcotte, Montreal, joint curator, Nov. 8.
 Re Adjutor Morissette, trader, Quebec.—H. A. Bedard, Quebec, curator, Nov. 13.
 Re Damase Pageot, trader, St. Sylvestre.—H. A. Bedard, Quebec, curator, Nov. 13.
 Re Prosper Patenaude.—G. H. St. Pierre, Coaticook, curator, Nov. 10.

Dividends.

- Re David Latour.—First and final dividend, payable Dec. 2, C. Desmarteau, Montreal, curator.
 Re D. & J. Maguire.—Dividend, payable Dec. 1, M. Kennedy, Montreal, curator.
 Re L. H. Mineau, Louisville.—First and final dividend, payable Dec. 4, Kent & Turcotte, Montreal, joint curator.

Separation as to property.

- Etudiante Dubord dit Lafontaine, vs. Louis Charrette dit Robert, trader, Montreal, Oct. 23.