

IN a variety of ways courts of law have been bringing contempt of court into contempt. The public are beginning to think it is only a useless relic of a bygone age, and so we are in danger, possibly, of the pendulum swinging too far in the other direction. The judges will, however, have no one to blame but themselves. Some of the English legal periodicals have been taking Lord Coleridge to task for sentencing a boy to forty-eight hours' imprisonment for having cheered in court. The lad apparently acted on the impulse of the moment, without any thought of showing disrespect to the court. It is reported that the Chief Justice afterwards discharged the delinquent, and subsequently presented him with a sovereign as a *douceur*. This, we should doubt; but, if so, there must be some bewilderment in his mind what he was punished for, and leave a lurking impression that it might be well to perform an encore.

THERE are all sorts of ways of publishing a libel. One which we believe is entirely novel is coming before a court in Nebraska. An enraged father-in-law made up his mind that his daughter was done to death by her husband. Having buried her with great pomp and ceremony he erected over her remains an imposing tombstone, on which he inscribed a legend to the effect that the deceased had been murdered by her husband. The latter denied the truth of the statement, and desires damages for the insult. It is an evidence of the advancement of civilization in the West that this dispute is to be settled in the courts, and not with revolvers or bowie knives; but, in the opinion of the journal from which we take this note, "It is a step that should never be taken, or, if taken, never be countenanced by the courts. The tombstone is a licensed liar. It has practised without protest or hindrance since the day when men first learned how to make a lithograph. Its slanders have harmed nobody on earth, nor have its eulogies promoted any one in heaven."

THE London Chamber of Arbitration does not appear, so far, to have been a great success. Great things were expected from it by its promoters. Elaborate preparations had been made for the large number of cases which were expected to come before it,