

not touch his feet. (Extract from the 'Shah in Persia and the Persians,' by S. G. W. Benjamin.) This sapient lawgiver must have had his sole tickled at some time or other.

*A propos* of divorces, the Koran says: 'The husband may twice divorce and twice take back the same woman; but if he a third time divorce her, she cannot again become his wife till she have married and been divorced from some other man' (*Sura* II., 230). With a little modification, this law might be useful in some of the States.

Speaking of second marriages at an early period in Vermont, by some strange perversion of legal principles, people were led to believe that whoever should marry a widow who was the administratrix of her husband's estate, and should through her come into possession of anything that the late lamented departed had purchased, would render himself administrator in his own wrong, and himself liable for the estate and debts of his predecessor. The fascinating widows, however, found a way to overcome the difficulty, and smooth the way by which number two might approach Hymen's altar, hand in hand with number one's relict. Here is how the widow of Major Peter Lovejoy married Asa Averill. 'By the side of the chimney in the widow's house was a recess of considerable size. Across this a blanket was stretched in such a manner as to form a small enclosure. Into this Mrs. Lovejoy passed with her attendants, who completely disrobed her, and threw her clothes into the room. She then thrust her hand through a small aperture purposely made in the blanket. The proffered member was clasped by Mr. Averill, and in this position he was married to the nude widow on the other side of the woollen curtain. He then produced a complete assortment of wedding attire, which was slipped into the recess. The new Mrs. Averill soon appeared in full dress, ready to receive the congratulations of the company, and to join in their hearty rustic festivities' (Hall's 'History of Eastern Vermont').

#### CRAM VS. EDUCATION.

A correspondent of the *Gazette* describes as follows the mode in which he obtained admission to the study of the law:—

Sir,—In connection with the recent discussion in the Quebec Legislature regarding the qualifications necessary for admission to the study of law, the experience of one, who

a few years ago passed through that remarkable ordeal, may prove of interest to your readers. While yet a freshman at McGill, I determined to enter upon that course of study, which, according to no less an authority than Mr. Pagnuelo, is superior to that furnished by any of the English universities of Canada. With this object in view, I procured the services of an expert crammer, having been advised so to do by those who had previously passed that examination with high honor, and for the entire period of two months (May and June) devoted myself incessantly to the laying of the foundation for my legal career. I mastered the geometrical terms which are peculiar to French text books, lest ignorance of these should prevent me from exhibiting the mathematical knowledge which I had acquired in the common school. The difficulties of Latin syntax, which to many members of the Bar doubtless appear nearly insurmountable, were overcome easily, owing to the preparation which I had undergone for the matriculation at McGill. I reviewed primers on the history of Canada, England, France, Rome and Greece. In geography I learned the names of all the states in the Union, with their capitals; also of the European nations and of the larger capes, rivers and islands. I grappled with the intricacies of philosophy. As the text-books recommended were in Latin and French, and formed the basis for a long course of instruction at Laval and St. Nicolet, they seemed at first to present a formidable difficulty. However, as my instructor had previously written out the salient points of the works in English, it was not long before I could recite theories of Epicurus, Plato, Socrates or Aristotle, or give the ontological argument for the existence of a God.

Being thus crammed, in due season I presented myself before the Bar. It is of course needless to add that after this remarkable training I passed creditably, standing very near the head.

While an arts course at McGill would have involved many instructors, an outlay of at least \$1,000, and four years of hard study, by the regulations of the Bar, which are enacted in the interests of higher education, I was enabled to get along with one expert crammer, to save \$900 in money and three years and ten months of unnecessary study.