

The learned Master of Titles very properly draws attention to the heavy expense of advertising. The regulation of charges for advertising in the *Gazette* is, we presume, in the hands of the Government, and so far as advertisements in that paper are concerned, we should think there ought to be no difficulty in cutting them down so as to make them less a burthen. There appears to us to be a slight discrepancy between the report and the schedule attached, for while the report gives the figures above stated, as the total number of applications granted, the schedule appears to show that 138 applications have been granted.

The effect of the extension of the Torrens System to the outlying districts will be watched with interest. We have reason to believe that a large number of titles are being registered, and it is to be hoped that the Government has taken care to appoint careful and efficient administrative officers, so that the new system may not suffer from any want of care in its administration.

THE VALUE OF WOMEN.

WOMEN, whether taken piecemeal or in the whole, whether young or old, are and have long been of uncertain value, and the source to those interested in them of revenue of variable amounts. Slavery is a dead issue, so we are not alluding to the value of the gentler sex in that state, nor, indeed, to their indirect value in a state of matrimony or maternity. In England, early in this enlightened century, a man sold his wife, a child, and some furniture, for eleven shillings sterling; in the same year a butcher sold his spouse by auction, on a market day in Hereford, for one pound four and a bowl of punch; while a few years later another wife was disposed of, at the market-cross at Knaresborough, for sixpence and a quid of tobacco. (*Morning Herald*, March 11th, 1802, and April 16th, 1802; *Morning Post*, October 10th, 1807.) And, as we understand it, the records of Arapahoe County, Col., show that in May, 1882, in consideration of \$75, "and the further valuation of one yellow dog," John Howard sold, devised and quitted claim unto John Doe all his right, title and interest to and in his wife, Rebecca Howard, together with all and single the improvements and hereditaments therein and thereon.

But nowadays it is not necessary to sell one's life's partner, or infant prodigy, to make money; to speak figuratively, to do so is to kill the goose that lays the golden eggs; all that is requisite now is to arrange matters so that the wife or bairn tumbles in the street, or is injured by a railway train, or hit, or hurt, by some one who has means at his command. We wish to consider what money may be made by the fair sex, not by preaching nor practising, not by selling nor teaching, not by telephoning nor caligraphing, but by what will occur in the best regulated families, namely, accidents and negligences.

Touching a woman's face against her will is an expensive luxury. Miss Cracker was awarded by the Wisconsin courts \$1,000, against the Chicago and North-Western Railroad Company, because a conductor had presumed so to mis-