

lawful for *Chronicles* to sell liquor, and it shall not be lawful for *Growler* to grumble unless he first obtains a license so to do. Now could you make out from reading this that these licensing words apply to *Chronicles* as well as *Growler*. No, I am sure you will say at once that *Chronicles* is absolutely restricted from selling liquor, while *Growler* has the privilege of taking out a license to grumble. Then read section II and the restriction of intoxicating liquors throughout all creation, and nowhere in particular will it be more manifest to you. And if this clause amounts to a restriction or prohibition then it is unlawful, because it has not been submitted to the vote or for the approval of the ratepayers, as the law requires.

Yours,

AROUS.

Hamilton, April, 1859.

Hamilton, April 6, 1859.

DEAR SIR,—As I consider you are one of those who are "posted up" on general subjects, I take the liberty of asking a few questions, on a matter of vital importance to me. They are these: I become a sponsor for some of the children of a fellow citizen and co-religionist, who at that time belonged to the Catholic church. Since then, however, he has renounced that faith, and connected himself with one of the dissenting denominations, whether from pure motives or the love of applause, I leave it to his own conscience to determine. Now, sir, I wish to know how I am to be relieved of the sacred obligations of a sponsor, in view of these facts.

[Although our opinion is always freely given on matters relating to the public welfare, we wish to be a little more guarded on matters of religion. We do not profess to be a theologian; but would refer our correspondent to the Rev Mr. Geddes or Bishop Farrel, who will relieve his conscience on this matter.—Ed.]

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

NIMROD—Your enquiry must stand over until next week, our sporting editor being absent to purchase a newly discovered ape, as a match for the *Growler*.

A. B. C.—Your conundrum is scarcely up to the mark. Try again.

W. I. D.—No proclamation has yet been issued.

ELIZA—Yours is rejected, it is too personal and no communications of that description will be inserted; for a lady you write a very masculine hand.

BORE—We thank you, and will be glad to hear from you again, all shall appear in time.

Our Milton correspondents will find themselves duly attended to.

If an earthquake were to engulf England to-morrow, (said Douglas Jerrold,) the English would manage to meet and dine somewhere among the rubbish, just to celebrate the event.

BRANIGAN'S

Chronicles & Curiosities,

Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice.
SHAKESPEARE.

HAMILTON, SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 1859.

FREE LABOR vs. PRISON LABOR.

In commencing the publication of the *Chronicles*, we had an aim above that of gratifying any private or personal spleen, that of benefitting the community, by pointing to evils which from time to time arise in the administration of our Provincial as well as our municipal affairs. A few years since we personally incurred the displeasure of not a few, by endeavoring to open up a new field for the profitable employment of those committing light offences against our laws, those who are poor and unable to find employment, and for the relief of our suffering fellow citizens generally—in the shape of an *Industrial Farm*. The land was purchased and prepared for cultivation; but owing to the diversity of opinion then existing in the minds of those gentlemen then forming our city government, little or nothing else was accomplished. Subsequent depression in all kinds of trade have convinced us, that had our advice been then taken—the farm placed in the hands of a proper and efficient manager, and the labor of our Police Court criminals employed upon it,—our city authorities should this winter have had a store of provisions at a very cheap rate, wherewith to relieve the necessities of many of our indigent poor. But no, the land lies almost totally untilled, while the city is paying principal and interest for it, and the offenders sentenced at our Police Courts are being fed at our expense. It is not our intention just now to go into this subject at length, for we have much to say on it. We may, however, just remark, that we are bitter opponents to the practice of encouraging a competition between free and prison labor. Indeed, we believe not in the practice of teaching scoundrels of every degree in crime, those branches of mechanism by which honest artizans support themselves and families, and a knowledge of which they acquire after years of almost unrequited toil, and great expense to their parents or guardians. No, we advocate the employment of our crim-

inals, who are serving a term of imprisonment whether of long or short duration, at labor which will not bring our mechanics into competition with them; and which will not, after their term of confinement shall have expired, bring them into daily contact with honest mechanics who pursue their legitimate occupation. We think it advisable to call the attention of our Legislature to this evil, with a view to its removal. Our Provincial Penitentiary, we believe, turns out a fair article of furniture, which, as a matter of course, is done at a very much smaller cost than it could be manufactured by any of our master cabinet makers—and they, in consequence, are unable to compete. So with the article of boots and shoes, large quantities of which flood our market from our own and the prisons of our adjoining neighbors. This question opens up a field which an intelligent legislator might occupy advantageously.

The delicacy and refinement of feeling which pervades the columns of the *Growler*, received a more forgivable illustration than ever in its last issue. We do not like to copy vulgar slang or Billingsgate vernacular into our columns; but cannot help asking the meaning of "Gin pig Contributors, and "Mud sucking Dribblers." We also perceive some jack-knife carvings of a pig, a fox and a dog—the latter meant to represent the *Growler*,—but the animal is full-grown, which is a mistake. It should have been a puppy, as much like a cur as possible. Wait till our new monkey arrives, we'll match him.

A DANGEROUS NUISANCE.—We have received frequent complaints from pedestrians who promenade along King street, when the toils of the day are over, of the risk they run of having their eyes poked out, or head knocked off by the Knights of the yard-stick and tape, by the unceremonious manner in which they reveal their window shutters to the gas light. Why don't our city authorities enforce the By-law relating to the matter? Are laws made only to be broken? This is only one of the matters that are merely winked at. We will apply the rod on the shoulders deserving hereafter.

Never confer favors upon the rich, for you will not even receive gratitude in return.