

## A LIVELY PROSECUTOR.

Not long since, at the Manchester, England, police court, a young lady, named Ellen Grainger, was charged on remand, before Mr. R. A. Armitage and other magistrates, with stealing a quantity of articles, the property of Scarfpin & Co., Oldham street, in that city. The prisoner had been employed by the prosecutors as an assistant, and one Saturday she was given into custody on a charge of larceny. On her box being searched by the police a quantity of articles the property of Scarfpin & Co. were found. When first before the court she told the bench it was impossible to live on the wages her employers gave her, viz., 6s. a week. To this the manager for the firm replied that the accused could make it into 12s. a week by a premium on sales and a present which was given to the assistants. Grainger's reply was that the commission never amounted to more than 2s. 6d. a week. She was remanded for a week for enquiries. It was now stated that she had previously been of good character, and that her mother was ill in bed. At the request of the bench, the manager for Scarfpin & Co. entered the witness-box. He said the prisoner had been paid 6s. a week, but by premiums she could make 5s. or 6s. more.

Mr. Armitage: But all she could legally lay claim to was 6s. a week. Was she an apprentice?

The Manager: Well, she came to us as a junior, which means the same thing.

Mr. Armitage: Then you expect this girl, who has been highly educated, well dressed—(The Manager: Undoubtedly well dressed)—and of most engaging manners, to serve you 12 hours a day for the magnificent sum of 1s.?

The Manager: I most distinctly say that she did not work 12 hours a day. You should not make statements you cannot verify.

Mr. Armitage: Stand down, and don't say anything except in answer to the bench.

The Manager: I am not content to accept your rebuke without saying something in self-defence.

Mr. Armitage: As magistrates we have to sit here day by day and to investigate many painful cases, especially in relation to young women who are brought here charged with thieving and prostitution, and there is no doubt whatever that the chief agent in bringing young women before us on those charges is the miserable salaries paid to them. (Loud applause). I have no hesitation in saying that it is a very great shame. We shall exercise the powers vested in us by binding the prisoner over in her own recognizances to come up for judgment when called upon.

The Manager: I think, with all due deference, you should allow me to say something in answer to you.

Mr. Armitage: Silence, sir.

Mr. Johnson (the secretary of the National Shop Assistants' Union): Will you allow me, on behalf of the Shop Assistants' Union, to thank you for the justice of your decision.

Mr. Armitage: We want no thanks. We only wish to do our duty.

The Manager: It is hardly your duty when you will not allow me to speak out.

Mr. Armitage: Officer, will you take him out of court?

The decision of the bench appeared to give great satisfaction to a number of people who had attended to hear the case.—*Grocers' Review*.

## A NEW ENTERPRISE.

An enterprise that finds warrant in some tendencies of modern days among us is the mantle manufacturing establishment carried on at Nos. 48 to 50 Colborne street in this city. This concern, which formerly belonged to the John Ryan Manufacturing Company, has been acquired by Messrs. Alexander & Anderson, the wholesale dry goods merchants on the corner of Bay and Front streets, because of their firm belief in the growing demand for ordered and home-made mantles in place of those imported. They have taken steps to make it a permanent business by procuring from New York one of the best designers, whose ideas practically worked out are presently ready for the observation of the trade. They also take pains to have all goods made from sponged material, fitted on the "natural model," and finished in the highest style. And they manufacture to order, having travellers on the road all the time. Thus the tailor-made girl, if she

so wishes, may become to the full as artistic as a fashion plate, and the large class who wish to have their outer adornments stylish as well as comfortable, may combine a fashionable cut with the convenience of home-chosen and Canadian-made goods.

A visit to the premises showed a number of machines run by electric motor, putting together a variety of material under the manipulation of twenty or thirty pairs of hands. In another part of the factory are designers, cutters, pressers. In a far corner is the trimming room, on the north side the finishing department. Unfortunately for our representative the young woman who furnishes the establishment with its natural model, and who presumably furnishes an admirable "female form divine," was absent, and had to be replaced, for showing the mantles, by a taller and perhaps less shapely person. One thing, however, was evident, namely, the stylish cut and set of the garments, proving the designer to be master of his business. The materials for mantles were in great variety, from velvets and sealettes to serges and chevots. There were also some handsome diagonals and whip cords and handsome heavy beavers in both black and colors. Speaking of colors, it is noticeable that black preponderates in the samples shown, while in colors navy blue probably takes the lead, followed by browns, fawns and myrtle. To describe the shape of some of the dainty garments turned out by this establishment is beyond the power of the writer of this notice. Manifestly, however, they are roomy of sleeve, since they have to accommodate the enormous dress sleeves of to-day. It may be further said that variety enough is shown in capes, and cuffs, and collars to suit any notion. There are military capes, and umbrella capes, and imitation coachmen's capes. And there are some "common sense jackets" without extreme sleeves. The ornamentation takes a wide range, too, fur trimming being greatly in vogue, mink, neutria, and astrachan being favorites. For those wearers whose circulation allows them to leave fall mantles flying open, the gorgeous linings of some garments are attractive. For example, orange silk—brown satin—plain and quilted satin. And then profuse *applique* work on the linings of some of the more expensive goods.

## GO AND DO IT NOW.

I can find you in Boston to-morrow a hundred dominies urging you to make provision for the world to come; and bet a hat I will be the only one who goes before the young men and middle-aged men of Boston to-morrow, urging them to make preparation for the life that is. First make up your mind what you can afford to pay; second, select some one of the Mutuals of the day, go direct to the agent and say, "Here, I have got so much money; I am so many years old; what will you agree to pay me in return for the use of it, at the expiration of ten or fifteen years?" according to your probable needs. If you cannot do any better, make arrangements for five thousand dollars; but I tell you, when a man reaches the age of fifty-five or sixty, a little check for ten thousand dollars, signed by a competent authority, is a very welcome and delightful addition to the modest stipend he draws from the treasury of his church, or the weekly salary paid him by the cashier of the journal for which he writes.

Mr. William Orton, formerly President of the Western Union Telegraph Company, died thinking he was worth a great deal of money; but if it hadn't been for this precise provision, his family wouldn't have had a dollar. All that Horace Greeley's family had to live on for a long time, while his property was unproductive, was the money received from this source. There is no use talking about it. We are very valuable members of society while we are alive and people of mark; but the moment we lose our grip we become a nuisance if living, and our families a burden upon our friends if dead.

I can imagine the cheerful smile that illuminates the countenance of the average reader as he puffs a cigar, and sniffs at this advice. But I can't help that. I feel it is a duty that every man who has the ear of his fellows owes to his brother workers; and whatever may be the effect, I at least have done my duty by you, as I intend to do it myself.—"HOWARD" in *Boston Herald*.

## PREVENTING FIRES.

It is pleasant to record the growth of the idea of fire-prevention in wood-working plants in many sections of the country. Ten years ago it was rare to find a planing mill or other combustible plant in which there was any provision made for extinguishing fire. To-day it is the exception to find one of these plants without some provision for fighting the "fire fiend." Large plants are being equipped with tanks and automatic sprinklers. Smaller plants show up with tanks and barrels, force-pumps and pails, and there seems to be a growing idea that a wood-working plant, while necessarily combustible, is worth, at least, an effort to save. It may be a rather too enthusiastic view to assert that the effect of the spread of this idea has already resulted in an appreciable decrease in fires, but it is certain that many fires have been prevented by simple means lately. Last month, in one day, I visited three wood-working plants in which the simple old pail of water and sand had prevented serious fires. Each one of the three plants was saved by the operatives, who had been trained in the use of the ready buckets. That was to me an object-lesson on the immense value of the ounce of prevention, and every mill owner and insurance man could profit by making this a study.—*Lumber World*.

## COMMERCIAL TRAVELLERS' PARADE.

In spite of excessively warm weather the parade of the commercial travellers at Chicago on Tuesday, 25th, was a success. Over 12,000 men were in line, and no less than forty-four States and eight foreign countries—England, France, Germany, Austria, Holland, New Zealand, Australia, and Canada—were represented. The parade formed on Michigan ave. between the Art Palace and the Van Buren Street Viaduct, and soon after ten o'clock, headed by the Trocadero Band and escorted by the Chicago Hussars under Captain Brand, began its march down Michigan avenue to Twenty-second street. In the afternoon the Commercial Travellers' new clubhouse on Michigan avenue was dedicated, and to-night a special programme in honor of the travellers was given at the Trocadero.

## CANADIAN WOOD.

The Canadian market is very quiet, but prices are firm, and nearly everything in pine and spruce coming forward to London has been placed before arrival. The market for both descriptions is firm out in Quebec and Montreal, and freights are looking up, which gives a better tone to things generally. We understand that a large ship, 1,500 tons register, has been fixed on the other side at 18s. per load, all timber. We are not likely to see much waney or square pine timber in this market, the prices last obtained precluding any business in such kinds, and it is evident there is no demand for it in the London market.—*Timber Trades Journal*.

## GIVE IT HIM WELL.

Binks—"Well, sir, I gave it to that man straight, now, I can tell you. He is twice as big as I am, too, but I told him exactly what I thought of his rascally conduct, right to his face, and I called him all the mean names in the dictionary." Minks—"And didn't he try to hit you, Binks?" Binks—"No, sir, he didn't. And when he tried to answer back, I just hung the telephone up without a word and walked away."

—A special correspondent of the *Shoe and Leather Review* is visiting the Canadian shoe centres, and from Hamilton he writes:—"I was shown an American shoe (Oxford), designed to the order of the local retailer. It was called a Russia calf blucher shoe. (In Canada a laced shoe is a boot, and a low cut or Oxford is a shoe, piccadilly last). Now, my idea of a piccadilly is a pretty fine toe with a liberal outside joint. The shoe I saw was more like a London toe and did not have the swing at the joint which I am used to. I called it a very ugly last, but the demand was for it, and so, of course, my humble opinion was not in it."