

"There is a pleasure in being mad which none but madmen know."—Dryden.

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WE have just received from London the official announcement that the coronation will take place in an "abridged" form on the ninth of August. At first we were in some doubt as to what "abridged" means when used in connection with a coronation. We cabled to our London correspondent for an explanation and received the following reply:

"Abridged coronation—crowning of King in shortened form. Something like evening performance circus—only about tenth whole show. Procession leaves side door Buckingham Palace, travels back streets at gallop to Abbey, enters R.U.E. Baths omitted. Costumes much abridged. King wears short pants; Dukes, same. All royal trains uncoupled; other trains cancelled. Duchesses wear full-length skirts, low-heeled shoes and waterproofs—the latter to denote the beginning of reign. Other Peeresses, bicycle skirts and oilskin capes. Real ladies—wives of baronets, knights, etc.—not likely to be admitted; impossible to invent becoming abridgment. Rank and file positively excluded. Mane and tail of British lion to be docked. Two feet taken off sceptre. Ceremony much shortened. Holy oil very short; put on head only, with atomizer. Age of coronation stone greatly cut down; Jacob ignored; Irish and Scottish kings expunged; marked now 'MADE IN GERMANY.' Archbishop Canterbury ordered to cut down prayer to two hours; not to let Latin endings take longer than five minutes each to get through nose.

"Duchess Marlborough and Gilbert Parker only objectors. Want whole show, trains, go-carts and all. Causing Balfour great trouble, so may be given special platform in Abbey on which they can perform."

We suppose that abridgment will become highly fashionable this summer. We may expect to see the abridged skirt, hat and gloves (the abridged waist is already here). The abridged morning and frock coats will be quite *chic*, to say nothing of the abridged trowsers, socks, and, above all, claw-hammer coats. Will not the fat man be "simply stunning" in an abridged claw-

hammer? One regret we must express, however, and that is the regret that the Canadian people, as well as the English, are already using what should be The-Man-in-the-Moon's sole patent—i.e., the abridged intellect.

MCADAMS, of the Sandon *Paystreak*, ought to have known better than to hint that the Supreme Court of B. C. would stoop to take the part of the delver as against the duke. They have never done so, and we sincerely hope and trust they never will. Mc. has got off light, and ought to thank his stars that they didn't give him a month for every year they mean to dodge that Clark vs. Callum case. They may take the notion to do that yet and so have McAdams rot in jail for years to come.

Let Mc. take a pointer from us. When we want to write about a person with a pull, we submit the manuscript to the intended victim. If it is too severe, or not severe enough on the other fellow, he runs his blue pencil through it and it goes. By this means we have never failed to please, and have never had to study stone-breaking.

Disrespectful persons of the McAdams sort should be taught that we enjoy quite as much liberty in Canada as they have in Russia or Turkey, for which we should be truly thankful.

ANOTHER man has been killed for killing, and now Fred Lee Rice is down and out.

The city press made the most of the occasion. The *World* slops over and discovers that Rice died converted and without bravado, yet so well nerved that he refused stimulants. The *Star*, equally truthful and equally studious, to give as little of a gruesome business to the public as possible, tells how Rice was such a coward that he had to fortify himself with a glass of whiskey. The victim's clothing was not fully described, as the veracious reporters failed to tell us what kind of underclothing he wore, and did not even mention his socks. The hangman and parson, and every other person connected with the sacred rite, were given due attention.

We are curious to know two things. One is, how a *World* reporter would know a converted person unless he had personally prayed for and with him. The other is, what stimulant will the *Star* man take when his turn comes. Whiskey, when taken frequently, losing, like all other stimulants, much of its effectiveness.

And we cry out against the objectionable tint of American journals.

Everything in THE MOON is original. There are no stealings.