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CURRENT TOPICS AND CASES.

A case occurred very recently in Ontario where a burglar was shot in the act of plundering. It may be well for burglars as well as householders to know that there is good authority for such treatment of midnight depredators. Before the Manchester Assizes, a few weeks ago, one Higgins was tried for shooting a burglar. The facts were as follows: An innkeeper was charged with having at Manchester, on September 5, feloniously shot at Owen Riley with intent to do him some grievous bodily harm. At 2.10 a.m. on the day in question a police-constable, hearing a whistle, went to the Victoria Hotel, kept by the prisoner, whom he found standing on the steps. He said he had shot Riley, whom he had found in his house. On being charged, he stated that at 1.50 a.m. he was awakened by his wife, and, after listening for a time, heard a noise downstairs. He took his revolver, went downstairs, called 'Who is there?' and getting no answer opened the door. Riley was crouching down, the room being nearly dark. Being frightened, and not knowing how many burglars might be in the house, he fired and hit Riley in the chest. In a subsequent statement he said that he had only intended to frighten the man he saw, and was very sorry for what