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EDITORIAL NOTES.

We are wont to regard the German Emperor as desirous of keeping himself very much before the world, but it appears that sometimes he likes to be quiet. The *Post* protests against the annoyance to which the Emperor and Empress are subjected during their daily walks in the Tiergarten, and prays that the too curious public be more considerate and respectful.

Pennsylvania has had two colliery disasters in quick succession, the first by fire and the second by water. By the first disaster over a hundred men lost their lives, and it would appear that someone is to blame for it. The mine was admittedly an unsafe one, and until recently two inspectors had been employed. One of these inspectors was, from motives of economy, dispensed with, and as the work was too great for one man the fine discipline of the mine was not perfect, and an explosion followed. In the accident of the 4th inst. men were allowed to work in such close proximity to an old and flooded mine as to break into it and thus cause the death of eighteen men. This was criminal carelessness on the part of the mine managers that should be made an example of. With the two disasters following so closely upon each other the State Government should awaken to the fact that it is called upon to intervene and compel the mine owners to observe proper precautions for the safety of their workmen.

On Sunday the 1st inst. a lady was killed by a fall of ice and snow from the roof of a house in the City of Quebec, and the coroner's jury agreed that the Corporation of the City of Quebec, the owner and occupants of the house are responsible for the lady's death. This spreads the blame for the unfortunate occurrence over so large a field that the lesson may fail to do any good, but it would be well for householders in all cities to take precautions against such accidents. During recent winters we have not been much troubled by masses of snow and ice overhanging the sidewalks in Halifax, but occasionally it does occur, and timid pedestrians are in constant fear of an avalanche. There is no guarantee that a snow-slide will take place when no one is in the way, rather than fall upon and kill the unfortunate passer by, and every precaution should be taken to prevent such a thing occurring. If the Quebec coroner's jury's verdict is to be taken as an authoritative we scarcely know which party should attend to this, but should think that the occupant of a house would naturally be expected to keep the walk in front of the house free from such danger. It is the duty of the city to make and enforce regulations upon the subject.

The approaching elections are eclipsing everything else in interest, and well they may. The importance of sending the right men to Ottawa cannot be overestimated, and every man who has a vote should do his duty.

Mormons in England have not yet abandoned polygamy, as the members of their fraternity on this side of the water are supposed to have done. At Nottingham a vigorous war against the Mormons is being waged, and it is suggested that the matter should be submitted to the House of Commons and the Mormons compelled to abandon Mormonism or leave England. South Normanton is the strongest Mormon centre in England, and it is there that the anti-Mormon missionaries are directing their strongest efforts.

It was a home thrust that which Mr. Pickard, the Liberal member for Normanton, delivered under Lord Derby's guard the other day. Lord Derby declared that the proper relief for the surplus population of Great Britain was for the alleged surplus to emigrate. Mr. Pickard retorts that the surplus would be no surplus, but for the great tracts of fertile land held in idleness by the nobility as parks and game preserves. Mr. Pickard's suggestion is that the nobility should emigrate, and leave the others room to make a living in. This is the countercheck quarrelsome.

The funeral of the great English Radical, Mr. Charles Bradlaugh, took place at Woking, Surrey, on February 3rd. Hundreds of people travelled from London by special train to be present at the funeral, but no signs of grief or mourning were displayed and many wore colored ribbons around their hats. It was Mr. Bradlaugh's particular wish that there should be no mourning, and complete silence was observed by the two thousand people who gathered around the grave while the body of the atheist was committed to the earth. The coffin was covered with wreaths, but there was no display of crape or black cloth. This was a rather remarkable funeral and, properly worked up, would prove a strong one in the hands of a novelist.

A school-teacher's lot is not a happy one in Minnesota. A few days ago a teacher in Winnebago City had occasion to punish one of her girl pupils, named Crusen. The girl ran home and told her parents, who became enraged, went to the school and assaulted the teacher. The girl's father struck Miss Lent, the teacher, and knocked her down with a school book. He then took a rest while his wife grabbed Miss Lent by the hair and dragged her around the room until her skull was injured. The two parents then picked up the unfortunate young lady and threw her out of a window, her head striking a stone. A panic ensued in the school, and the pupils scattered to their homes. The teacher's death was soon after reported, but it appears that she did not die, and is now slowly recovering. The Crusens, father, mother and daughter, are in jail, and it is to be hoped that punishment commensurate with their brutality will be meted out to them.

The miserable hypocrisy of English protests against play at Monte Carlo is shown up by a correspondent of *Truth*. According to him the principal amusement at English fashionable country houses consists of gambling from night to morning almost, and that even young girls join in the game of baccarat, which is now the fashionable craze. Cheating is frequent, and the most "intelligent" players make the most money. Ladies give their I. O. U's and then borrow the money to pay their losses after all their available funds are exhausted, because they do not like to play again without "settling their accounts." Numbers of young men and women are being ruined, and middle-aged people are just as bad. It has become the fashion, and the moral courage to keep out of it is sadly lacking. "High play" is also "the thing," and this state of affairs is due to the aristocracy being ready to accept every wealthy cosmopolitan or scob who condescends to provide them with shooting, to give them dinners and entertainments and to lend them money. Monte Carlo is bad enough, but all England, according to *Truth's* correspondent, appears to be worse. Only a few days ago a London despatch gave the particulars of a disagreement over cards in which the Prince of Wales and some of his friends and some ladies are implicated. One gentleman was accused of cheating by holding a polished cigar case upon his knee in which he watched the reflection of the cards while dealing. A law suit is to be the outcome of this, and the Prince of Wales is to be called as a witness. There is no doubt that gambling has a strong hold upon the aristocracy of England, but perhaps revelations like these may have the effect of starting a reaction. If only the Prince of Wales could be induced to throw his powerful influence against it there would be a prospect of its going out of fashion, and many people would be saved the degradation attendant upon heavy losses by gambling.