

a wager that a certain F.R.G.S. could not prove that the earth is round and revolves. The writer suggests that the parties to the suit should be imported by the committee of the World's Fair, and thus help to attract a crowd, "as that is all that Chicago wishes. It is a great pity that Chicago did not exist in Columbus' time. Of course he could not have seen it at the distance of four thousand miles, but he could easily have heard it."

The same journal deals with a certain class of newspapers which, unfortunately, are not peculiar to the United States. The writer thus speaks: "It seems that the Boston *Globe* is trying to catch up with the New York *World* in general depravity. But a stern chase is a long chase. The *Globe's* base and baseless attack on Lizzie Borden has subjected it to universal indignation, and its apology, made as soon as the libel had answered its main purpose of selling the paper, is a very insufficient atonement. If such things are not contempt of court, they ought to be made so. It seems almost a pity that this unfortunate young woman has not a stout brother who, through the medium of a tough horsewhip, could administer a wholesome punishment to the perpetrators of such a shameful and remediless wrong. It is high time that newspaper people should learn that they are not detectives for 'what there is in it,' under the pious pretence of promoting the cause of public justice. If the *Globe's* story had been true, its publication could not have done any good." It would not be proper for a legal journal, perhaps, to suggest the employment by the public of a band of "stout" fellows, armed with "tough horsewhips," to warm the backs of some newspaper men in this country as well as in the United States; but there are too many libels which the law does not reach, and our present stage of civilization provides no remedy other than the one suggested; and there would be plenty to subscribe to pay any fines that might be inflicted.

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THE CRIMINAL CODE.—The Irish *Times* says: "The Canadians are the first English-speaking people to enact and possess such a code," that is, a criminal code "utterly freed from technicalities, obscurities, and other defects which experience has disclosed." Guess not. The New York Code of Criminal Procedure and Penal Code answer this description, and the former has been in force eleven years and the latter ten years. If the Canadians have anything better, at least they have nothing older, and, if better, it is merely because they had ours to improve on.—*Albany Law Journal*.

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EVIDENCE IN JAPANESE COURTS.—A Japanese journal, describing the manner in which witnesses are sworn and evidence taken in native courts of justice, says that with the Japanese anything to which a man affixes his seal is considered more sacred than what he may say. Hence, each witness is required to make a declaration to the effect that with a mind free from bias in favour of or against either of the litigating parties, and with perfect fairness, he will give evidence, and, after this has