



OCULAR PROOF.

POLICEMAN XXX (*continuing his evidence*)—"And besides that, yer Wu'ship, the pris'ner gev me a black oi, which Oi now pro-juice."

THE MAN FOR WHOM SOMETHING MUST BE DONE.

A PROMINENT and pervading figure in political life is the Man for Whom Something Must be Done—the torment of Premiers, the skeleton at the feast of party managers—the greedy, clamorous camp-follower of the successful faction whenever there are spoils to be distributed. Without influence or following—without any creditable record on which to base a claim for consideration, under the practically accepted rule of distribution, "to the victors belong the spoils," he generally manages to carry off very substantial pickings in the scramble, while workers who have borne the heat and burden of the day are turned empty away, simply because he has succeeded in establishing a recognized position for himself as a Man for Whom Something Must be Done. He is a curious anomaly in our political system, a singular exemplification of the readiness of the mass of mankind to take people at their face value. There is a tradition that he has at some remote period made sacrifices for the party. Originally a struggling lawyer, a third class editor, or a not over prosperous merchant, he went into politics, and has since in one way or other been making a great deal better living out of the public by various indirect methods than he ever did at his original vocation. He has generally been a representative for a longer or shorter term, during which he proved himself a signal failure—and perhaps a source of annoyance and reproach to his party. Dropped by his constituents, he has succeeded in foisting himself on the party as a person with claims to consideration as a Man for Whom Something Must be Done. Henceforth his livelihood is assured. He need give himself no further anxiety on the problem of how to make ends

meet, for somehow or other, his party will take care of his future. The real active workers may wait and hope in vain, the veterans who, from a party point of view, have done yeoman service, may experience cold ingratitude, hundreds of men who have successfully fought and written and labored in and out of season, to promote the interests of their faction, may be left to starve, but the Man for Whom, etc., is sure to slip into a snug sinecure and end his days in comfort. When a vacant office is bestowed, as is often the case, on the least worthy of a score of applicants, how certain we are to hear it said in justification, "Well, of course, Barnacles is not exactly the man for the position, but you know, something had to be done for him." How many useless and farcical royal commissions on every conceivable subject owe their existence to the necessity of making temporary provision for the Man for Whom Something Must be Done? To provide for him, the ingenuity of premiers and heads of departments is taxed to the utmost—for he is not as a rule to be put off with any ordinary berth involving hard work at a moderate salary, nor has he the capacity to fill any position requiring talent. But in spite of all obstacles he always gets provided for in one way or another. Fortunately for him it never occurs to the dispensers of patronage to enquire *why* Something Must be Done for him more than for a thousand others who better deserve it. If it did his occupation would be gone.

To the young man who is in doubt about choosing a profession, the vocation of a Man for Whom, etc., offers great inducements. It requires very little capital or intelligence, and the career, when fairly embarked on, presents an absolute certainty in the way of a provision for life that is fully equal to an annuity or endowment policy.

A "SINGULAR" ADVERTISEMENT.

THE following extraordinary advertisement appeared in the *Empire* last week.

"One pant and one vestmaker wanted; must be first-class; by piece. Apply etc.

It is quite intelligible that a man should advertise for a vestmaker, but what on earth can he want with "one pant"? Those articles are nearly always sold in duplicate. Even on the supposition that the advertiser is a one-legged man or a recruit for a Highland regiment who wants to get gradually accustomed to the change in costume, it might have been supposed that he could have had his single "pant" made to order without announcing his needs to the world.



A PATENT SAFETY OUTFIT.