

curses, he thought it advisable to be on the safe side; so, directing his body to be buried neither within the church nor without the church, but in a hole cut in the outer wall, he died in that happy conviction.

Once upon a time the governor of a city issued an order of the night, commanding every person walking about after dark to carry a lantern. Sundry citizens were arrested for non-obedience, whereupon they produced their lanterns, and being asked what had become of the candles, replied that they were not aware that candles were required. An amended order now appeared; but night-strollers wandered about as much in the dark as before, and it was not until he commanded the candles to be lighted ones that the governor got things done to his mind. In 1418 a civil proclamation was issued in London, directing that every honest person dwelling within the city limits should hang out "a lantern with a candle in it, to burn so long as it might endure;" from which it might be inferred that the Londoners had hitherto lit their candles only to blow them out again, so that they were quite capable of poking fun at the authorities. Indeed, the latter would seem to have been inclined to jocularly themselves, humorously insisting only upon honest folk lighting up—a limitation calculated, however, to insure a general illumination.

There was sense as well as humor in the defence made by the precise Parisian charged with allowing his dog to be at large without a muzzle: "The regulations do not say where the muzzle is to be put, and thinking my dog would like to be able to breathe a little fresh air, I put the muzzle on his tail!" A similar omission in an English Act requiring owners of common stage-carts to have their names painted upon them, led to the object of the law being defeated in various odd ways. Some painted the name where no one could see it, others scattered it all over the cart, a letter on a panel, and one ingenious fellow's vehicle bore the inscription, "A most odd act on a stage-cart"—a clever anagrammatic arrangement of "Amos Todd, Acton, a stage-cart."

Shrewd folks have sometimes managed to get the weather-gauge of the law, by simply shifting the responsibility. When abducting an heiress was a criminal offence, gentlemen taking a trip over the border with a well-dowered damsel were careful to make it appear the lady was the abductor. Upon the happy pair reaching Carlisle, the post-horses for the last stage were ordered by the bride expectant, her companion becoming *non est* for the moment; and the goal attained, the lady paid the postilions, sent for the forger of the matrimonial bonds, and when he had done his office, satisfied his demands out of her own purse. A female toll-taker, sued by the turnpike trustees for money she held belonging to them, and ordered to pay up, induced a travelling tinker to make her his wife, and when summoned for contempt produced her marriage certificate, and pleaded that the trustees must look to her husband for payment of the debt, owning, at the same time, that she did not know, or 'want to know, what had become of him.

The truth of the saying, "Where there's a will, there's a way," was exemplified in a comical way by a tramp who was refused a night's lodging at a police-station in Maine, the officer on duty explaining, "We only lodge prisoners;