

means countenancing crime, might frequently be found fraternizing with the citizens in a way that at present would shock the feelings of the advocates of the Fleming by-law; and many frequenters of taverns, especially of the better class, found the arm of a friendly policeman his only support while reaching the home which, unaided, he could not find. As every policeman was personally known, and belonged to the city, this kindly feeling was not to be wondered at.

This semi-military system was continued under the *regime* of Major Draper, and is now under the present Chief, Lieut.-Col. Henry James Grasett, late of H.R.H. the Prince of Wales' 100th Regiment. Whether the drill in firearms will prove advantageous, or is compatible with the ordinary duties of a police-constable, except for self-protection, is very questionable. A strict *surveillance* exercised over citizens, by the men whom they pay for the benefits of protection of life and property, may engender a feeling of antagonism that ought not to exist. While the police are representatives of laws made by the citizens, and on this ground ought to receive their support, a partial administration of the law is worse than none at all, and as common law is said to be common sense, an injudicious officer may bring reproach on the whole body.

The system carried on at present by Sir Charles Warren in London has brought discredit on the whole body of the Metropolitan police, which hitherto has been proverbial for politeness, and the firm, and yet considerate, discharge of their duties, and friendly feeling with the people. This all may exist, while they may be a terror to evil-doers.

In no city are citizens prevented from waiting for cars or omnibuses—which is a matter of necessity—the kerbing in Cheapside and the Strand being lined with people for this purpose at all hours, and so of other cities; and while the law forbids the obstruction of thoroughfares, which is very proper, to show partiality in enforcing this law cannot but create bad feeling. If, while a crowd is allowed to collect in front of a window and gape at a checker-board pattern of figures, only known to the initiated, while pedestrians, both ladies and gentlemen, are forced to take the carriage-way in order to pass,