

of public importance? For, although I know no metropolitan journal which now sells the use of its editorial page, yet, if the present tendency proceeds, that must be the inevitable result. Even editors are human. If a return to contempt proceedings is deemed too harsh a remedy, why should not it be made indictable to publish any comments other than a fair report upon proceedings pending in the courts? Yet, when we remember the infrequency of convictions for criminal libel, it seems unlikely that many public prosecutors would push such an indictment to trial. A more efficacious remedy is, perhaps, a direct appeal to Caesar.

Ye potentates who rule us with your quills, continue to pillory judges and jurymen whose decisions do not meet with your approval. We do not even offer a remonstrance at your then caricaturing the advocate who has done his best to save an unpopular client. But, while a case is on trial and before it has been decided, stand off and confine your strength to the enforcement of fair play. Without your aid no judge can secure it for the accused.—*Roger Foster, in the North American Review.*

NUDE SHOULDERS IN THE COLD.—Now, what is there in nude necks and shoulders that they should have such a charm for royalty? It would be conceivable if the mania were confined to pretty necks and shoulders. But it is indiscriminate. The most scraggy or the most developed necks of matrons seem to exercise the same fascination on royal personages as those of youthful Hebes. The aged Emperor of Germany expressed his indignation the other day because ladies had attended the christening of his great-grandson in high dresses; and on Friday last the exhibition of semi-nude ladies, young and old, in carriages on their way to the drawing-room, and shivering in the cold, was a sight to excite not only pity, but surprise at the poor things being obliged to risk their lives thus uselessly for their Sovereign. The wind, we are told, is tempered to the shorn lamb. But the freezing March blast seemed little tempered to these lambs and ancient sheep.—*London Truth.*

DR. KLEIN recently exhibited to the Royal Society under the microscope, an illustration of a paper on the etiology of scarlet fever, gelatine cultivations of the *Micrococcus scarlatina*, an organism which has been proved to be present in a certain disease of the cow and in human scarlatina.

MR. W. A. CARTER, in a recent lecture on "Marine and Fresh-Water Fishes," said that fish have the power of influencing one another by sounds and action. He had observed a shoal of carp following the lead of a single one which conducted them to a quantity of food at a considerable distance away. He had also noticed that certain fresh-water fish, such as trout, were subservient to a ruler, which might be seen swim-

ming at the head of his tribe. The same was possibly the case with some marine forms, like the herring and bass.

CARDINAL GIBBONS is spending much time in enquiring into the workmen's clubs which flourish everywhere in France, but in Paris, and now number over 500. Employers and employed belong to them, and they are under the general supervision of the local priests. All questions at issue are discussed in friendly argument; food, clothing and medicines and doctors' services are obtained on co-operative principles, and there is not a trace of anarchism or atheism. The cardinal believes that the like of these clubs ought to be started in the United States.

EX-EMPRESS EUGENIE still bears traces of great and delicate beauty. Her eyes are bright and vivacious, her complexion is admirably preserved and there are tints of pale gold in her hair. She always dresses in deep mourning and carries an ebony stick.

THOMAS A. EDISON says he made experiments while south which convince him that telegraphing through water without the aid of wire will ultimately be made possible, so that for instance, ships several miles apart at sea may communicate with one another.

It is the swell thing now for the groom to give a farewell dinner to his best man and ushers, and the bride a farewell dinner to her maiden friends before the ceremony. This new custom obtained at the marriage of Mayor Hewitt's son in New York recently.

JOAQUIN MILLER tells a pretty story about Mrs. "Bonanza" Mackay and a poor California girl who went to Paris to study art. The girl was dying and had no money to get home, when Mrs. Mackay called on her, bought all her poor little work for \$100 and made the check \$1,000.

ALEXANDER DUMAS, fils, in his recent academy speech on Victor Hugo, said he thought posterity would associate the poet with "La Legende des Siecles," and that the very characteristic of his genius was legendary. "He has left us," said M. Dumas, "a collection of Titanic phantoms, monsters and shadows, whose giant effigies move in a world of their own somewhere between Perrault's fairy tales and the vision of Ezekiel."

"My dear, how can you go on in this way? You are too hysterical. It seems to me the sense of protection which I bring to you—" "Sir, I didn't marry you for protection." "Eh? For what, then, pray?" "For revenue. Now, are you going to get me that Easter bonnet, or aren't you?"

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