

We have received from the office of the Attorney General a pamphlet containing "Forms in Criminal Cases," which have been prepared by a Judge of the Supreme Court. The need of such forms has been apparent for some time, and no doubt the officers of the court will find them of great assistance in conducting the formalities of criminal cases.

The German Emperor has arrived at that age when he can sport a beard, and he appears to be more proud of the adornment to his person than the average young man is of the incipient mustache just appearing on his upper lip. No photographs of Emperor William taken before this hirsute addition arrived are after this to be sold. So he has spoken, and he appears to be the sole arbiter on the matter.

Morlaix, in France, has long enjoyed the honor of being called "the most unhealthy town in Europe." Recent information shows, only too truly, the aptness of this epithet. From January to November, 1890, there were 516 deaths and only 396 births; the excess of deaths over births being 220 in less than eleven months. Were it not for a certain amount of emigration from the country districts the population of this veritable city of death would become extinct in less than two centuries.

Has anyone the right to make use of the earth as a conductor of electricity, to the detriment of other installations of the same kind? Such is the curious question that was recently determined by one of the courts of the United States. It is well known that in many electrical contrivances the earth is constantly employed in place of a return wire, the circuit being completed in a most economical manner. This arrangement is technically known as an "earth-circuit." Now it appears that telephone lines frequently suffer considerable disturbance on account of this common practice, and the Ohio court was called upon by two litigants to decide as to its legality. It was argued that the earth was common property when thus used for transmission, and also that it would cause much expense if a complete metallic circuit was insisted upon. The court, however, decided that the practice is illegal if it is to the disadvantage of other electrical installations. If this decision is not reversed, it will probably be the basis of new legislation all over the world.

Miss Winnifred Leale, the young lady who made such a splendid score at the Bisby match, is described by the *Pall Mall Gazette's* interviewer as a bright young lady, whose face is as brown as a berry with healthy outdoor exercise, and whose eyes danced with fun and amusement at the role of the heroine of the hour which was thrust upon her. She was dressed as simply as it behoves a "campaigner" to dress while on active service; a fawn-colored homespun skirt, a white flannel blouse, fastened at the waist with a gold buckle, a cape of the same color as the skirt, and a neat sailor hat, completed her costume. She wore her field glass over her shoulder, and was sometimes seen to handle her "Martini," but not often, as it attracted attention, and she did not court public notice. Miss Leale was accompanied by her father, Surgeon-Major Leale, of the Channel Islands Militia, and when seen by the *Pall Mall Gazette's* representative, the two were at the Ladies' Club, having just returned from camp. Miss Leale is a fine sample of young womanhood and a credit to the Channel Islands, which have a reputation for fine girls.

A distinguished Scientist of St. Petersburg, Prof. W. Manasier, has arrested the attention of the thoughtful by the critical manner in which he has investigated the workings of that self-imposed disturber of nature's beautiful harmony, the corset, and the facts he announces may well be studied by the feminine part of the civilized creation. The Professor has found that the corset-wearer has a decreased vital lung capacity, receiving into them one-third less air than the person whose thorax is untrammelled, and while expiration is not impeded, inspiration is deficient, and thus the entire act of respiration is curtailed and made more rapid. The corset-wearer will breathe seven times while the non-corset-wearer will only breathe five times. A hurried respiration means a more rapid heart action and pulse; a lowering of arterial tension with tendency to anemia and chronic oxygen starvation; its sequence, a large amount of carbon dioxide circulating through the vessels. This impairs the lungs and makes them receptive of bacilli, and more terrible still, causes a bad complexion and red nose. Mrs. Russell, the high-priestess of Delsarte, the latest fashionable fad in New York, says that by the corset destroying the natural outline and movement, the harmony is so damaged as to rob the body of its power as an instrument for expressing its emotions, and the result of this is an unfavorable reaction on the mind of one so unfortunately imprisoned. Delsarte teaching impresses upon all the necessity of a sound mind in a sound body, and no ill-treatment of either. The contention that a very beautiful woman tightly dressed is on her lowest plane, while a very ugly one in graceful drapery is on her highest, has some truth in it, although we consider a "happy medium" the best thing. There is no doubt that corset-wearing leads on to dressing too tightly, and the stiffness of the garment wastes the muscles so that support becomes a necessity. One thing urged against the dress reformer's crusade against the corset is that in the United States alone 10,000 persons are employed making corsets, who would be deprived of employment were the article discarded. The corset industry of that country turns out a \$10,000,000 product annually, to strap and stay the women and dudes of the land. But this is no reason why corsets should be worn if they are harmful. The capital invested would soon find other fields and the laborers other employment.

The entries at the Dominion Rifle Matches two weeks ago were in excess of former years, and the Provincial Matches have also been successful in point of number of competitors and in the length of the scores. This indicates that a satisfactory growth in rifle shooting is taking place in Canada, and that there is an increase in efficiency in the use of their arms by the Militia representatives. We only hope further progress may be made in this direction, and that every Militia man who has the capacity may also take the opportunity to perfect himself as a marksman.

Great uneasiness prevails in China. For some time there has been apprehension of a revolution breaking out, and foreign war ships have been hovering about Chinese waters, in order to protect residents of their several nationalities. It is said the underlying motive for the uneasiness is to bring about a general revolution in the hope that the Tartar rulers may be deposed and the Chinese hold sway themselves once more. The *New York Independent* says that one reason that missions in China, and more especially Catholic missions, suffer from outbreaks, is that a belief exists that Christians, or "foreign devils," kill infants for the purpose of using their eyes and other parts of their body as medicine. This is almost incredible, but we must remember that China is not an enlightened country, and the fact that the death rate in the orphanages established by the Catholic missions is very large may foster such a belief. The danger coming from the belief extends to the Protestant missions and to traders, but there is no way of preventing it at present, for the Catholic Church will not, of course, give up a form of work in which she has always taken such a foremost part.

We sometimes meet with astonishing items of home news from abroad. One of the latest surprises is in last week's number of the *Illustrated News of the World*, in which Mr. James Payne says:—"The latest accounts from Canada show that Scotland has lost its proud position as the headquarters of Sabbatarianism. The reproofs administered to the mineralogist upon the Sabbath—'Ye're breaking something forbye the stanes,' and to the travelling artist who asked the name of a ruin—'It's no the day to be speerin' sic things,' will soon lose their nationality and become Canadian stories, and may they find another same Slick to tell them! Ontario can already give Caledonia several points (if it were permissible to do so) on a Sunday. In North Britain, though it is wicked to skate on the Sabbath, folks are allowed to slide, (with the exception, of course, of backsliding), and walking between the services is not limited as regards its speed. But in Ontario fast walking is prohibited, and a 'Sabbath Day's journey' (all vehicular traffic being forbidden) must be short indeed. Even 'total immersion,' (in the form of bathing) is interdicted." We are at a loss to know where Mr. Payne secured these interesting items, for to judge by the Toronto newspaper reports of Sunday rows in the Park, a slightly more rigid observance of the day would appear desirable. Not content with poking fun at this alleged strict Sabbatarianism, Mr. Payne makes the statement, which we consider unfounded on fact, that "Canada is the least literary of the British Colonies, and Thomas Hood's 'Epistle to Rae Wilson' is probably unknown to it." Just think, fellow-countrymen, of what we are accused. Our well-worn copy of Hood gives the lie to the charge, and the fact that Mr. Payne makes it, bespeaks his ignorance of the strides Canada has been making of late in literature. The leading British and American magazines contain every month enough to show that Canadians are walking ahead in all the branches of literature. Mr. Payne suggests that it would be "worth while for the Sunday Society, or some other enlightened Association, to export the poem, (Epistle to Rae Wilson), which, if bound in pamphlet form, might be mistaken for a tract, and thereby have a chance of being read. Surely Sir Andrew Agnew, who endeavored to prevent beer from 'working' on Sunday, must have been a Nova Scotian baronet!" Perhaps he was, and perhaps he paid the necessary compensation for such an honor, but if he possessed such an unconquerable aversion to Sabbath labor as to object to the beer "working" on that day, we wonder how he would manage to endure the sight of our Sunday street cars and other modern improvements, were he to visit his titular estate, a thing, we believe, few, if any, of those worthies dubbed baronets of Nova Scotia, even so much as dreamed of doing. Scotland, so far as Canada is concerned, still maintains "its proud position." True, we have the spectacle in Parliament nearly every session of

"That Spiritual Pindar
Who looks on erring souls as straying pigs,
That must be lashed by law, whenever found,
And driven to church as to the parish pound."

But we are in accord with Hood when he says—

"I do enjoy this bounteous, bounteous earth;
And dote upon a jolt
'Within the limits of becoming mirth;
No solemn sanctimonious face I pull,
Nor think I'm pious when I'm only bilious—
Nor study in my sanctum supercilious
To frame a Sabbath bill or forge a Bull."

The members who attempt Sabbath bills have not succeeded in passing them, and we still depend upon our old Sunday law which forbids servile labor to be done on the Sabbath, and which allows a margin for works of necessity and mercy. The Epistle to Rae Wilson, Esquire, would be profitable reading, we doubt not, for some people we know, but so far as general Sabbath observance is concerned it would miss its mark.

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