

friend being carried off by a tiger, he slew the beast, the magistrate claimed three puns of cowries; should he even destroy a serpent, or a cat, or a weasel, if it were not one of the most prized, the magistrate could fine him three puns of cowries; if it were of the best species, the fine was twelve puns. (By the way, among the ancient Welsh a common cat was worth four legal pence; but the value of a cat that guarded the king's barn was thus ascertained: its head was put downwards on a clean, even floor, with its tail lifted upwards, and thus suspended whilst wheat was poured about it, and that was its worth; if the corn could not be had, a milch sheep, with her lamb and its wool, was the value. (Dim. Code, B. II., c. 31.) Fortunately, a professional butcher was not amenable to such fines.

Space will not permit us to comment upon the Gentoo laws anent women, except on two points. If a wife committed a fault she might be scourged with a lash, or with a bamboo twig, upon any part of her body where no dangerous hurt is likely to happen; but if the husband scourged her beyond such limitations he had to suffer the punishment of a thief. (The laws of France, England, and Wales permitted such correction in the good old times. Legouv , p. 138. The Lawes Resolutions of Women's Rights, 1632: Anon. Welsh Laws, Bk.V., ch. 2.) If a man hauled a woman by the hair, the magistrate could fine him twenty puns of cowries. In the United States, not long since, a woman got a divorce because her husband cut off her bangs by force; and, *per contra*, a man got a divorce because his wife pulled him out of bed by the whiskers. (Wright's Report, pp. 175, 177.)

Theft of animals was severely punished; a thief who took an elephant, or a horse, excellent in all respects, was liable to have cut off his hand, his foot, his buttock, and be deprived of life. If the elephant or horse was of small account, only one foot and one hand of the transgressor went.

The medical profession was regulated by this enactment: "If a physician, unskilled in the art of physic, causes any one to take a medicine, or, skilled in his profession, he gives not to a sick man the remedy proper for his disorder, in that case, if he hath administered his physic to a man of a superior caste, the magistrate shall fine him one thousand puns of cowries; if he hath given it to a man of an inferior caste, he shall fine him five hundred puns of cowries."