

from revenge or for gain have planned their escape, as they think, so as to defeat the law.

But the main point of what we wish to say at present is that three out of four convictions are reprieved, and the one who was hanged was no doubt a mental pervert of practically no responsibility for his actions, however revolting they may seem. Shakespeare said—

To kill, I grant, is sin's extremest gust;
But in defence, by heaven, it is most just.

WORK AMONG LEPERS.

With the advance of the knowledge of what a disease really is the power to deal with it increases. It is now known that leprosy is not hereditary, and is very rarely communicated to white people.

The efforts that are now being made to segregate the lepers and remove from leper parents their children is rapidly reducing the number of those suffering from the disease.

The establishment of leper stations in countries where the disease prevailed is doing a vast amount of good.

THE TREATMENT OF INEBRIATES.

Mayor Gaynor, of New York, has taken a decided step onwards in the management of persons addicted to the periodical or occasional use of alcohol in any form, or drugs, so as to render himself unfit to manage himself or to be dangerous to the public. A board has been appointed, with two physicians as members, to look after such cases. The board has power to establish a hospital or a colony for such cases, and keep them under observation.

THE ONTARIO MEDICAL COUNCIL.

As we are arranging our final proofs, the Ontario Medical Council is in session. It looks as if the session might prove a memorable one in several respects. It would seem as if the Medical Council would seriously set itself to work to put into operation a number of much needed reforms which have been frequently urged by the CANADA LANCET. We will give a full report in our next issue.