

perienced by philosophers in convincing the well-to-do classes that they are quite 'unfit' to be trusted with the management of children, and even the masses will continue for a while to exhibit an ignorant impatience of state interference with the exercise of domestic rights. But some day good sense will prevail over foolish impulses, and individual instincts and yearnings give place to altruistic and patriotic aims and aspirations; and then at last children will have a fair chance of attaining, one and all, the sound mind in the sound body. In the meantime, we must possess our souls in patience while our little ones perish from neglect in myriads; and our boys fail to find a livelihood; and our army and navy are starved, though the finest material for them may be found in abundance in every street of our towns, ungathered and wasted; and our girls are left to the worst of fates. But every day it becomes more and more difficult for men of generous natures to maintain patience about this most weighty matter. The population of great Britain grows apace, and the question how best to deal with it presents constantly increasing difficulties. And so we have in fiction cases like 'Gin's baby,' and in our law-courts cases like the *Roddy Case*. These two cases resemble one another very closely in some respects, and we are not sure but that, on the whole, the real case is more amusing and instructive than the imaginary case, to the properly philosophic mind. For in it the incomparable Doctor Barnardo has been good enough unconsciously to reveal to the public part at least of the riches of his inner self."

GRAND JURIES.

THE question of the abolition of the Grand Jury system has been brought before the Senate by the following motion by Mr. Senator Gowan: "That an humble address be presented to His Excellency the Governor-General; praying that His Excellency will cause to be laid before this House copies of all correspondence between the Department of Justice and the Judges in Canada charged with judicial functions in criminal matters as well as the Attorney-General of each province, respecting the expediency of abolishing the functions of the Grand Jury in relation to the administration of Criminal Justice."

The learned Senator, in making his motion, referred to the circular issued some time since by the Minister of Justice, and addressed to all the judges in Canada exercising criminal jurisdiction, and to the Attorney-General in each province, soliciting opinions on the subject, and thus referred to the result of the circular: "Over 100 replies were sent to the Department of Justice in answer to the circular. These replies are from some, and, in fact, nearly all leading legal minds in the country; I have not gone over them, but a summary that I obtained from the Department shows that no less than fifty of those who sent in answers are in favor of abolition, thirty-nine against, ten doubtful, and two who have declined to answer, so that on the whole, as far as numbers are concerned, a very considerable majority is in favor of abolition, and a very respectable minority against it. I have not seen, and have not analyzed, what they said on the subject. I have not been able to study the arguments used, but I notice, taking the