

GIVE 'EM THE EARTH, AND HAVE DONE WITH IT!

#### TOPICAL TALK.

IT is clearly demonstrated that the poem which took the Montreal Witness' prize of \$100 was notentified to it, as every other competitor, directly he or she (or "thou") read it exclaimed, "Bah! pooh, pooh! That isn't half as good as the one I wrote."

PROFESSOR WIGGINS predicts a great tornado on the 18th of March. If the professor intends tornado to mean "tremendous big heads," his prediction will in all probability be verified, not only in this country but on the "ould sod," St. Patrick's day has a knack of producing such tornadoes on the following day.

TursisSt. Valentine's Day; full many a heart doth throb, and corset laces now give way at the thump of its bob, bob, bob. The postman staggers along beneath a tremendous pile of amorous prose and song; but he mutters and swears the while, and these are the words he chants—his kindness to vinegar turned—as he staggers, and sweats and pants, "St. Valentine's Day be durned."

THE city council appears to be able to pass by-laws about any subject whatever-though certainly those laws are very often merely passed and ignored-and it seems to me that it would be an excellent thing to have a bylaw passed to compel ladies over thirty-three years of age to retain their scats in a streetcar, no matter how crowded the vehicle might

I am sure we nasty men should be astonished to observe what a large number of ladies wearing rouge and false fronts were under the age specified. Why, every blessed woman in the car would want to stand, and then we poor spindle-shauked, knock-kneed, hump-backed, consumptive lords of creation would be able to sit down. Manning, I voted for you! See to this matter. It isn't political, but see to it.

"Physicians report his condition improved." Such was the bulletin on the board in front of a city newspaper office last week, within half an hour of the announcement—on the same board—that O'Donovan Rossa was dead. How it is possible for anyone to imagine that there could be any improvement when once that humbug was dead, I fail to see. Rossa in a defunct state is beyond the reach of improvement; you can't improve on that.

An eminent lawyer read this paragraph in his newspaper: "A Boston physician advises everybody to ascertain what were the causes of death in his ancestors, with a view to guarding himself against inherited tendencies, etc. This eminent legal gantleman cast a mental glance backward and saw that his father, grandfather, great-grandfather, and great-great-grandfather had been hanged for robbery, and he immediately abandoned his profession. The press is a power in the land.

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