

the citizen a supple tool in the hands of the clever rogues of a corrupt Press, and a gullible victim of the 'Limerick craze.' The most menacing portent of the year is that the newspaper in its popular form is ceasing to be a factor in the education and uplifting of the masses of the people and becoming more and more an organ of enfeebling excitement and corrupting pleasure. It has become pictorial and not illuminating, photographic and mercenary, superficial and not instructive. A more lamentable set of facts than those associated with the 'Yellow Press' the year does not contain, except that the British and American people have not the sense and the courage to boycott, once and for all, the whole guilty tribe. Morality, patriotism, humanitarianism ought to force us all to take that course, and to take it at once."

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A writer in the lay press calls attention to a matter which, not unnaturally, strikes him as having an element of unfairness in it. A certain learned judge recently struck a case off the list because the counsel for the plaintiff was not present. The writer takes exception to this as follows:—

"When lawyers are paid by clients to be present in Court, the fact that they are not there is a matter of personal negligence for which the clients are in no way responsible. For a judge to strike a case off the list simply visits the negligence of the lawyers upon their innocent clients. Not only will the trial of the case be delayed till the spring assizes, to the detriment of the litigants' interests, but they will have the doubtful pleasure of paying the additional costs of having the case brought down a second time to trial."

This mode of dealing with what may be, but is not always, carelessness of counsel is so common as not to be much thought of by a lawyer, but there is much force in what the layman says about it, and should make a judge think twice before he gives a litigant a fair fling at the way justice is sometimes administered. In saying this we assume of course that the facts of the case have been correctly stated.