

applicable to a murder trial, when the blood of a dead man "cries from the ground" at least for a searching inquiry.

The Court and jury and others have in effect said, "she served him right," or less tersely, "his death was her only protection," but unfortunately the dead man can say nothing. And, in addition, others may be led to follow her pernicious example.

A more unsatisfactory criminal trial from a legal point of view could not well be conceived. The majesty of the law cannot safely be trifled with, if a country is to retain its law-abiding character, and there is a feeling that in this case it has not been as carefully guarded as we are always led to expect it would be in the administration of criminal law in England and Canada. Perhaps the awful slaughter of men, women and children that we are now hearing of day by day is making us careless of the sacredness of human life.

KEEPING FIREARMS IN HOUSES.

Two recent events forcibly brought to the attention of the public the danger arising from the presence of firearms being kept in houses. A girl of 18 was tried for the alleged murder of a well-known citizen of Toronto. The revolver used was one belonging to someone in the house and apparently easily obtainable. The other was a case of a young girl, who was playing in her own yard. Being annoyed by the jeering of a small boy on the top of the fence and who refused to leave her alone, she ran into the house and got a loaded rifle and put a bullet into his thigh. Whilst one cannot help feeling that the boy deserved what he got, it shews the danger of loaded weapons being permitted where irresponsible people can get them. There is a law forbidding the carrying of concealed weapons, but evidently something more is necessary to prevent such occurrences as have recently and are frequently taking place. *Law Notes* thus refers to the subject:—

We already have statutes forbidding the carrying of concealed weapons. These statutes, it hardly need be said, have not proved effectual to accomplish the end sought. Nor, it is believed, will there ever be an approximation to that end except through a