

who served on juries in the cases where convictions were arrived at. This influence was so apparent that during the examination of witnesses for a later case, the judge was constrained to direct the district attorney to begin proceedings against its editor and proprietors. Meanwhile the paper goes on, and will go on, if the present defendants are convicted. The criminal administration cannot, as a matter of fact, keep up the succession of editors who are ever ready to be "sacrificed." The only really effective method is to suppress the paper itself. The principle of free speech does not cover such license to the press and discussion as to endanger the peace and order of society; and when the ranting frenzies of the anarchists pass beyond the acknowledged limits of open discussion, the suppression of the means of uttering them no more violates the principle than the punishment of the offender himself. We are not unmindful that Lord Bacon says "the punishing of wits enhances their authority, and a forbidden writing is thought to be a certain spark of truth that flies up in the faces of them that seek to tread it out." But the remark would rather apply where the paper or club was allowed to exist, and the offenders punished personally, than where it was suppressed and blotted out, in which case the whole affair would probably soon sink into oblivion.—*Columbia Jurist.*

#### GENERAL NOTES.

**SUNDAY LAWS.**—The present Louisiana Legislature has passed a Sunday law. For 170 years the people of New Orleans have devoted themselves to pleasure-seeking on Sunday. By the new law, all places of business will be closed on the Sabbath, except newspaper offices, book stores, public markets, drug stores, restaurants, theatres, and other places of amusement where liquors are not sold, street cars, and a few others of minor importance. Guests at hotels will, however, be allowed to purchase wine at the table, as it has been the custom to keep all bar-rooms, corner-groceries and small shops open throughout Sunday. The hotel men may well congratulate themselves. The Saturday evening and Sunday morning arrivals will fill up many pages of the hotel registers.—*Washington Law Reporter.*

**LIEN ON A CAUSE OF ACTION.**—Maggie Cahill, according to the *New York Daily Register*, sued her cousin, John Cahill, in the City Court, for damages for assault and battery. When the case came for trial, she wished to withdraw it; but her lawyer, Samuel H. Randall,

insisted that he had a lien upon the cause of action, and that unless he was paid, it must be prosecuted. Chief Justice M'Adam, to whom Maggie appealed, held that a cause of action for personal injuries not being assignable, a lien could not attach to it, until it was made certain by a verdict. The Chief Justice in giving judgment made use of the following beautiful words: "The language of the Holy Writ, "Blessed are the peacemakers," &c., accords with the maxim "Interest reipublicæ ut sit finis litium:" and every principle of law, order, and propriety agree that the peace of the family now prevailing should not be broken up by the dark visage of intestine war, waged not for principle, but "for costs." The plaintiff will, therefore, be allowed to discontinue her action, without costs."

**"CAN IMAGINATION KILL?"**—This is, perhaps, hardly the correct form of question that the *British and Colonial Druggist* puts to itself in discussing the death of the young woman at Hackney under circumstances in which Keating's insect powder largely figured. As the powder appears by Dr. Tidy's experiments to be perfectly harmless, the suggestion is not unnaturally made that the deceased, who was possibly of a hysterical, highly imaginative turn of mind, took the powder in the full belief that by its means her death might be accomplished. The writer of the article in our contemporary, we think wrongly, brings forward two remarkable instances of what may be regarded as practical jokes with melancholy terminations. In the case of the convict delivered up to the scientist for the purpose of a psychological experiment (the man was strapped to a table and blindfolded, ostensibly to be bled to death; a siphon containing water was placed near his head, and the fluid was allowed to trickle audibly into a vessel below it, at the same time that a trifling scratch with a needle was inflicted on the culprit's neck; it is said that death occurred at the end of six minutes), fear must have played no inconsiderable share in the fatal result, and we do not know whether all the vital organs were in a sound condition, though they were presumably so. The old story of the case of a college porter is also one in point. The students entrapped him into a room at night, a mock inquiry was held, and the punishment of death by decapitation decreed for his want of consideration to the students. It is small wonder that, under the dominion of fear and belief in the earnestness of his tormentors, the sight of an axe and block, with subsequent blindfolding and necessary genuflexion, a smart rap with a wet towel on the back of his neck should have been followed by the picking up of a corpse.—*Lancet.*

**LES VACANCES JUDICIAIRES.**—Le Palais est en vacances depuis hier. La rentrée des Cours et Tribunaux aura lieu le 16 octobre. Magistrats et avocats partent en province pour l'ouverture de la chasse. Le silence règne maintenant dans les grandes galeries des Pas-Perdus, et n'est troublé que par les caravanes d'Anglais qui viennent visiter le Palais. Les affaires civiles urgentes seront expédiées par la Chambre des vacations. Le service de la police correctionnelle est assuré par le fonctionnement de deux chambres. Quant à la Cour d'assises de la Seine, on sait qu'elle ne chôme jamais; mais aucune affaire intéressante ne s'annonce à l'horizon.—*Gaz. du Palais*, 17 août.