

ered not who or what they were as long as the crimes were perpetrated in England, it is to be supposed against friends of English government. The imagination sees meetings gloat over the shedding of innocent blood of babes, the slaughter of innocent and unconscious women the murdering of men of all nations. Surely the report must be over-looked, it is hard to believe that such a thing can exist in the breasts of civilized

good many complaints have lately been about the system of private begging goes on both in this city and many cities and towns in all parts of this Dominion, and it may not be amiss for us to have a say in the matter too. We the reputation in Canada of having a few professional beggars, and professional begging is prohibited by the law, the poor wretch who torments us only in street and at the corners is conspicuous by his absence in Canada; the amateur, if I may so call her, has become so set at the trade as to be able for the duty—yes, and does it too—to the disgrace of a great many. It is quite unnecessary to describe her in TRUTH, every one of our readers and many thousands of her only too well. She is generally well dressed and good looking; and never begs alone—no, she has always a companion beggar of exactly the same make along with her. They are, or pretend to be, young ladies; generally with a sanctimonious mien. They are collecting for a church fund, or a bazaar fund, or a fund, or some church decoration fund, or they are for a presentation fund; but the fund it may be for they do the to perfection, and allow me to remark that the fund is not infrequently their own exclusive pockets, though this they, as they think, keep you un- aware of. Many of these beggars are cautious and well-meaning ladies, who do something to do take out the substance and persecute their neighbors. They do not to appear zealous and good; they do it to please their friends, and alas, for pocket money. Now TRUTH would condemn the collection of for charitable or sensible church purposes, but the system is really carried to excess. Two young ladies come into your eyes, you have never seen either before, and you present a subscription for some fund which you have never heard of before, and with which you have no sympathy when you do not know it, or possibly for the support of an institution that you as a matter-of-fact know to be dangerous to society in some way; or as a support for supporting tramps and beggars in lazarets. You refuse to subscribe, they are not abashed by your refusal; they stand there and explain, keeping you from your duty and making themselves look- ing into your eyes—at least if you do not to be to some extent depending on the public, they intimate that it will be for your advantage to subscribe to this fund, and if you do not, to your disadvantage not to do so; they attempt to coerce you, and to prevent you from going your way you subscribe and they go to persecute some one else.

In 1860 the sum of £2,500 was awarded to a milliner's daughter as compensation for losing a husband in the shape of a young gentleman with £700 a year, ("Berry against Da Costa," 35 Law J., Rep. C.P. 101); but there were circumstances in the case tending to make the damages exemplary. In former times it was more common for disappointed husbands to bring actions than now, and in the reign of William and Mary £400 was awarded for the loss of a lady worth £6,000, ("Harrison against Cago," Carth, 467)—the largest sum, we believe, awarded by unsympathetic jurymen to a male plaintiff. No doubt as large, and perhaps larger sums than the present have been paid out of court, but we now have an assessment, agreed upon by all concerned and sanctioned by a jury, of a Countess's coronet at £10,000.

The very latest trick of the tramp is to play piano tuner. A knight of the road introduced the scheme at Washington, but was taken in by the vigilant Dick Arnold of the Central Station. He secured the contract to tune the piano of Mrs. Kiley of 1319 Four and a-half street southwest, and he also secured his pay in advance, which is an important feature of the scheme. After taking the piano to pieces and scattering it all over the parlor, he sent the lady out of the room for some turpentine and skipped. He gave his name as Anthony Hohlgebozen.

A lie cannot be concealed; it will blab. "Though you pile a mountain on a lie" said the wise old Seneca, "yet the lie will turn over and throw the mountain off, and the lie will stand revealed." The liar shall not go unpunished! The Indians used to say, "let me look into your mouth to see that you have not two tongues" when they suspected a liar.

The following remarkable verdict was returned by a coroner's jury in London, England, a few days ago, and certainly calls for widespread publication as justly as it would did it emanate from the green isle. In London, a man fell in a drunken fit and broke his neck. The jury found out that his grandfather had died of a broken neck, and brought in as their verdict, "Died by the hereditary visitation of God." What do you think of that from the capital of the world?

That the drinking of alcoholic liquor has irresistible fascinations for many men is evident, but what pleasure can a man possibly derive from teaching a three and a half year old child to drink whiskey. A man of sixty six years of age and his son, three and a half years old, were charged together at the Recorder's Court on Wednesday with being drunk. A witness declared that he had seen the old man give the boy nearly half a tumbler of white whiskey and the boy drink it off without wincing!

So Lord Ripon is to be the next Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and will be the first Roman Catholic to hold that office. Indeed a special legislation will be necessary to make his right to do so legal, and TRUTH will be well pleased to see all men placed on a common footing without regard to creed. The Act has been long in coming, but there is a prospect of it at last. The House of Lords will probably oppose the bill but it is believed that it will pass, nevertheless.

England has narrowly escaped an awkward official complication in the matter of the sale of seven English ships to the French for the transport of troops to China. The Government has, however, just in time, advised the owners of the vessels that no evasion of the Foreign Enlistment Act will

be permitted. The semi-official denial of the purchase by the French Government is not believed in England.

TRUTH says that the so-called "harmless gossip" in reality often does a great amount of harm. To say the least of it the "good hearted babler" is at times a very dangerous acquaintance, and should either be muzzled or shunned. You cannot let an incautious word drop in his presence, for though he says nothing and repeats nothing from malice, he being so scatter-brained is ever repeating the wrong word and to the wrong person. If they have anything to say, be it good or bad, they will say it, and if they have nothing to say it is all one, they buzz away irrespective of either sense or discretion.

Prince Albert Victor, son of Prince Albert of England, who, it is reported, is coming to this country in the spring, is a many lad, who will be twenty-one next month, and the heir, after his father, to the English throne. He is German in descent from both the Houses of Guelph and Holstein, his grandfathers on both sides being pure German, and his grandmother Victoria, the present queen of England, but half English. It is singular to notice how this family has placed itself on all the principal thrones of Europe. The grandmother of this young prince, for example, is queen of Great Britain, and empress of India; his grandfather is king of Denmark; one of his aunts is empress of Russia; another on the death of Wilhelm, will be empress of Germany; one uncle is king of Greece, a granduncle king of Norway and Sweden, another king of Belgium, a cousin will be empress of Austria on Franz Josef's death; and the dukes and principalities of Germany are ruled by other cousins, while still others sit upon the thrones of Portugal and Italy. It is singular to notice that of the Bonaparte family raised by the ambition of Napoleon to the control of Europe, not one occupies a throne or even a position of influence; the Houses of Plantagenet, Stuart and Bourbon, which numbered so many warriors, are almost extinct and powerless; while this German family of quiet, commonplace bourgeois character, which does not number among its members a single great chieftain or king, wears the great crowns of the world. Abraham Lincoln is said to have declared that a nation which was ruled by a commonplace man should thank God, for it only was safe. Most of these rulers, both men and women, are sensible, respectable folk with the kind of virtues which would be admirable in private life.

Spain, a country which by courtesy we call civilized, quite recently has been guilty of an outrage which for atrocity vies with Turkey itself. A band of ruffians surrounded the village church and parsonage at Cordoba in Galicia, while some of their number entered the residence and ordered the priest to tell where his money was kept. It appears that the priest had in his possession a considerable sum, which had been collected for the poor, and he steadily refused to reveal where it was concealed. They then bound the priest and threatened him with a terrible death; but he persisting in his refusal, they filled his furnace with straw, lighted it, and thrust the unfortunate man into the fire. His screams as he was burning were heard all over the village, but the villagers were too much frightened to interfere, and the priest was burned to a crisp. The murderers then deliberately plundered his house and several others and vanished as mysteriously as they came. No arrests were made.

The Salvation Army some weeks ago invaded Montreal and were promptly attacked by the roughs of that city; a riot ensued, and the police had to interfere. Some of the Salvationists were arrested and brought before the recorder, who, good man, took pity for them, labored under the delusion that Lord Cecil was the head of the Salvation Army, and on that account dismissed the case with costs. The decision will be regarded by most of the readers of TRUTH as both just and satisfactory, however much they may differ as to the method pursued by these demonstrative religionists.

At a meeting in favor of the abolition of tax exemptions held in this city recently, the following motion was adopted, and TRUTH morely gives it as an item without comment:—"That this meeting is of the opinion that all tax exemptions should be abolished and that the power be left in the hands of municipal councils; and that the Government should be asked to pass a permissive bill enabling this to be done."

A valuable contribution to the temperance question appears in another page of this issue, from the pen of Mr. C. B. Tillinghast, State Librarian, of Boston, on the prohibition question in Massachusetts. It is well known that the "Bay State" has been one of the most interesting of all the American battle-grounds between the prohibitionists and their opponents, partly from the fact of the nearly even balance between the parties, and partly because of the great average intelligence of the constituency. Few men are in a better position to write intelligibly on this question than Mr. Tillinghast. The article will repay careful reading.

This time of year many are kindly remembering friends. What present to an intelligent friend would be better than TRUTH for the year, or even the next half year? Order it, dear reader, and your friend will remember you kindly as each week's visit is made. TRUTH will be sent six months to any such for one dollar. A few dollars so expended would do good to more than one.

The readers of TRUTH will remember the sentence of death passed by Lord Chief Justice Coleridge on the captain and mate of the yacht "Mignonette" for killing the boy Parker for food to keep themselves alive, and that they were reprieved and it will be sure give satisfaction to many to learn that the original sentence has been commuted to imprisonment for six months. The ruling of the court in this case was of great, and will be of permanent, importance, since it shows that murder under any circumstance not justifiable by law must be punished by death, and that to kill a man merely to support the life of others is not justifiable. It should also be borne in mind in this case that had Parker not been killed he too would have been saved, since they were rescued next day. The clemency shown, however, cannot but be commended by every humane person, and the justice calls for unreserved approval. It should be a lesson, and will be no doubt, to those who are so unfortunate as to be placed under similar circumstances in the future.

It is high time that we had the two cent postal rates throughout Canada, and to the United States as well, as the one ounce standard, and there is some hope of this being accomplished at last. The Government seems to be liberal in its doings just now; but it must be confessed that the Act might have been brought forward with advantage long ago and to advantage to Canada.