

THE CHECK-REIN.

A PLEA FOR ITS ABOLITION.

THE attention of THE TORONTO HUMANE SOCIETY has of late been especially called to the growing cruelty, in Toronto, of tight-checking horses, and the following facts are given in the hope of inducing drivers to abolish this cruel and unnecessary restraint.

Sir ARTHUR HELP said :—

“Whenever I see horses suffering from a too tight check-rein, *I know the owner is unobservant, ignorant, or cruel.* *He is unobservant*, or he would know that his horses are suffering ; *he is ignorant*, or he would know that a horse loses much of its power pulling, and cannot recover himself if he stumbles ; and *he is cruel*, if observing and knowing, he does not remedy it.” Besides destroying grace and ease of motion (which the constraint of the tight check-rein must do), the poor animal, while standing, suffers increasingly with nervousness and restlessness, which find vent in the involuntary movements which not unfrequently call forth punishment from the ignorant driver. Those who own draught horses would do well to consider the tax which the check-rein adds to the animal's burden.