

that his object should be effected without hurting anyone. There is also a further definition of murder in clause 223 whereby culpable homicide is also murder in each of the following cases, whether the offender means or does not mean death to ensue, or knows or does not know that death is likely to ensue: (a) if he means to inflict grievous bodily harm for the purpose of facilitating the commission of treason, rape, robbery, and other specified offences, or the flight of the offender upon the commission or attempted commission thereof, and death ensues from such injury; or (b) if he administers any stupefying or overpowering thing for either of the purposes aforesaid, and death ensues from the effects thereof; or (c) if he by any means wilfully stops the breath of any person for either of the purposes aforesaid, and death ensues from such stopping of the breath. Another lengthy clause opens with the words that 'Culpable homicide, which would otherwise be murder, may be reduced to manslaughter if the person who causes death does so in the heat of passion caused by sudden provocation,' and proceeds in three elaborate paragraphs to define 'provocation.' It is evident that very great pains have been spent on the bill, and if it should pass the Canadian Parliament, there seems no reason why its definitions of murder should not be adopted here.—*Law Journal (London)*.

AN OLD POLICY.—Mr. A. F. Burridge, the actuary of the Equitable Life Assurance Society (of London), writes as follows: 'It is, and has always been, the custom of this society to pay the full reserve value on surrender of a policy, even though only one premium has been paid. It may be worth while adding that we have recently quoted the surrender value of the oldest policy existing in the society, and as the figures are so remarkable—probably unparalleled—they may be worth publication: Policy No. —, effected on July 24, 1817, for 1,300*l.* on a life then aged nine. Sum assured and bonuses at present time, 6,181*l.* 5*s.*; cash surrender value at present time, 5,369*l.* 6*s.* Annual premium, 24*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.*; total premiums paid, 1,832*l.*' A policy of seventy-five years' duration is a curiosity indeed, but a cash surrender value that is equal to nearly three times the amount of the premiums paid is more so! The above figures, we should think, probably are unparalleled. If any reader can send us anything approaching them, we shall be glad to give publicity to similar instances of what can be done by life offices under favourable circumstances.—*Policy-Holder*.