

professional criminal has sought out many inventions for committing crimes, and ingenious devices for preventing their discovery, and ever since Sir John Thompson's Criminal Code was compiled, a large number of amendments have been found necessary, by way of addition to it, and as well as amendments to the Evidence Act and as to presumptive evidence of crime.

Notwithstanding the care bestowed upon the preparation of the code, it is most unfortunate that it did not by a few strokes of the pen sweep away offences which were punishable under the common law. The good judgment and learning of the judges in olden times when statutes were few should ever be held in grateful remembrance. There are frequently cases where offences cannot be punished under any provisions of the code or its amendments, but are punishable under the common law.

For example, in the early morning at Oshawa two years ago the nightwatchman was going off duty and on his way home he met a livery-stable keeper coming from a small coal yard office, accompanied by one of his young employees. Knowing the character of the man, he had his suspicions as to what brought him to that neighbourhood so early in the morning in such company. After passing the coal office he saw a young girl under seventeen years of age and a young man of about the same age going towards the railway station. The watchman quickened his pace and hailed them. The young man made off. The watchman caught up to the girl and her answers to his questions being unsatisfactory, he took her to the children's shelter and notified me. Inquiry at the shelter showed that the girl was the daughter of a respectable farmer in Pickering township and employed in a respectable family in Whitby as a servant. After a good deal of difficulty, it was learned that she had, while under sixteen years of age, been seduced at a time so long before that date that the seducer could not be prosecuted; Also that she had gone to the coal office willingly and consented to three men having connection with her. She was feeble minded, yet possessed of such an amount of intelligence