

SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED.—A new Society in Boston is known by the name of "The Watch and Word." The object of the Society is to put down gambling and other forms of vice which are demoralizing the young men of the Hub. Especial attention has been directed towards the prevalent system of policy-gambling, and since June 1st over seventy proprietors of gambling resorts have been convicted of corrupting their young customers. The Boston Traveller has taken up the work with enthusiasm, and is prepared to back all efforts of the "Watch and Word" men.

THE BLOT ON SOUTHERN JUSTICE—At last there has been a symptom of conscience shown by the law courts of Virginia. We do not mean to say that justice is never administered in the courts of that southern State, but we do mean to assert that when a case comes up in which a negro is concerned, he is almost sure to be the loser of his suit. A recent horrible lynching has, however, aroused public feeling, and no less than nineteen indictments have been issued against participants in the horrible murder of the negro. It remains to be seen, however, whether the indictments will end in convictions or whether by delay, by technicalities or by gubernatorial clemency, the guilty men will not escape.

THE "BLAKE'S" MEN NEEDED.—During the Franco-Russian fervor which has recently prevailed, a Frenchwoman, wrapped in Russian flags, flung herself into the river, expecting a glorious rescue by both Russian and French seamen. Reporters stood ready to chronicle the noble deeds of her saviours, but an unexpected incident occurred. The woman was drowned. We are confident, that if the gallant seaman from the *Blake* had been present the accident would not have happened. When the *Blake* was at anchor at New York several boatloads of sightseers were overturned, but in each case the Jack Tars were promptly and efficiently to the rescue. It really seems too hard that the combined naval powers of both France and Russia should not suffice to save one woman's life.

AN ABUSE OF PRIVILEGE.—Governor John P. Altgeld, of the State of Illinois, is currying favor for himself with a band of desperadoes, or at least he is laying himself open to that suspicion. The Governor has been in office but seven months. One of his first and most signal performances was to free the notorious Chicago anarchists, and in the document which gave them their freedom to reflect severely on the Judges and juries before whom they had been tried. In this short time of office he has freed nearly a hundred convicted criminals, of whom forty were either murderers or mankillers. Over a score of these were practised burglars, while fifteen are classified either as thieves or robbers. The balance of the liberated men have committed grave and revolting offences, but this does not alarm the Governor. He is determined to use his power of executive clemency to its fullest extent; and if he keeps on pardoning at his present rate, he will have succeeded, when his four years of office are up, in pardoning over six hundred criminals. The Democratic party who elected Altgeld to office have a terrible responsibility on their hands.

A PLASTERER ON STILTS—We are always glad to chronicle the inventions of any of our Provincial men, and we must confess to a curiosity to see with our own eyes the mechanical contrivance patented by Nathaniel E. Pitman, of Port Maitland. Mr. Pitman has been considering for some time the disadvantage to which builders and workmen are put by the labor and expense necessary in order to construct proper staging for lathing and plastering. Instead of building a staging for each piece of work, Mr. Pitman hit upon the idea of raising himself to his work by means of stilts. These stilts are made in two pieces, between which the stirrup is raised or lowered as required, and instead of the usual unsteady base there is a flat lying wooden shoe. The stilt is fastened to the leg below the knee, and does not interfere in the least with the free use of the limb. Mr. Pitman claims that for plastering and for ceiling making his method is particularly good. The workman has a far longer reach, and can move from room to room with great ease. Many of the citizens and visitors in the town of Yarmouth have been visiting Mr. Pitman, who is now employed in the large hotel which is shortly to be completed in the seaport town.

THE MATABELE PEOPLE—The mooted war between the British South Africa Company and Lobengula, the King of Matabeleland, is delayed only from day to day. The Company still maintains its trading posts in Mashonaland between the Zimbezi and Limpopo rivers, and Lobengula holds himself in readiness to make an onslaught on short notice. The disputed district is rich in its agricultural possibilities and in its mines, and it is necessary to the prosperity of the Trading Company that the British power should be upheld. Lobengula is the acknowledged sovereign of a host of natives, and he has the reputation of being the only shrewd man in the "gang." While his people suffer from poverty he revels in luxury and levies taxes in the form of corn, beer, skins and ivory. The British traders have propitiated him with many gifts, and at each new moon the British mine owners are obliged by the terms of their contract to pay him a substantial royalty. His people are numerous but discontented and terror-stricken. The arbitrary methods of justice which prevail render human life most insecure, as a man may, in order to avenge himself of a slight, denounce and cause to be slain his brother with his wives, children, servants and cattle. Rider Haggard, the novelist, is probably as well informed as any living man as to the habits and customs of Matabele, and he testifies that they are a long-suffering and degraded race, and that their record is one of untiring massacres of inoffensive human beings.

A SENSELESS LIE.—If Lord Aberdeen intends in the future to trouble himself about bogus newspaper reports, he will find that he is making a vain fight. The best policy by far is to disregard the utterances of the American press on all matters of personal import. Since it has become the fashion to slander Lord Haddo, the fourteen year old son of the Governor-General, our Canadian papers, to their shame be it said, have not hesitated to help keep the ball a-rolling. The charge against the lad is not an especially heinous one. He is reported to have refused to pay the rental of a boat which he had hired, and in consequence of this eccentric action, he is said to have been handed over to the Sheriff of New Brunswick—rather a strange form of procedure under any circumstances. What the real facts of the case were the public will never know. Young Haddo has never been in the Maritime Provinces, and as he has been kept strictly at school, has had no opportunity, supposing that he had the inclination, for such an escapade. We regret exceedingly that the details of a wholly imaginary episode should have had so wide a circulation.

TO PURIFY MECCA.—Many theories, practical and otherwise, concerning the suppression of cholera, have been presented to the reading public during the last two or three years, but it appears to us that Mr. Lundberg, the United States Consul at Bagdad, has touched the root of the matter in an unofficial report of the state of affairs in the Turkish Empire. The mortality from cholera at the city of Mecca has been appalling. Although it is almost impossible to obtain data on which to base a conclusion, it is thought that from fifty to seventy-five thousand pilgrims have perished of the dread disease in that sacred city. There is not a doubt that Mecca is the source and centre of the cholera scourge. The thronging pilgrims bathe in and drink polluted water, and those who live to travel back again scatter the seeds of disease along their route. Mr. Lundberg thinks that in common justice to humanity, the nations should unite in framing a policy by which this plague spot of the world should be effectually cleansed, and the pilgrims obliged to conform to sanitary laws. If the Sultan of Turkey will not consent to co-operate with the European powers he should be compelled to do so. Wars have been waged for far less cause, and even the miseries consequent on a war with Turkey need not weigh with communities who are opposed on principle to war, for there is no strife between man and man so deadly as the struggle between man and cholera.

FEATHERED WOMEN.—It is surely because women are ignorant of their responsibility in the matter that the fashion of wearing feathers is so widely tolerated. Of course there are feathers and feathers, but the majority of the bright wings, milliners' birds, and algettes or ospreys, which are worn, are only obtained at a cost of valuable bird life. It is strange that a tender-hearted woman should array herself with groups of murdered innocents, when she has at her command a variety of feathers which can be obtained without unnecessary slaughter, as well as a hundred trifles of silk, velvets, flowers, etc., to choose from for her adornment. Surely the woman who is tempted with the airy lightness of the "algette" for instance, will withstand the temptation when she considers the history of the feathered trophy. The egrets are beautiful birds, and during the breeding season they congregate like herons on the rocky coasts. After the young birds are hatched, but before they are fledged, the plumage of the parent birds reaches perfection. The bird-hunters watch for this time carefully. They capture and kill the parent birds, and in consequence of this slaughter the fledglings are forced to die in the nests of slow starvation. The entire race of egrets is therefore in danger of extinction, for the wholesale murder of old and young birds will in time prevent the perpetuation of the species. We are confident that if the history of the egret were but more widely known every woman would hesitate "ere she robbed nature of its beauty without adding to her own," and that she would endeavor in all ways to put a stop to a cruel and senseless custom.

COLLEGE HAZING.—The better class of Universities and Colleges have done much during the past few years to discountenance the ancient custom of hazing. There is, however, still much to be done before the custom shall have been brought into the disrepute which it merits. A recent barbarity perpetrated at Princeton nearly cost the life of a young freshman, whose constitution was not sufficiently strong to endure a sudden immersion in a canal and a long exposure in wet clothing to the chill evening air. A vicious custom such as this should not be tolerated among respectable people. There is nothing of the mischief-loving element among the young fellows who combine to so torture a fellow-student. It is not simply the high spirits of youth finding an outlet in a reckless prank, but it is the beginning of brutality which, under other conditions, will lead to torturings and to lynchings. There is no semblance of reason in the practise of hazing. The freshman at a residential college is of necessity placed in a new and trying position. He may or may not be conceited and "cocky," but the chances are that he will be quite harmless. His persecutors on the other hand are usually the stamp of worthless students who have little self-respect. Seldom, if ever, does the scholarly element in a college take part in an outrage of this kind, although it is but natural that students of both classes should bear the stigma of brutality. The prompt and decisive measures which the faculty of Princeton have taken for dealing with the offenders in this last escapade will meet with the approval of all right-feeling people.

The Worst Disease—Dyspepsia
The Best Cure K. D. C.

K. D. C. Relieves
Distress after eating.

K. D. C. Cures
Midnight Dyspepsia.

K. D. C. Restores
the Stomach to Healthy Action.