"THE COMING CHRIST."

"ALCYONE'S" FATHER V. ANNIE BESANT.

THEOSOPHICAL PRESIDENT DIRECTED BY COURT TO DELIVER UP THE YOUTHFUL GOD-HEAD.

Leadbeater and the Lads-A Criminal Charge Abandoned-Immorality Difficult to Believe-What "The Hindu" Says-Mrs. Besant's Various Transformations of Opinions— Defections from the Theosophical Society— Germans and French Ignore the Order of the Star in the East.

them not to go to Mr. Leadbeater.

tiff regarded the incident of

an offence.

Some months ago "Truth" published ation, and the plaintiff thereupon preliminary report of legal proceed- agreed to the boys being taken to gs instituted by one G. Narayaniah, father of "Alcyone," the Theosophist's abruptly left India on January 26 and prospective prophet, against Mrs. the defendant left Advar for Benares Annie Besant, President of the Theosophical Society, for the recovery from with the two poys. Both the parties her custody of his two sons, Krishna- admitted that in the present litigamurti ("Alcyone") and Nityananda tion they had been financed by third After considerable circumlocution the parties. Mr. Justice Bakewell delivered judg- plaint was a criminal offence, and the ment in the Madras High Court in act charged took place in the latter favor of Narayaniah, declaring his two part of March, 1919, but in the amend-boys wards of the court until they attain the age of 21 years, and directing If the offence had really been committhe defendant, Mrs. Besant, to deliver ted the minors to the plaintiff before May IT WAS DIFFICULT TO BELIEVE

In view of the world-wide interest centred in the case, it is strange that a precis of his Lordship's judgment has not been published in New Zealand ere this. However, by the courtesy of that well-known hard-headed cynic "Walrima," of Tane, Eketa-"Truth" has been permitted to peruse Mr. Justice Bakewell's . judgment as published in "The Hindu,"

His Lordship, in delivering the judgment, first recited the facts of the case beginning with the circumstances unwhich the plaintiff entered into the service of the defendant at the Advar Headquarters in December, 1908, and to the circumstances of the boys being stopped from attending the school at Mylapore and being taught at Adyar by Messrs. Leadbeater, Clark, S. V. Subramaniam and also the plaintiff. When the plaintiff came to Auspectively. The defendant told the plaintiff that

SOMETHING GREAT AND GOOD was going to happen to Krishnamurti and that the plaintiff was not to throw any obstacles in Leadbeater's way. In January, 1910, she came to Adyar and in the same month some ceremony. called the Initiation, with respect to discussed and plaintiff consented to it as a member of the Esoteric section, and was therefore undoubtedly aware of the importance attached by the defendant and Mr. Leadbeater to the ceremony. In October, 1910, the defendant returned to Advarand proposed to give the boys an English education. No doubt, the plaintiff was well aware of the motive operating on the defendant's mind preceding the initiation of Krishnumurti, and the defendant assured the plaintiff that she would bring up the boys in such a minner as to develop their spiritual powers and to promulgate the tenets of the Society. His Lordship did not think that the pinintiff or the defendant contemplated the development of Krishnamurti into a vehicle or manifestation of supernatural powers. The defendant herself stated that matters developed in course of time. March 6, 1910, plaintiff signed a letter making defendant guardian of the boys. The defendant was the head of an occult Society and there was considerable discussion as to the terms of the agreement. The plaintiff took the advice of an eminent lawyer and an ex-Judge of this High Court. legal effect of the document was explained to the plaintiff, who, after consulting a large number of dependents living in Adyar,

CONSENTED TO THE TERMS of the agreement. The plaintiff's pobition as an officer of the Advar Socisty and as a member of the Inner Circle was of unportance to him. Plaintiff also wished to give his sons an English education. These considerations strongly influenced him and were sufficient to explain his faith in defendant to make her the guardian of this opinion had induced the plaintiff Tibetan explorer, Dr. Sven Hedin, his sons. His Lordship thought that the defendant, as head of the Esoteric exercised great influence over the ed the evidence in the case. plaintiff, but, constairing the discussion and deliberation which took place over the guardianship agreement, and the drafts prepared and revised, he against the plaintiff.

agreement, plaintiff alleged that a cortook place. Matters, however, went held what his Lordship could only de- much interested in on much the same at Adyar and Mr. scribe as Leadbeater still took part in the educatton of the boys. Plaintiff also atleged that in January, 1911, he was told by some of the residents in Adyar that servant Lakshman had seen the incident referred to in para 2 of the plaint as having taken place in Fobruary, 1909. Plaintiff complained boys should not be allowed to associate with Mr. Leadbeater any longer In March, 1910, the defendant took the toys to Benures and thence to Engand, all returning to India in October. De trained for religious life. Pering that period, Mr. Leadbeater was in Adyar. On December 28, a the reasons already given by him that course of the evidence merit the caremeeting of the Inner Order of the Society was held, at which the idea of Krishnamurti being a vehicle of extranundane power seemed to have been On December 31 fully developed. Van Hook had a conversation with plaintiff, who said that he had

been made A LAUGHING STOCK

and that his boy had been placed in a of the boys from Mr. Leadbeater. The defendant refused to comply. Plaintiff returned to Adyar in the beginning of January, 1911, and complained to of commission, etc. various persons. A telegram datest January 10, 1910, was sent by Mr. Wadia to the defendant at Benares stating she was threatened with legal proceedings by plaintiff.

There was an interview between plaintiff, Sir S. Subramanya Aiyar and only in this country, but in all those in the Constituent. Charter of the other members with respect to the custody of the boys, and the plaintiff raised the question of the separation Beaut in respect of the guardianship good the Star in the East movement worker in the deep leads is from 3 to of the boys from Mr. Leadbeater. The of the two minors has aroused an un- and "Alcyone" as the coming Christ. 5 years. This horse is bought with

markable features, among which are the personality of Mrs. Besant, her claim to be the spiritual head of large numbers of people belonging to various races and creeds in different parts of the world, and the nature of the contentions set up in the case on behalf of the rival claimants to the guardianship of the minors. After the various transformations of opinion in regard to religious subjects which Mrs. Besant has undergone, she has found a resting place in Theosophy. After the death of Colonel Olcott in 1907, the mantle of the President of the Society fell upon her, according to the injunctions of the Masters of Wisdom, or Mahatmas, who are said to be the guardian angels of the Society. She has exercised undisputed sway as the head of the Society over its disciples,

> HER ASSOCIATION WITH MR. LEADBEATER

since his ostracism from it in the time of Colonel Olcott, led to numerous secessions by leading members of the Society, and to schisms within it which have resulted in separate organisations being formed for the propagation of the doctrines of Theoophy. The latest act of Mrs. Besant England. Mr. Leadbeater had already which led to a serious breach among the members of the Society, is the for mation of a personal cult with "Alcyand shortly afterwards for England one" as its head, who is declared to be the incarnation or bodily vehicle of Lord Maitreya or Jesus Christ. Krishnamurti, the elder of the two minors hose guardianship formed the subject matter of the suit before Mr. Justice Bakewell, was found to be a fitting instrument for the Lord Maitreya Theosophic sub-organisation, called the Order of the Star in the East, was formed, with Alcyone, alias Krishnamorti as the head. The boy was initiated in the mysteries of occultism by that he would not have complained to Mr. Leadbeater. Mr. Arundale, Principal of the Central Hindu College, the defendant at once, and he would Benares, accepted the office of Private have continued to live with his sons at Secretary to the youthful god-bead, Adyar. The plaintiff admitted that he only reprimanded his son and asked and he was given divine honors by his Theosophical votaries. In view of the judgment in favor of the father that His Lordship then read the evidence his sons should be restored to his of Lakshman, and said that the plainguardianship by the defendant before boy bathing naked as only a violation of the caste rules and thought no more about it. The plaintiff's evidence plaintiff's costs of the suit should not about the incident was unreliable and Lakshman's evidence did not establish His Lordship therefore costs. The father was undoubtedly to answered the 6th and 7th issues in blame for his original conduct in ennegative. The plaintiff was strongly trusting the boys to the defendant's care and his inertness in taking romeprejudiced against Leadbeater and he wanted separation of the boys from dial measures. Due allowances must, him. The plaintiff then asked Sir S. however, be made for the nature of Subramani Iyer as regards the legal the relationship, viz., of bated breath and whispering humbleness, in which effects of the agreement, and he was he stood to Mrs. Besant in common with Indian Theosophists of infinitely advised that he had waived his rights as a father and they were not revocyar, the boys were aged 14 and 11 re- able. It seemed to his Lordship that higher social and official position. The



"ALCYONE," Head of the Order of the Star in the East. The Subject of Considerable Litigation.

influence the Court to revoke the surprised and amused to note in India Section, and professing occult powers, agreement, and that opinion had color-The pinintiff's opinion was not reliable. His Lordship found the sixth and which people are prone to fall into, is seventh issues against the plaintiff. His Lordship then dealt with the than elsewhere. That seems also to found that there was no undue influ- eighth and ninth issues as to whether be the reason for the baser elements ence exercised on plaintiff. His Lord- the defendant permitted the children of Theosophical manifestations finding ship therefore found the fifth issue to associate with a person of immoral such ready credence and willing dupes the second century. character and the evidence relating to in this part of the country. Apart On April 14, 1910, shortly after the the same. In regard to Mr. Lead- from the issues of fact and law in the beater, his Lordship observed that, in case which has just come to a close thin incident described in the plaint the witness box, he admitted that he the public would, we feel sure, feel

FRANKLY IMMORAL OPINIONS. in the promises of such a person. dute of the agreement that the elder emotional and irrelevant plea of ad son should be brought up as a vehicle of supernatural powers and that they that the boys should not be removed strongly to the defendant that the should lead lives of poverty and cellbacy. The plaintiff was therefore entitled to insist that the boys should and to the position which she holds as not be allowed to associate with Mr. spiritual head of thousands of people

it was necessary in the interests of the ful attention of the Government and children and for their future protec- the public." tion that they should be declared Judging from the literature which wards of the Court. His Lordship "Truth" receives from time to time

May 26, 1913. With regard to the costs of the case his Lordship directed that as the trial false position. The plaintiff then ac. of this suit and been unduly protractoused Mr. Leadbeater of the incident of and considerable expense had been bitter cap." A copy of the "Mittelfanand on the same day went to the de- caused by the charges made by the fundant and demanded the separation plaintiff, which his Lordship found not to have been proved, the plaintiff latest to hand indicating further crupshould pay his own costs and the tions. Therein is printed the official costs of defendant, including the cost

> Commenting on his Lordship's judgmont

"THE HINDI" SAYS: among all right-thinking people, not where the suit instituted against Mrs. parandant said she had offected separ- paralleled degree of interest. The So the enterprising Germans have blood money.

to search for something which would wrote on one occasion that he was in what awe Indians hold Mrs. Annie Besant. The degree of mental enslavement and unthinking idolatry more conspicuous in Southern India CERTAIN ASPECTS OF THE IN-

No father should be obliged to confide of the Theosophical Society, which the succession of facts which I have has been unravelled by the evidence. His Lordship was also of opinion At the close of her address for the dethat the plaintiff was not aware on the fence, which ended with a strong and miseri cordiam, birs. Besant urged round the name of Alcyone is first and from her guardiauship as it would give a strong shock to the Society, Leadbeater and that they should not in all parts of the world. The plea deservedly falled to have effect. In our His Lordship was also of opinion for opinion the disclosures made in the

Judging from the literature which declared them wards and directed the anent things Theosophical, it would defendant to hand ever custody of appear that the Besant brand is not in the boys to the plaintiff on or before very great favor just now with European and American experts of the incarnate, and Leabeater, with his "frankly immoral opinions" generally is regarded as the "dregs in the gen," the official publication of the German section of Theosophists, is the notice of the

SECTION from the Theosophical Society, signed by Annie Besant, President, calling This decision of the learned Judge upon Dr. Rudolf Steiner, General Secwill cause profound satisfaction retary, and one of the greatest Theosophical teachers of the day, to pass

because the phlegmatic Germans ig-

EXPULSION OF THE GERMAN

to her prestige. To those who have followed her words and acts from that time onwards, it is clearly manifest that Mrs. Besant had fallen under the formidable suggestive power of her dangerous collaborator, and could only see, think, and act under his absolute ontrol. The personality henceforward speaking through her is no more the author of "The Ancient Wisdom." but the questionable visionary, the skilful suggestioniser who no longer dares to show himself in London, Paris or America, but in the obscurity of a summer-house at Adyar governs the T.S. through its President. The illomened consequences of this influence were soon to appear before the world through the affair of Alcyone and the founding of the Order of the Star in "If a real Indian initiate, a Brahmin or otherwise, of ripe age, had some to May 26. it is difficult to reconcile the Europe on his own responsibility or order of the learned Judge that the in the name of his masters to teach his doctrines, nothing would have been be paid by the defendant, and that he more matural or interesting. We should bear them as well as pay her should only have had to listen to him, to judge him by his words and acts. and to illuminate our knowledge from him. But it was not in this form that we beheld the new apostle from Ad-

case has indeed presented many re- formed a little sect of their own styled

follows:

the Anthroposophical Society.

In France there are also defections Edouard Schure, another recognised theosophical litterateur, in announcing

his resignation from the T.S., was very

candid. He wrote to the President of

the French Theosophical Society as

"The primary cause of this deviation ies in the close alliance of Mrs.

Besant with Mr. Leadbeater, a learned

occultist, but of a troubled disposition and doubtful morality. After Mr.

Leadbeater had been found guilty by

the General Council of the T.S., Mrs.

Besant publicly announced her repro-

which he was charged. Her verdict of

exclusion against the theosophist who

had been found to be unworthy was exceedingly severe. By an inconceiv-

able change of front she soon afterwards declared her intention of bring-

ing Mr. Leadpeater into the T.S. again,

and she succeeded, not without some

difficulty, in gaining the vote of the

this recantation were charity and par-

THE PRESIDENT NEEDED MR.

LEADBEATER

for her occult investigations, and that

don. The real reason was that

INITIATED BY MR. LEADEEATER, that is to say trained by him, suggestionised under high pressure, is proclaimed and presented to the European public as the future teacher of the new era. Krishnamurti, now called Alcyone, has no other, credentials than his master's injunctions and Mrs. Besant's patronage. His thirty-two previous incarnations are related at length, the early ones going back to the Atlantean period. These narratives, given as the result of Mr. Leadbeater and Mrs. Besant's visions, are for the most part grotesquely puerlic, and could convince no serious occultist. They are ostensibly designed to prove that for twenty or thirty thousand years, the principal personages in the T.S. have been preparing for the Great: Work which is soon to be ac complished. In the course of their incarnations, which remind one of a newspaper novel, these figures are decorated with the great names of Greek mythology, and with the most brilliant stars in the firmament. During a lecture by Mrs. Besant at Advar. Krishamurti appears on a platform like an idol, and the natives worship him, kissing his feet. He does not however, utter a word and only makes a gesture of benediction, prompted by Mrs. Besant. When reporting this scene, Mr. Leadbeater announces to ists that since the descen of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles, such a lofty spiritual atmosphere has ever visited mankind.

yar. A young Indian, aged thirteen,

"For this dumb prophet is founded the Order of the Star in the East, which the whole world is invited to join, and of which he is proclaimed the head. In Europe Mrs. Besant gives lectures on the future Christ, whose advent she predicts to be very near. SHE DOES NOT SAY POSITIVELY that Krishnamurti will be he, but she allows it to be understood, suggesting the thought by transparent illusions They are thus left free to make him either the herald or the incarnation of this Christ. Be that as it may, the passive young predigy, who has not yet given the world the least proof of having any mission at all, becomes benceforth the centre and cynomics of the T.S., the symbol and sacred ark of the orthodox faith of Adyar. As to the doctrine preached by Mrs. Beant. it rests on a perpetual equivocation. She allows the English public at harge, to whom she speaks of the coming Christ, to believe that he is identical with the Christ of the Gospels, whereas to her intimates she states what Mr. Leadbeater teaches, and what he openly proclaims in one of his books, Occultism in Nature'-namely, that the Christ of the Gospels never existed and was an invention of the monks of

"Such facts are difficult to characterise. I will simply say that they are saddening for all those who, like my. self, believed in the future of the T.S. for they can only repel clear-sighted and sincere minds. I will only draw here one historical conclusion. From just reported, it comes out with striking charness that the Order of the Star in the East and the kind of religion which they are trying to start THE ONE WITH THE GREEN TIE out that the evidence might be

AN ENGINE OF WAR invented for making a breach in the independent Theosophy of the West, an attempt (what a clumsy one!) to enporate Christian esotericism for the benefit, I will not say of Eastern wisdom, for the latter would take exception to this, but of the Adyar sect: an attempt of which Mr. Leadbeater is the instigator, Mrs. Annie Besant

the victim." There are several other letters, written in similar strain by Theosophical backsliders, and published in the "Mitteilungen," which "Truth" might reprint did space permit, but nurely there has been sufficient revealed by now regarding Leadbeater's "frankly immoral opinions," and his teachings, to convince respectable, vell-meaning New Zenlanders whose lives are ruled by the proud motto, "There is no religion higher than Truth," that the attempt to foist "Aleyone" on to them as the "coming Christ" is a blasphemous "Joke" like unto the one "Elijah" Dowle perpetrated upon a host of simple folk.

Mr. J. B. Joel has purchased a racehorse at the cost of £45,000. This countries in Europe and America Theosophical Society in Germany, all gentleman is interested in the fland

THE FULLER DIVORCE.

John, Junior, Gets His Decree Nisi.

And "Truth" Gets the "Straight Griffin,"

City Councillor's Case In Camera — Ridiculous Suppression of Report — Chapman Sets Himself above bation of the educational methods with Privy Council-House of Lords v. Democratic Dominion-"Truth's" Protest,

No domestic case in New Zealand, morning, before the Court opened, able manner the questions of sex re- jendearing terms and containing such during the last thirty years, has aroused more interest in the public mind than the petition of John Fuller, junr. for a divorce from his wife. Gertrude majority of her colleagues for this Alice Fuller, on the grounds of adul-The excuses she gave for tery with one Henry Percy Harris, described as an advertising agent in Sydney. This "cause celebre" occu-pled the attention of the Supremo Court at Wellington, under the guidance of Mr. Justice Chapman, for upwards of five whole days during last this collaboration appeared necessary

> Public curiosity was all the more whetted by the position of the parties. Young Johnny is the well-known entrepreneur, popular with Fuller pat rons from one end of the Dominion to the other. To add to the solidity of his fame, his Wellington public have been graciously pleased to elect him to their City Council twice running. His wife. Gertie, has basked in the 'limelight' of his reflected glory and distinction. To add to the piquancy of the "ensemble," there were Fathe John, "up to the neck" in his troubles with the "Triad," and Brother Ben. familiar throughout Australasia, who was known to have some indirect connection with this case. To crown all, there were names of prominent Society men, both in Melbourne and Sydney, whispered at afternoon tea functions, with a "Hush, my dear! Do not breathe a word that I told you; but heard the other day that Mr. --and Mr. - Hush! I wonder what their wives will say when they know?" The case was opened with all due deforum and formality the first thing on Monday morning of last week when the stern, stentorian tones of the Court usher rang through the building, 'SI-LENCE! THE KING'S JUDGE!"

At the bar there was arrayed all the society talent available. Young and Mick Myers protected the nterests of a deceived and injured husband: Tom Wilford and Percy Jackson, like the champions of old took up the glove on behalf of a pretty, nnocent and much maligned wife. while Cracroft Wilson, in the absence of his client, played the hand of the co-respondent with the greatest skill. Mrs. Fuller looked dainty, attractive and innocent, dressed in a neat and plain navy blue costume, with little ornament, her hair arranged' in the simplest of Grecian knots, and surmounted by a small black hat trim med with white ribbon. The trimming reminded one of the late Sir William Steward-for so many years the elect f Waimate-with his "white flower of forehead betokened anxiety and worry, may have fads peculiar to himself, to and of dragging the fair name and and his face bore all the traces of the muzzle the people's messengers—the from having entered his soul. In fact, pressmen-and prevent a knowledge bout the middle of the week he said of abuses and festering sores that exthat the strain had almost driven him list in the body-social, from reaching

considerable trouble and

NOT A LITTLE AMUSEMENT. Counsel for both sides used their challenge privilege to the utmost, and succeeded in exhausting the panel. The first man, whose name came out of the box. Arthur Mason passed without comment. Then four were challenged John D. Canvpbell got was left to the brough, but Francis Germley did not satisfy the scrutiny of Lawyer Wilford. Augustus Hankin and Bruce to publish what was necessary. Was Morrison were all right, but Chas. J. that confidence abused? Emphatical-Thornton, Sam. E. King and Jas. Fer- ly, no! "Truth" was the one paper guson were voted undesirables. Ar- that gave the public a full report of chibald Grierson passed muster, but that most important case, but it gave Henry J. Irving looked doubtful and it in such a way that not even the was ordered to stand down. Henry A. most prudish of old-maid minds of Chapman and John M. Savage secured both sexes in Wowseristic New Zeaseats, but William Stewart, Stater, Math. J. Meck and Fred. A. tenant Smith case again, in spite of Barclay, in turn, were not wanted, the prohibition of Mr Justice "in-Cam-Thomas Adams looked impressionable era" enough, and became one of the chosen. call the public's attention loudly to the Chas. Godden, Fred. Agate and fact that a danger existed in the new-Thomas Shields each had to right- ly-established Territorial system of about-face. By this time each legal military training through the containgentleman had exhausted his privilege, ination of boys herded together in so William Steadman, Albert Anker camps under unworthy officers. This and William Bentley proceeded to was done in a way that offended no their allotted stations without comgood men and true—the required num- people of their danger. her was twelve. The Court was in a Justice Chapman had had his the level and official tones of Regis- world not only an acquitted man, trar Cooper's voice ordered,

"LOCK THE DOORS!" This sounded like Parliament, when the division bell has done ringing, land knows him for what he is, The Court orderly was then instructed | to choose a likely looking man from gate to himself the right of dictating hose standing at the rear. One un- what the world should know and what willing subject was drugged forward, it should not know? That the embut he stated that he was just from the land of the "Stars and Stripes," and could not serve. Then the Registrar cust his eagle eye over the remainder of his audience. He indicated on taking his seat, said that during one man with outstretched finger, but the rising of the Court his attention the orderly hesitated. That is the had been called to a matter that reman I pieun-

ON." Green Tle stepped forward, but he vacant seat. Thus was W.G. rung in sweat of their brow. Curiosity had tempted him to hear the accomplice, and the whole society to be, a "spicy" case. Here he was "hardness,"

remuneration of cight "bob" a day, judgment in God's Own.

to none.

The query was, How would the

DECISION OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS

tion? This was made clear by the local Act. leaving it to the discretion of Judges to cameraize cases, before the Lords' edict had been issued Hence the local Act held good, and practically over-rode the Home provision. But here the inconsistency proclaims itself with a loud voice-what but cases similar in nature and detail letter written to the petitioner on can be published in the Old Country of evidence, are being heard at the January 13, in which Harris frankly with the greatest freedom and safety same time with open doors in other confessed his wrong-doing in the is barred in this little South Sea group parts of New Zealand! of islands. Worse still, in other tails that would pander to the vitiated acts that has a soductive influence and tastes of the underworld. In the Sn-corrupts poor weak human nature, but



GERTRUDE FULLER.

The empanelling of the jury caused "Truth" has in its mind the recent "Mrs Campbell's" case heard before Coroner McArthur, which revealed a depth of immorality and a carelessness for human life that must be dealt with very thoroughly and effectively before many more years are over. The evidence in this case was certainly of a most re-Was any embargo volting nature. placed upon its publication? No! It

GOOD SENSE OF THE PRESS Chas land could cavil at it. In the Lieu-Chapman, we were compelled to There were now only eleven and in no uncertain terms warned the

but free from any stain, and at liberty as he did so in secret. Thanks to "Truth" though "acquitted" New Zea-Why should Judge Chapman arroburgo in the Fuller case was specially almed at "Truth" became painfully evident after the dinner adjournment on Monday week. The learned Judge, quired comment. It had been pointed

PUBLISHED IN ANOTHER COLONY. proved to be a new arrival from Syd- If so, he had no authority over such ney, and was exempt. Cooper, reflec- publication, but he would certainly tively chewing his moustache, said, hold the person responsible who trans-

"Call that young man sitting at the mitted such evidence. Here was the end of the bench, there." The young bludgeon with a vengeance! "Truth," man proved to be W. G. Talbot, the however, with its usual keen interest popular secretary of the football and in the common well-being, ventures to boxing inlent. No challenge this make a few comments on the doing time. With a smile, he took the one of these who have not to live by the One would be pardoned for thinking some of the details of, what promised that the years, would have brought condemned to listen to all the details that bred contempt" to those fathers for a solid five days and a bit, at a in Israel who now occupy the seats of Then the twelve "good men and true" seems they have begat in those worthy were duly sworn to do their duty as weavers of the hursehair wis, a squeabetween the parties and "Our Sover," mishness, which, in our opinion, is eign Lord, the King." The choice of not only overdone, but altogether in the jury patently revealed the fact explainable, because of the blag which that, so far as the defence was con- seems to determine its periods of accerned, "no Irish need apply!" Any tivity. If our Beach of judges had name that bore the slightest trace of agreed together that in their opinion rish origin, or any face that showed the publication of all evidence bearing the least sign of "Pat." in its linea- on the unfaithfulness of husbands to ments was at once refused. Why their wives, and vice versa, had a ten-Because the Irish, as a race, have won dency to lower the moral-tone of the reputation for sexual morality in community, and that therefore they their womenkind that stands accord must absolutely probibit its publication, we could understand and see a The jury duly installed, his Honor motive in their madness. If they had intimated that he would take the case also declared that they would probln camera, and so emphatically direct- bit the circulation in this Wownermines, where the average life of the ed that neither the evidence nor any ridden Dominion, of all papers, pubpart of it, should be published. This tished furth the country containing over the redling near, he naturally pert, it is an easily assimilable polycontingency had been discussed among such or similar matter, and likewise opened it, and read, to his amaze- sucharide carbahydrate of high caland press men in the earlier all books which treated in a question- ment, a document addressed in most oric efficiency.

lationship, we could have still further expressions as understood their intention, even if we disagreed with their decision. But such is the law in this Democratic on "In Camera" cases affect the posi-Dominion that evidence in a case of fact that New Zealand had passed a the Indeed moment is suppressed by the Judge "in the interest of public morality," while prurient publications flaunt their flaming covers on every "RESPECTABLE" "GO-TO-SUNDAY

SCHOOL" bookselier's counter! Nor is this all.

"Truth" holds, rightly or wrongly, Courts, such as the Coroners' and that the publication of such evidence where the defence was represented by Mngistrates', no gag is placed upon is a worthy public service. Foul and Lawyer Abigail. This gentleman had the press, when fithy or indecent de- filthy details if properly stated create used his licence to the fullest extent, tails come into a case. The Courts are disgust not only against those guilty and had made insinuations against simply cleared to prevent ghoulish, of such conduct, but against the acts Mr. Ben Fuller that no decent counse prurient-minded individuals from themselves, and thus aid in strongthgloating over, in idle curiosity, the ening the moral fibre of the communito go a good deal further. The fury misfortunes and miseries of weak or ity. At any rate, this is the assertion would hear, when the Sydney evidence mentally affected human beings. It of those who justify the literal de- was read in Court, pages of stuff is left to the good-sense of the news-papers to publish only that which is in Holy Writ. It is not the blunt, or, witnesses were treated in the most of public interest, and leave out de- if you will, brutal, statement of such blackguardly way. corrupts poor weak human nature, but self, then stepped into the box, looking preme Court only it seems to be left rather the suggestive story, told in re- worn and worried. This was not to man may think otherwise, but to para-"Better to err with Holy Writ

> There is another reason such cases hould not be taken in camera. "Truth" takes it that the Divorce court is something more than a Court of Divorce. It is, or ought to be, a Court of Justice. It should see justice done not only to those persons whose actions are directly brought under its notice, but to all others whose positions are affected by the nature of the evidence led before the Court. Before now in such cases names have been

divulged and conduct revealed

have shown up as

Than shine with Chapman."

WILY WICKED WOWSERS and whited sepulchres, men who have masqueraded before high heaven as lington, followed the petitioner., He saintly servants of the Lord; men posing as faithful husbands of too such cases are to be heard in camera and "no comment thereon" allowed in the press, all such pestiferous poseurs may go on their slimy way rejeicing. Further, "Truth" readers will at once see what scope such a policy of supblameless life." Johnny's furrowed to the discretion of a single judge, who press gives for bribery and corruption



HN FULLER, JUNIOR.

fame of our judiciary in the mire. For

the peculiar point about all such cases is that it seems to be only in those in one's sense of propriety, yet plainly which the principals are persons of "means" or "good" social position that the judge's embargo is applied. Counsel "Temmy" Young opened for the petitioner and outlined the facts quandary, and everyone was looking way polluter Smith would have the petitioner and outlined the facts anxious. After a few moments' delay, stepped forth again into the good behavior and business ability, had forced himself into the goodwill foolish interludes, carries on the same to continue his vile practices so long of the community at large. He was a old game of arms and armaments member of the Brennan-Fuller vande- as is being played with such an exville combination, and also of the Pal- pensive caste in Europe just now. for picture shows. His numerous en- What is the use? Australasla knows. gagements, public and private, render- or should know, full well, that the key ed his time not his own and he had of the British Empire lies not in Sydto be constantly on the move. Eleven ney harbor, Port Adelaide, or Wellingvenrs ago he had married, in Hobart, ton, but in the Stratts of Gibraltar. Gertrude Alice Fraser, and one daugh. Deny it as we may, proclaim it otherter, Phyllis, now nine years of uge, wise as we may, we have to recognise was the result. years ugo he had permanently taken key to the Kingdoms of Europe rests up his residence in Wellington, but neither in Dowling-street, London, nor nothing of any importance had hap- in Spring-street, Melbourne, nor in pened until July of last year. In that Macquarie-street, Sydney, nor in the month his wife took a trip to Sydney strong room of the Largest Wooden to visit her sick mother. In conse- Duilding in the World; but at The

he was NOT BEHAVING PROPERLY in Sydney. From inquiries made he

had convinced himself that the mis-City, and that the man mostly concerned was the co-respondent Harris. He wrote letters of protestation and informed her that if he heard any about her conduct it would money he had sent her, £105 in ten trust of them all. weeks, was ample for her needs, Rowever, this did not prove a warning to the pleasure-loving Gordo-she still continued in her mad career. Early in October of hait year hubby German sabsage. A consignment rewent over to Sydney on business cently landed was found to countit While on the fourney Gertie slipped of apple inice, maple syrup, phosphoris neross to Wellington and removed acid, and coloring matter. Phyllis from the Convent, where aby coloring matter was was not revealed. had been placed. Mather and daugh. We must not conclude from this that ter returned to Sydney. The his the coloring didn't matter, or that the band returned to Wellington, when matter didn't color, However, there is in his letter - lex, he found no longer any excuse for ignorance a minive addressed to his wife, regarding the composition of the luicy An that budy was far distant folly fart, for seconding to a food ex-

"WHEN JOHNNIE GETS A.

and we are married." This was the last straw. Divorce proceedings were instituted on the following December 29. Counsel pointed out that the de-fence would try to prove that the husband's conduct HAD CONDUCED to the wife's misconduct, and there would be a good deal about past history. One very solid fact, however, existed in a plainest of terms. A large amount of evidence had been taken in Sydney, would import unless he were prepared

The chief witness. John Fuller himfined language, that worms its insidi- be wondered at considering the gruelfous way whither it will. Judge Chap- ing he had had, both in his public and business activities, by the vagaries of phrase Lord Byron in a similar case: an erring and foolish wife. He corroborated the facts of the case as out-lined by his counsel. Early in his examination he showed signs of nervousness and lapse of memory. On one occasion the Judge turned to him and said, "You had better not start by being nervous."

In cross-examination, defending counsel, Wilford, put the witness under a most streauous and searching bombardment of questions. Not the smallest detail was omitted, and the man who came out of it unsmirched would indeed be a paragon. "Truth" cannot believe that Tom Wilford's conscience did not prick him more than once during that cross-examina-

Henry Ell White architect of Wel-

detailed the incidents of his trip to Sydney, where he had been the unwiltrusting wives have been shown to be ling recipient of Harris's confession. living lives of flagrant adultery. It At one stage of his evidence he hesitated in the use of a term The Judge: "We are getting accus-

tomed to the vernacular here. This is not a ladies' school. You need not le

afraid, Mr. White." Ho gave a simple straightforward account of what he knew of the case, and of how he had been unwittingly and reluctantly drawn into it.

A severe cross-examination at the hands of Mr. Wilford did not shift him one inch. Question and answer folowed each other in quick succession, the wily Wilford following the same line of procedure as he did when he was giving Young John his graciling. Mr. White obviously resented the insinuations of counsel for the defence, which however failed to shake or weaken in the least the evidence given. On different lines, the addresses of both counsel to the jury were models of forensic cloquence-Mick Myers, pool, caim, importurbable—the smile ilways there-Tom Wilford, impas-Honed, dramatic, buttling against heavy odds-he was never heard to better effect, although it could be seen he felt he was fighting a losing battle. The Judge summed up most imfartially, practically leaving the whole issue to the jury. They, after a retirement of some 315 hours, returned a verdict in favor of the petitioner. Detree nisi was granted months, with custody of the child. in observance of His Honor's order,

"Truth" has had to deal very baidly and succinctly with this case. It has, however, done its duty in entering a protest against the camernistic tendencies of public institutions.

MILITARY MADNESS.

Apelog Imperial Airs.

Australasia, in her futile and freely Some five or six strategic facts; and we know that the quence, however, of family drawbacks Rock. We are building up a grand on the wife's side, he would not con- Australian and New Zealand Navy, sent to her staying at her mother's and at great cost. But of what price? house, and, so, engaged accommoda- "The glery and the nothing of a mame." tion for her at a first-class hotel-the Possibly the policy of local defence Metropole. Husband and wife parted may be accurate. Yet this remains to on the best of terms. After a short be seen. In the vast interchange of time Johnnie received information that British Imperial interests, there is an interwoven network, so closely and so intimutely intwined that it is scarcely possible to distinguish the ramifica. tions of the Krupps, or the Armbelieved an accommenced almost from strongs, or the B.S.A., or the other military munition manufacturers who, the time of her arrival in the Garden at the Instance of the World-wide Armament Monopoly, boss the entire military position of the world-a concern so vast in its power and influence, us to almost be beyond conception -tremendous us its power has been be "GOOD-BYE TO JOHNNIE PUL" tremended in expenses in Ger-LER." He also pointed out that the many. The War Trust is the worst It would seem that the current Jelly

ommorce is as great a mystery as the