THE TRIAL OF MR. BRADLAUGH

The trial of Mr. Charles Bradlaugh, and Mrs. Annie Besant for publishing an obscene book was resumed this morning in the Queen's Bench Division, before the Lord Chief Justice and a special jury.

Mr. Bradlaugh resumed his address to the jury, and referred to the decision of the Lord Chief justice in the Queen v. Hickling, which has been several times quoted in the course of the case; but on the suggestion of his lordship that it was hardly worthwhile to continue to discuss the legal bearings of the case, he went on to submit a series of propositions, which he asked his lordship and the jury to consider, as they would govern the verdict in this case. He submitted the book was an essay on the population question, and that question was one lawful to be discussed; that it had been amply shown, and could be proved over and over again, that over-population was the fruitful source of poverty, ignorance, crime, vice, and misery; that therefore the advocacy of prudential checks to the population was not merely lawful, but was highly moral; that prudential checks were all birth-restricting checks that birth-restricting checks were by the delay of marriage or by restraint after it; that late marriage and celibacy, or general abstinence after marriage, involved horrible diseases and crime, and perpetuated social evils, He proposed to go through all the pamphlet, with the exception of that part referred to by his codefendant, and to make it clear to the jury, as he believed he should succeed in doing, that there was not a solitary syllable in it upon which the Solicitor-General could put this hand but what was chastely written and carefully put with a view of avoiding any sort of morbid excitement, improper allurement, or inducement. Mr. Bradlaugh went on to compare the language of several works with that of Knowlton's pamphlet, and read extracts from books, upon which girls and boys were examined in schools under the Science and Art Department by the orders of the very Government of whom the Solicitor-General was legal adviser, compared to which he said the language of the pamphlet under diicus3ion was mild and tame. The Recorder of London, who had charged the grand jury at the Central Criminal Court against him, had presented “Carpenter’s Physiology" to the pupils in a school.

The Lord Chief Justice said that the Solicitor-General 'contention was that the details essential in a medical book were unnecessary in a book for the public, and might have an evil tendency.

Mr. Bradlaugh said the contention amounted to this that a rich lady might obtain from her physician know a ledge which it was criminal to communicate to the Poor, to whom it, was more essential.

Miss Alice Vicary, examined by Mrs. Besant, deposed that she had examined the book, and considered it fit for general circulation.

Dr. Drysdale said he did not consider there was anything prurient in the work. Mr. Bohn, publisher of "Carpenter's Physiology," and other medical works, stated he bad never restricted their circulation.

The Lord Chief Justice will sum up to-morrow.