elector were confined to voting for one candidate unconditionally, a large number of the voting-papers would be rendered useless. Such would be the case with all votes polled for candidates who had already been declared elected by returning-officers; with many of the votes polled for candidates who, though failing to obtain the quota in one constituency, had polled much more than it from the united votes of electors in many different constituencies, and such also would be the case with all votes polled for candidates who had failed to obtain the quota. To meet this difficulty, Mr. Hare has devised the system of contingent-voting, by which the elector is permitted to place the names of several candidates on his voting-paper, and to direct that his vote shall be given to the candidate whose name stands first on the list; but that in case he shall have polled the quota and been declared elected before this voting-paper comes to be counted, his vote shall be transferred to the second name on the list; if he has been previously elected, to the third name, and so on throughout the list   Consequently the Registrar, after assorting the voting-papers, ascertaining the number of votes polled for each candidate, and declaring elected those candidates who had received more than the quota—would take the overplus voting-papers for candidates already elected, cancel their names on them, and distribute the votes to the candidates standing second on the list, to whom the elector had desired that his vote should be given in case the candidate standing first on his list should not want it. Then, as soon as any candidate's quota had been completed by the transfer of these second votes to him, his name would be cancelled on all the remaining voting-papers, and the votes assigned to the candidates standing third on the list, and so on until all the surplus votes had been distributed according to the electors' orders. The simplicity of this operation will become apparent if we suppose the first assortment of the voting-papers to have revealed the fact that forty candidates had polled the quota; and that after their election their names still stood first on 20,000 voting-papers; that their names were then cancelled on all of these, and the papers appropriated to the candidates whose names stood second on them;

that the different batches of papers were then recounted, when it might appear that the addition of these 20,000 votes to the first votes for previously unelected candidates had completed the quotas of ten or fifteen more, and left a surplus of 10,000 votes; that the names of these ten or fifteen would then be cancelled on this surplus, and the papers assigned to those candidates whose names stood third on them, and so on until the whole of the original surplus of 20,000 votes had been distributed. It is true, indeed, that this is not exactly Mr. Hare's mode of procedure; his system is really less tedious than the above would be, but I use this illustration as the principle can thus be explained in the fewest words. At this point, however, arises another difficulty; all the surplus votes have been distributed, but possibly the quotas of only seventy-five members have been completed. There would consequently remain thirteen members to be elected, and the 13,000 votes necessary to that election might be distributed amongst forty different candidates, none of whom had polled the quota. To settle which of these should be declared elected, and to secure an exact equality in the votes for every member of the House, it was at first proposed to cancel the names of candidates having the smallest number of votes, and transfer their votes to the candidates standing next on the list, and to carry on the process until only so many candidates were left as would suffice to supply the House. But for many reasons this scheme was abandoned, and it is now proposed to take the number necessary to complete the House by declaring elected those candidates whose names, at the distribution of the surplus votes, stand at the head of the greatest number of voting-papers. Thus in Ontario the House would be completed by declaring elected the thirteen candidates who had polled the largest number of votes next below the quota. Mr. Hare calculates that by this method about one-thirteenth of the votes polled might fail to influence the actual elections; but goes on to show that none of these electors need be left unrepresented, as it is almost certain that there will be on their voting-papers the names of some of the elected candidates. He therefore proposes to assign their votes to such of the elected