

solicitations of my friends, I have been tempted to hurl a certain amount of verbal canister into the camp of the enemy, and, like "Veritas," to treat your readers with a short narrative of facts.

In good sooth, my steel (pen) might well grow rusty whilst parrying fly-bites; but, *Habet et musca splenum*, and as frequency of attack from even this description of enemy, might in time prove injurious, I deem it my duty to fire with the torch of veracity the filthy heap of personal slander and hollow argument that has been accumulating in your journal since its first publication. And, first, the election case, so much ranted about in your last by a "flower," doubtless of the natural family *Legiacee-Falsandria, Mentirigynia*, as you will observe, a hybrid pure and simple; but though the material is such as would have delighted either the pencil of Hogarth, or the pen of Swift, I shall forego ridicule as being no argument, and dispose of the subject in a few words. Let me assure you, Mr. Legal Exponent, that were you to quote 37 *Vict.* "from early morn till dewy eve" to the responsible majority of students who acted so decisively in the matter, you would not then have convinced them that they had acted wrongly or unjustly. Truly he must be a *luxus naturae* who would question the act of an assembly, possessing at least an approximation to his own amount of intelligence. Having no constitution of our own, we are not compelled to adopt any other, and thereby to sacrifice justice to a Parliamentary rule. Were all the abuses removed, liberties gained or wrongs rectified, which we find recorded in history, effected through the instrumentality of Parliamentary rules? And that there was an existent wrong requiring active remedial measures, was, I think, sufficiently well pointed out in the letter from "Veritas."

Again, in a Report of the Medical Dinner some false-jawed jack-daw has in a parrot-locutory style, demonstration a double ignorance by charging me with having used a non-current geological term; firstly, in attributing to a man of such personal merit as Sir William Dawson, so gross a breach of gentlemanly conduct as to laugh at a mistake, and secondly, in evidently being himself unacquainted with the terms employed.

For though unpremeditated I fortunately remember the words used and they will speak for themselves—

Eozoic, Paleozoic, Syenite and Diolite—

The Gospel of Ananias I "pass-over" as this scriptural character has only perpetuated his special faculty for departing from the truth. As for our "Captious Critic," it is at once apparent that he is less "captious" than *factions* and much more factious than he is intelligent. Even my Report of a Case of Eczema read before the society, must needs be announced in the *Gazette* as *Ecyema*—but this of course was a misprint. In conclusion, let me agree with the "flowery" correspondent that a precedent has been established not as he would have it—that justice is to be fenced in by such means as a parliamentary rule and slabs of Etiquette but that for the future, no faction however immaculate be its linen or how tinselled its crust shall ever override the intelligence and common sense of McGill University.

F. HARKIN.

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