

the most remarkable instance of it I have met with yet was on board the steamboat which brought me to these shores. The sea was extremely calm and two seedy looking individuals were discoursing on deck. One remarked on the calmness of the weather adding "I wish it had been rough, I'd have been sick and it wouldn't have cost me anything for grub." "That's just it with me," said his companion. Which proves that it is an ill wind which blows nobody good, even in case of a storm at sea.

What is the fashionable crime in Toronto now? I suppose violent assaults are getting out of date. Here I believe forgery to be the chief amusement of aristocratic circles. I tried my best imitation of your autograph to-day at several bankers, but they declined to negotiate it at any price. They are ignorant people. Some of them don't know who McKELLAR was and never heard of the Quartette.

At the Speaker's Elbow.

Friday, Dec. 10.

THE Select Committee appointed to revise the Rules and Regulations of the House presented their report, the principal changes suggested being as follows:—

I.—REGULATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE HOUSE.

In order that the speaker may preserve due Order and Decorum and have his head sufficiently well-balanced to be able at any moment to decide questions of Order, he shall wear pumps and part his hair in the centre. In the event of a Speaker having a bald head, he need not comply with the latter portion of this regulation, unless five members of the House insist upon it.

Not less than five members of the House must "see strangers present" before the Speaker is permitted to be conscious of the fact. Should the Speaker happen to be a bachelor, he may betray a consciousness of pretty girls in the gallery, even although five members have not called his attention to the fact.

When a debate is protracted to the "wee sma' hours," the Sergeant-at-arms shall keep his eye upon the Reporters' Gallery, and when he finds it getting empty he shall signal the fact to the Attorney-General, who shall thereupon move the adjournment.

II.—RULES OF DEBATE.

Any member having anything to say upon the subject before the House is at liberty to say it. Any member having nothing to say is requested to be as brief as possible. Any member having something to say upon every subject but the one before the House shall be requested to speak to the motion.

The member for East Grey shall not introduce the Proton Outrage. Any allusion to "little Mrs. —" shall be held to be unparliamentary.

III.—CONDUCT OF MEMBERS.

Every member is bound to attend the House. Loafing in the smoking room counts as attendance. Members wearing rowdy hats are at liberty to pull them down over their eyes *a la* BLAKE, Hon. Mr. FRASER and Mr. MEREDITH not having a monopoly of the fashion.

IV.—BUSINESS OF THE HOUSE.

An important part of the Business of the House is, to put in the full thirty days so as to secure the largest possible sessional allowance.

Monday, Dec. 13.

BILLS INTRODUCED.

DR. CLARKE (Norfolk).—An Act to abolish whiskey, and to convert Whiskey-mills into Drug Stores.

Hon. Mr. FRASER.—An Act to provide for JERRY M-RR-K and other proteges of the Catholic League.

Mr. LAUDER.—An Act respecting the building of fences around Public Buildings.

Mr. HODGINS.—An Act to make it compulsory upon every Reform candidate for the Legislature to be provided with a license, and appointing Hon. GEORGE BROWN to be the sole issuer of such licenses.

Tuesday, Dec. 14.

SUPPLY.

On the item of \$56,696 being voted for "Hospitals and Charities," some objections were made to Roman Catholic institutions receiving more aid than Protestant ones. On this point Mr. SINCLAIR made some sensible remarks. He said that so long as the government bestowed grants upon denominational institutions, so long would the government be accused of making an unfair distribution. He would have the Executive reconsider the matter, and only support unsectarian charities. GRIP thinks so too. If denominations get the credit of supporting charities, let them supply the wherewithal.

MAMMOTH PETITIONS.

The ladies of Ontario have been inundating the House with temperance

petitions. The total length of those presented to-day was between four and five hundred feet. If the Bill based on these petitions be at all proportionate in length, it will be "carried" with extreme difficulty.

The Lion and the Lawyer.

A FABLE.

It chanced that an attorney, reflecting on his misdeeds in an unfrequented place, was so overcome with the weariness of the task that he fell into a deep slumber.

Suddenly starting therefrom he was annoyed to find himself in the presence of a majestic Lion, who had been playfully rubbing his paw to and fro over the sleeper's bald head.

"Hope I see you well," said the King of Beasts, with that genial affability which is so charming in great people.

"Perfectly," said the Lawyer, thinking that if he had seen him less perfectly, he would have been equally pleased.

"A representative of the law, I presume?" said the Lion inquiringly.

"Yes," said the Lawyer, forgetting in his confusion that no man is compelled to criminate himself.

"My own name is Equity," said the noble beast carelessly, "I occasionally rattle up the dry bones of the law."

The man of law felt his own bones rattle at the terrible suggestion. He muttered something in which the words "to be hence dismissed with costs," and "the plaintiff will ever pray" were alone audible.

"Don't talk about 'forever praying,'" said the Lion with a frown, "it isn't polite."

"Equity does not favour sleepers," continued the Lion, drily, after an awkward pause.

"That is true," replied the Lawyer, who had by this time recovered his self-possession, "but there is another maxim which you will of course respect. Equity imputes an intention to fulfil an obligation. You will excuse me therefore if I hasten to keep a most important appointment."

And he started to go.

"All right," said the Lion, smiling, having now quite regained his good temper. "There is another maxim I am bound by. Equity follows the Law."

And he followed him.

"You will find," suggested the Lawyer hastily, "that all that sort of thing is altered by Mr. MOWAT'S 'Act.'"

"Hang Mr. MOWAT'S 'Act,'" replied the monarch of the forest, justly indignant at such petty quibbling, "In future the rule will read thus: Equity swallows the Law."

He then swallowed the Attorney with many expressions of satisfaction.

MORAL,

This fable forcibly illustrates the probable result of the confusion of Law and Equity.

Croaks and Pecks.

GOING THE WHOLE HOG.—Taking a 'Co chon' into the Dominion Cabinet.

HAVING A BULLY TIME.—Senators BROWN and CHRISTIE at the Short Horn Convention.

QUESTION FOR DIPLOMATS.—When Britain bought the Suez Canal, did she buy the Egyptian *cauaille*?

A XMAS DINNER FOR EUROPEAN GOURMETS.—Turkey and Subline Port(e). The gobbler will be gobbled.

CAVE!!—The Right Hon. Mr. CAVE goes to Egypt to investigate into the Egyptian Loan. The name is significant.

QUERY FOR THE DRY GOODS.—Is the latest importation of "BOSS TWEED" a prison-spun "yarn," or is it merely "all stuff."

SOLVING THE WATER-WORKS DIFFICULTY.—Make AID. BAXTER a Commissioner and let him sit on the pipe—that would keep it down.

PUTTING ON THE BRAKES.—Fearing he should not be able to ride through the next Session of the Dominion Legislature, Mr. MACKENZIE has put a Coach-on to run the Council through as many Acts of Parliament as possible. As the road is down hill the Premier probably thought a drag would be useful. He may find he has purchased a pig in a poke, dear at any price.

GRAIN REGULATIONS.—It is evident that W. H. H-W-L-D has been in New York. The associated press despatch of the 14th states that "No 1 Canada (evidently meaning "Canada First") shall be plump, sound, and well cleaned. No 2 Canada (evidently Grits and Tories) shall be known as "stained," instead of "slightly stained." Have the New Yorkers only just heard of "Big push" and "Pacific Scandal."