

remark incidentally, that I look to the Bar of Manitoba for their aid in the discharge of my duties. The *esprit de corps*, inseparable from over twenty-one years at the Bar, will naturally lead me to respect and uphold the privileges of the Bar, though I will be ready, at all times, while treating the Bar with all courtesy, to uphold the dignity of the Bench; and I therefore look for the most kind relations as likely to prevail between the Bench and the Bar."

After alluding to the recent disturbances there, when certain printing offices were attacked by a mob, and much property destroyed, he continued:—

"If Manitoba is to be prosperous, there must be peace and order, there must be confidence in the administration of the laws, and there must be a fearless execution of these laws against all offenders, be they whom they may. I trust that, henceforth, British subjects in this Province will remember that free men are freest when they yield a ready obedience to the law; and that men of all classes in the land will resolve to work out the destiny of the Province, by the use of the free institutions of the country, without resort to acts of violence, which only bring disgrace on those who commit them, and discredit on the fair fame of the British Empire."

The following effusion is too good to be lost. It must have struck the recipient with profound awe, not to say terror. Whether it had the desired effect we know not, but are informed that this effort of the worthy J. P. was too much for him, for the gentleman who sent us the document quaintly remarks, "You will not be surprised to learn that he has since died." The paper reads as follows, except that we disguise the names:—

"Province of Canada, } Thomas W.
"Counties of Huron and Bruce, } Smith, of the
"to witt: } Township of
McKillop maketh oath before the undersigned one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace in and for the said Counties for that Mr. Brown also of McKillop unlawfully holds two ewes the property of said Complant I advise you on receipt of this note to return said sheep to Thomas W. Smith save costs & verry much oblige

"Respectfully yours,

"PETER SMITH J.P. (Seal.)"

We would suggest that Mr. Anderson should be instructed by the Benchers to ask students at next interim examination to define the nature of, and give the technical name to the above document.

The judges of the American Republic are manifestly girding up their loins against municipal and magisterial corruption. Finletter, J. in the Court of Quarter Sessions of Philadelphia, upon a prosecution for taking extortionate fees by a Justice of the Peace, commences his judgment after this fashion: "Complaints of the rapacity of the local magistracy have come down to us continuously from the earliest periods. Its history is written in the statutes which were vainly intended to punish and suppress it. Its portraiture is found in the current literature of the times. 'Shallow' and 'Dogberry' and the justices of Fielding, himself a magistrate, are photographs of living actors of the past and present. The common law abhorred it; and its condemnation is dotted all along the highway of judicial decision in indignant language."

One of the most astounding pieces of judicial statistics which we have recently come across reaches us from the State of Illinois. It appears that the Supreme Court of that State has determined one hundred and thirty-eight appeals from inferior courts, and that the judgments in the eight have been upheld, and those in the one hundred and thirty reversed. Here, surely, is an intolerable amount of sack to a penny-worth of bread. We fancy suitors must be in a happy and contented frame of mind, when they ascertain that the court below has gone against them. Indeed, it seems to us that the judges below had better decide the cases by "skying a copper," because then, as somebody has remarked, "*Heads* might have something to do with the matter;" and, we might add, many a scandalous *tail* be saved.

MISPLACED ZEAL.

A case which is noted in another place shows how common is the belief that arbitrators are at liberty to act as though they were the paid advocates of the litigants that appoint them. It would scarcely seem necessary to quote the words of Mr. Vice-Chancellor Mowat in giving judgment in the case referred to. He says:

"It has over and over again been held, both in England and in this country, that it is illegal for an arbitrator to consider himself as the agent of the party who appoints him, or to hold any private conversation with him or with the witnesses on the subject of the matters in dispute; that an arbitrator is a judge, whose duty it is to be indif-