

into disrepute, and as soon as the police came in they were looked upon as unnecessary. To furnish you with an instance: A tailor sued a barber for the sum of fifty cents, which he claimed the latter owed him. The barber objected to paying the amount and appealed for a miners' meeting, which decided that instead of the barber owing the tailor 50 cents, the tailor must pay the barber \$1. The latter was naturally surprised at the result, and in answer to the verdict of the meeting, he said rather than pay the amount he would float down the river on a saw log and get away. The men who formed the meeting were helpless; they could not find anyone who would pay, and they knew that as the Mounted Police were in there their decision would fall to the ground, and they had to admit themselves beaten.

These and other instances completely knocked them out, but perhaps the next case I will tell you of will show you more plainly something of what was tried to be done. In the first place, after the discovery of Bonanza the miners all staked claims, and of course some who failed to obtain locations were disappointed, and a meeting was held at which it was decided to resurvey the claims, stating they were too long. They cut a rope, which it was alleged was 50 feet long, and sent men up to re-measure the claims. They cut down some of the claims to 400 feet, to 350 feet and even 300 feet, putting in new claims, which they located themselves upon, it being, of course, desirable for their own interests if they could manage it, to secure the intervening space between claims like 16 below, which were known to be so rich. The result was confusion, the original owners were shoved off their workings, no one knows where, to work.

#### THE LAWS OF CANADA.

As the authorities took no action, some of the men came to me. I said I had no authority and told them to go to the agent. They said they had been to him and he would not do anything, so at last I said if they would get up a petition and ask me to survey the claims I would undertake to do it for them. I drew up the petition for them, and enough of each side signed it to enable me to feel justified in going to work. I surveyed the claims and threw out