The Ministerial Call.

The "Call," the "Call," the "Call,"
The ministerial call,
Which doctors love and doctors hate;
And some exalt, others berate
With righteous zeal; more so of late;
My muse would overhaul.

The call—the annual call—
Unknown to Old St. Paul!
The Apostles went, with full consent,
To mission fields, where they were sent;
And seemingly were well content
To do so—big and small.

The call—the worked-up call—
The stipulated call;
Fixed up by men, whose love and grace
Shine sweetly in their cheek and face;
Who never think it a disgrace
To dicker for a call.

The call—the one-horse call!
Made by some boss, that's all,
Who poses as the big bell sheep
On circuit board, and who will keep
A row fermenting—broad and deep—
Should conference slight his call.

The call—the two-horse call,
Which means a swap—that's all—
The jockeys call it "fair exchange,"
The parsons but "a mild arrange,"
And fix it "subject to a change,"
At conference—with a squall.

The call—the ringer's call—
Three-cornered, that is all,
Which leaves some brother "in the soup,"
Or works him to a lower group
By means to which self-seekers stoop;
Then vow 'twas Heaven's call.

The call, the saintly call,
Once "honor bright" for all;
No longer comes from Heaven you know,
For when it did some got "no show"—
Who yearly now move to and fro,
Transferred by louder call.

The call, the outside call—
Five or ten thousand call;
That with a fly takes lively fish
Out of our book, to grace the dish
Of nobby kirks, whose people wish
High flyers that won't bawl.

The call, the lightning call—
The telegraphic call;
"Send salary"—"some photographs,"
"Also some newsy paragraphs,"
"That tell of you"—"Your autograph";
"Our board meets soon," that's all.

The call, the bogus call,
Some one to boom, that's all;
Who goes about making pretense
That he is in demand immense,
Has many applications, hence
He'll wait a bigger call.

The call, the unsought call,
Just to descend, that's all;
To work for God—truth's sword to wield
On some poor circuit, mission field,
Which cannot now much salary yield,
Goes in the stove, too small.

THE DOCTOR.

CHAPTER I.

"THE LITTLE RIFT WITHIN THE LUTE."

"Do you see the carriage, Lizzie? They should be here by this time. Look again, child; your eyes are younger than mine."

The speaker was a comely, rosy-faced dame of fifty years or thereabouts, with a white apron reaching down to the bottom of her stuff dress, and a spotless muslin cap shading her thick gray bands. Altogether she looked what she was—a respectable, confidential servant—one, too, who either from long service or strong love, took more than the usual amount of interest in the affairs of her master, the youngest, and withal the favorite practitioner in Fenmore. The little town of Fenmore stands on a small slope, looking down on the German Ocean, and behind it stretch fens and salt marshes, desolate enough to look upon. At the date of my story, it was a sleepy, out-of-the-way fishing village, with one straggling street of poor houses and tiny shops; that was Fenmore proper, but round about in the wide tract of country that went by that name for lack of a better, there were several handsome mansions.

In the immediate neighborhood of the village there was the rector's house and Mr. Needham's, the land agent, among the rest Dr. Lennard's. It stood on the highest shoulder of the little hill, and its wide, pleasant windows looked over corn fields and shining sands to the sea. It was all of one deep mellow brown shade, and a terrace led from its low-stepped door to a sunny, well-kept garden, then in a flush of bloom, for it was June, "the month of roses."

The garden sloped gently down, and it had green shady nooks and mossy banks, where the sun could not reach the dreamer, and a cool, tinkling fountain, and a cosy, flower-wreathed summer house.

It was as pretty a home as any in the kingdom, and to it, this bright June day, its master is bringing home his bride—bringing her home with such joy and pride that his dark eyes are sparkling in liquid gladness, and his grave, sweet mouth cannot keep from breaking into smiles. An heiress, a belle, queen of a brilliant London season, she had read those signs of her power on more faces than her husband's; but something in its passionate love, its entire, unfaltering devotion, touched a new chord in the heart of the bride, and her bosom fluttered under its silken covering, her pulse beat higher as she neared her future home, and for the first time, perhaps, the sense of her new life dawned upon her.

The season had been an unusually brilliant one. Pauline was weary of admiration, weary of London life altogether. The real, earnest love in the eyes of the young country doctor was inexpressibly sweet to her woman's heart after the tinsel and flatteries of the last few months. She longed for change, and she accepted him.

None of these reasons ever entered the brain of the happy lover as he took her in his arms, and kissed her red lips softly, almost reverently, with a great wonder and joy in his heart that they should be so yielded to him. The world was all sunshine and beauty, and Pauline Grey was the radiant centre from which all his glory flowed out.

They were married at once; and this bright June day he was bringing his treasure home to the house that in his eyes only needed her presence to be a little "earthly Eden." What the young bride thought of it he could hardly tell, for the sunshine was flinging a dazzling haze round her as he stood to help her out of the carriage; and perhaps, too, the happy tears in his eyes helped to blind him a little. But Judith, the old servant, standing back in the shady hall, with no glance of love and joy to dim her vision, saw and inwardly fretted at the haughty curl of the scarlet lips, the scornful rise of the arched brows, as the young bride stood for an instant and surveyed her new home.

"A proud, trickey creature! She'll be as like as not to break his heart," thought the old woman, as she courtesied low, and then stood aside and held back her stuff skirt, that the sweeping silken train of her mistress might have ample room to pass.

A gleam of the outer sunshine seemed to follow the fair young creature as she went through the dim stone hall smiling now, and clinging like a petted child to her husband's arm. From the wavy gold of her thick hair, as it fell in flossy curls over her shoulders—for the tiny lace bonnet had been shaken off and was swinging by one string as she went—to the delicate sheen of her peach silk dress, a light and a glory seemed to envelop her. Her dainty feet went from room to room; her clear laugh rang out through the quiet house with a jubilant gladness.

Paul Lennard, usually so grave and quiet, laughed with her in the fulness of his joy; and this young doctor, who had almost grown an old man in his lonely home, renewed his youth, and told his heart to be glad, inasmuch as it had gained its desire, and won the love of Pauline Grey.

The desires of our hearts are not always good for us. They sometimes coil themselves into scorpion whips to scourge us; and so Paul Lennard learned, in many a bitter lesson, before the autumn passed into winter. Not at once did he discover the real feelings of the woman he called wife. For a few short, blissful weeks she seemed happy in her quaint nest of a home, and gave him back love for love. Then she began to fret a little, only a little, at first; but day by day the plaint grew stronger, till it broke into an open murmur; and the love she had feigned to feel—perhaps she had felt it for the time—was cast aside as a child might fling a toy it had wearied of, with no more care for the pain she was inflicting than if the quivering human heart had been indeed a senseless plaything. She was but a spoiled child, after all; and like one, she sighed after forbidden pleasures. She had been used during the whole of her little life to being feted and admired, and made much of. Pleasure was as the breath of her nostrils, and almost as necessary was admiration.

In the dreamy little fishing village she had admiration, it is true, but unexpressed, and of coarse, rustic quality; and pleasure, in the sense she read the word, was a thing, undreamed of there. The people, as she knew them, were simple, and hospitable, and kindly-natured, but they lacked, one and all, the hard surface-polish that gave such brilliance to her London world. Their life was not her life, and she would not fit herself to it.

Her husband saw this, and, in the plenitude of his love, forgave it, and tried to forget the cruel stings her unrest gave his faithful heart. He blamed only himself, not her; and when all his efforts to content this wilful woman, who was his, and yet a stranger to him, failed, he did what his own honest nature told him was best to be done—he spoke openly to her, and asked her if it was indeed true that his love had ceased to suffice her.

They were standing together in the sunny bay window of their sitting-room, looking out silently on the fair view spread before them. One, at least, saw little of it, and perhaps it was the same with the other.

Within the last few weeks Paul Lennard's pale, grave face had aged whole years in its appearance, and the rare smile that made the dark eyes so wonderful, and the whole face bright, had not once crossed it.

Mrs. Lennard stood and leaned her fore head against the glass, while her fingers turned the gold circlet round and round, and now and then nearly drew it off altogether. Her husband, standing a little way behind her, saw the movement and sighed; it was like the restless toying of the captive with his chain.

"Pauline," he said, abruptly, urged to speak, as it were, by her dreamy unrest, "you are not happy, I can see. Tell me what I can do to make you so?"

She turned round quickly, and replied:

"You don't want to make me happy. You don't care how I am."

"I care so much," said he, "that your unhappiness is my torture. I would do anything. I would lay down my life almost to see you content."

"I do not want you to lay down your life," she replied. "I only want you to do a very sensible, pleasant thing."

"What is that, love?" he asked.

"Leave this place, and go to London," said Pauline.

She had drawn closer to him as she spoke, and her sunny head almost touched his shoulder. The spell of her loveliness was stealing over him, as it had stolen once before, and had felt thankful when she did not trample on it.

"I cannot live here," she continued. "I want to see someone, I want to go somewhere, Paul; I shall die if you keep me in Fenmore."

Then the illusion fell upon him. It was he she wearied of; and it was to be free of his society she longed so to get to London. To be free of him! There was the winning, coaxing, and sweetest beauty on that upturned face, but no wifely love, no womanly consideration, and the young doctor's heart hardened as he looked down on it.

"I cannot go to live in London," he said, coldly; "but you can go there on a visit if you like."

"Oh, Paul, how can you be so cruel?" she cried. "How could you think of sending me all that way alone? You say I may go, because you know that I cannot," she added, bursting into a storm of sobs.

After all, Paul was a young husband, and he loved Pauline. The tears did what no bright glances could have done, they brought back his tenderness, and he took her in his arms and kissed her hot cheeks again and again, soothing her like an infant."

"You will go to London, Paul?" she whispered through her tears; "you will go to London?"

"My precious darling, I cannot," he replied; "my home is here, my duties lie here; it would be worse than beginning life anew to go. You must see this, Pauline, if you consider one moment."

She flung herself out of his arms, and her sobs ceased, as they had begun, on the instant.

"I see nothing but that you are unkind and hateful," she exclaimed. "I knew you would do nothing I wished you."

"Hateful, Pauline?" said he; "that is a strong word. I think you cannot mean it."

"I do," she answered, sullenly, her beauty under a cloud.

"I cannot be hateful to you, you know, if you ever loved me," said Paul, and he tried to smile, but it was a mockery, and his lips were white.

"I never did love you," she replied. "I only thought I did."

"Pauline!" said her husband.

She answered nothing, but her angry eyes turned restlessly from the set face before her.

"You thought you did, Pauline?" said he. "Who made you think so? Who made you?" he repeated, when she did not answer.

"You, I suppose, with your talk," said Pauline. "You said I should be as happy as a bird in your country home," she said; the tears began to flow again, plainly showing the disappointment.

(To be Continued.

Cold Truth for the Newly Wed.

Is the honeymoon always happy? Well, generally it is, but sometimes it is not. Happiness is always—we are told by wise people—greater in the anticipation than in the reality. Young people, and especially very young people, expect that the marriage ceremony will open for them the gates of paradise, but when they find that it has not they are cast down and unhappy. Then there is another trouble. Perhaps the groom is thinking solely of his own happiness, and perhaps the bride is thinking solely of hers, and when they are married they find out, to their amazement, that happiness lies solely in thinking the one of the other. Sometimes they think each perfection, and the honeymoon shows that they have been over-sanguine, and then they are disapointed. If the truth were known it would be found that many honeymoons have been disappointing experiences.—*Cincinnati Commercial Gazette.*

Arranging for a Good Time.

Mr. Joseph Hobson, Chief Engineer of the Grand Trunk, in referring to the St. Clair tunnel recently, said: "In two months we hope to have the tunnel officially opened. The towns of Sarnia and Port Huron are arranging opening exercises of an unusual character, in the completion of which the Grand Trunk will enter heartily. There is to be a grand dinner down in the tunnel. The table will be set just on the international line, with one-half in the States, the other in the Dominion. At the head of the table, in Canada, will sit President Harrison, while at the other end, in America, will be seated the Governor-General of Canada. Of course, there will be congratulatory speeches, etc., and a general good time is expected. At any rate, it certainly is a very interesting enterprise and deserves to be carried out."

Why Big Men Have Little Wives.

There is a very general and ancient impression that big men in choosing wives prefer small women. At first glance this would appear to be true, because the number of big men with little wives is certainly in an overwhelming majority, as we see them. In the five years I have held my office I have learned a thing or two through the medium of the marriage license office, and it is my impression that it is not that big men prefer little women, but that little women prefer big men, and it is the experience of the world-wise that what a woman wants and starts out to get she generally captures. — *St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

One Customer Found.

New York *Weekly:* Stranger—Have you Rudyard Kipling's criticism of Chicago?

Chicago Dealer—Yes, sir. Don't seem to be much demand——

Stranger—Give me half a dozen copies.

Dealer—Certainly. Certainly. How is everything down in St. Louis?

In No Danger.

Mrs. Chugwater—Look out, Josiah! I'm going to throw at those hens.

Mr. Chugwater (alarmed)—Where are they?

"Right behind you."

(Relieved)—Fire away Samantha, fire away.

Not An Important Loss.

London *Free Press*: Chappie—I lost my head completely last night.

Maud—Indeed? I don't notice any difference in you.

Doesn't Recognize Himself.

It's awfully low for a fellah to shave himself," said Chappie.

"Yaas," said the witty dude. "I always cut myself for that very reason."

Russia has sent an expedition to Abyssinia, with the intention of reaching the great African lakes from the northeast. This route, which is 600 miles in length, has only been travelled a distance of 200 miles, but it has been found to pass through a very populous and fertile region.

When a man is "going to the dogs" he ought to chase something better than an anise-seed bag.

People who would grind everything down to a dead level in this world should remember that it is the cogs on the wheels that make clockwork run smoothly.

ONTARIO LEGISLATURE.

The following bills were read a second time:

Respecting the town of Bracebridge.

To authorize the town of Collingwood to issue certain debentures.

To consolidate the debt of the town of Essex.

To consolidate the debt of the town of Port Arthur.

To amend the Act to incorporate the Parry Sound Colonization Railway Company.

To enable the Synod of Huron to consolidate and manage its trust funds.

Mr. Barr moved the seconding reading of his Bill to amend the Assessment Act by apportioning the assessment of real estate between the mortgagee and the mortgager. He believed such a measure would have a beneficial effect upon the country generally by encouraging investment in real estate. He did not propose to include assessments for local improvements and drainage.

Mr. Hardy—Withdraw.

Mr. Meredith said that some effort should be made to remove the anomalies of the present law, and he hoped if this Bill were dropped the Government would give the matter some attention.

Mr. Fraser—It's a pretty hard job.

Mr. Meredith—That's what we pay you for. Anybody could do the easy jobs.

The Bill was withdrawn.

Mr. Davis moved the second reading of a bill respecting the use of velocipedes on the public highway. He had recently had the importance of such legislation urged upon him by a deputation.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton) had received a deputation of bicyclists dead against the legislation.

The bill was allowed to stand.

Mr. Meredith moved the second reading of a bill to amend the Judicature Act. The object of the bill was to provide that wherever a person brings an action to recover damages for personal injuries it should be lawful for the court, at discretion, to issue an order for examination of the person by a medical practitioner.

Mr. Mowat thought it specially objectionable that a woman should be subject to this examination.

Mr. Meredith thought the committee could settle that. If women claimed damages they should also stand the examination.

The bill was read a second time.

Mr. Awrey moved the second reading of a bill to reduce the cost of appeals to the Court of Appeal. The object of the bill was much as the words would imply. In many cases the cost for printing exceeded the amount in dispute. He wished to secure legislation that would provide for lessening the number of copies of evidence required in cases of appeal in the Appeal Court. He did not see why it was that 40 copies were required in the Court of Appeal, especially when so much less sufficed in the Division Court, Queen's Bench and Court of Chancery. He wished to provide that the same copies might be used in the Appeal Court as had been used in the other courts.

The bill was read a second time.

Mr. Hardy moved the second reading of a bill respecting liens for labor on logs and timber, and the payment of wages thereon. The purpose of the bill was to apply to the newer districts of Rainy River, Thunder Bay and Algoma, where, owing to the difficulties of lumbering, wages were not regularly received. He was not aware that a necessity existed for any such legislation in the older districts. The object was to devise some process, if possible, of obtaining the results of the lien. This was a more difficult thing than appeared on the face of it. The proposition was, that for claims of $200 or under suit might be brought in the Division Court to enforce the lien. The person desiring to retain his lien should file a certificate with the officer of the district court, stating the amount claimed. This should be done in a limited time. Suit could be brought in the ordinary way, or an attachment could be issued if an affidavit was certified to as to the nature of the debt.

Mr. Ross proposed to amend the 11th clause by providing that where the trustees of a High School in any city or town notify the County Council that the school is open to county pupils, the council may appoint three trustees.

Mr. Meredith objected that this would give the county a share in the management of the schools for which the cities or towns provided the funds. Under the old law there must be an agreement as to terms of union before the county would have representation.

Mr. Ross considered the present proposition more reasonable than the old law, as it gave the counties three out of nine trustees, instead of three out of six as formerly.

The amendment carried.

Mr. Ross said there was a difficulty as to the election of trustees at the end of the year, and he now proposed to restore the old practice. He moved an amendment to that effect.

The amendment carried.

Mr. Meredith thought that High school boards ought not to be limited to charge non-resident pupils fees not greater than the cost of maintenance at such High schools, as proposed by the hon. Minister of Education. High schools were essentially for the benefit of the communities in which they were erected.

The clause was carried in a slightly amended form.

Mr Waters wanted the bill printed as soon as possible that persons interested might see the full drift of the amendments.

Mr Rose moved the second reading of a bill to consolidate and revise the laws respecting the Education Department. He proposed adding a clause giving the department power to refer matters affecting Public, High and Separate Schools for interpretation to the High Court of Justice.

The bill received its second reading.

The House went into committee, and carried a bill to amend the Act respecting cemetery companies.

Mr. Ross' bill respecting the profession of stenographers received its second reading without discussion.

AFTER RECESS.

Mr. Harcourt moved the House into Committee of Supply.

Mr. Meredith took exception to the increase in the expenditure required for the maintenance of the Toronto Asylum. The expenditure on public institutions was yearly increasing. The Government were constantly placing officials on the permanent staff or creating unnecessary offices.

The item for maintenance, amounting to $101,816, was carried.

Mr. Hardy said that the fare at the asylums was very solid and very plain—too plain. In some of the institutions in the United States which he had visited they had more expensive victuals, such as puddings, etc. They were, too, fitted up more elaborately, something like a summer hotel.

Mr. Meredith wished to know why the bursar had been discharged at the Central Prison, Toronto.

Mr. Gibson (Hamilton) explained that the action had been taken on account of the bursar using moneys temporarily without permission for accounts received at the institution. He had not been perfectly accurate in his dealings with the funds of the institution. Although, perhaps, fraudulent intent could not be established against the gentleman, yet the irregularities that he had been guilty of were such as to necessitate a discontinuance of his services.

Mr. Clancy was of the opinion that the kind of meat served at the institutions was too expensive, that the beef was from export cattle, and not butchers' cattle as was called for.

Mr. Fraser read extracts from the examination of the officials, in which the superintendent had testified that nothing better than butchers' cattle was used.

The item, amounting to $125,895, was carried.

The items under the head of public institutions, immigration, agriculture, public buildings and repairs thereto, and public works, were passed, and the committee rose.

The following bills were introduced and read a first time:

To amend the Municipal Act—Mr. McKay (Oxford).

To amend the Assessment Act—Mr. Awrey.

To amend the Voters' List Act—Mr. Tait.

Mr. Mowat, in introducing a bill respecting disputes under the drainage law, said it had been suggested that there be appointed a special referee, and the Government had concurred in that suggestion. He would have the powers of a Judge, and would be a salaried officer with all powers of an arbitrator, with a salary of about $3,000 a year. The bill was drawn up on these lines.

Mr. Mowat introduced a bill entitled an Act to detach from the Chancery Division of the High Court one of the Judges thereof. He had communicated with Sir John Thompson, and understood there would be no objection from that source.

Mr. Wood (Hastings) moved a resolution that in the opinion of this House the system of paying provincial officers by fees is objectionable in principle, and that the law ought to be so amended as to provide for the remuneration of the sheriffs, registrars of deeds, clerks of the peace, and county attorneys by salary instead of by fees, and a like change should be made in the mode of remunerating all other provincial officers now paid by fees to whom the same could be satisfactorily applied.

The subject of the fee system as compared with remuneration by salary had been discussed a great deal during the past few months. The system was as old as the offices for which it had been created. It was no plea to urge in behalf of the system that because it had existed so long it must necessarily be good. What he understood to be the tenor of the public feeling in the matter was (1) that officials should be fairly and amply paid for the work done and the responsibilities devolving upon them; (2) that there should be no distinction in the salaries, except in so far as there was a distinction in the value of the services rendered; (3) in estimating the value of such services the previous standing of the officials should not be considered, but the service and responsibility of the office; (4) only persons capable of discharging the duties should be appointed to offices. The last clause the hon. gentleman considered equally as important as, if not of greater importance than, the previous clauses. No greater wrong could be done to the community than to seek to underpay those officials who were laboring for their daily bread. The man was worthy of his hire, be that what it may. The principle of paying officials in consideration of past services was as absurd as it was unjust. Dealing with the system as it affected county attorneys and clerks of the peace, the hon. gentleman stated that there were forty-two such divisions in which these officers were appointed. The receipts ranged from $9,964 as the total of the eight lowest-feed offices to $24,062 for the eight highest-feed. He found anomalies in some of the counties. In one county an official held no less than four responsible public offices, and though his salary was not excessive his duties must have been onerous. While a registrar received $9,000 for doing almost nothing, the Attorney-General was paid $5,000 for his services. Was there any justice in that?

Mr. Mowat—The hon. gentleman thinks I should be paid $10,000. I thank him. (Government applause.)

Mr. Wood thought it an anomaly that such permanent officials should be paid larger salaries than Ministers of the Crown, who were much more subject to change. He contended he had established that the system of payment by fees was objectionable, and while he did not hold the Government responsible for the existence of the system, he contended that if they did not make the change demanded the public would hold them responsible in the future.

Mr. Mowat congratulated the hon. gentleman on the fairness with which he had presented the case. A very large part of the feeling upon the subject had arisen from the exaggerations of the public. The actual figures varied enormously from the salaries it was generally supposed the registrars received. He did not say the country would go to destruction if the salary system were instituted. But at the same time he pointed out that the fee system was not instituted by this Government. The fee system might be so regulated as to produce the same results as the salary system. The only way to procure a reduction under the fee system was not by its abolition. He contended that in almost every respect the fee system was the better system if it did not produce too large incomes. The chief advantage was that it paid men according to the work they did. The disparity in the incomes which had been complained of was in reality an advantage, because it apportioned the amount of income to the amount of labor. To adopt a uniform scale would be highly objectionable and indefensible. The journals which had opposed the system were not fully informed. One paper had declared that twenty of these officials were receiving more than the Attorney-General. As a matter of fact, there were not a quarter that number. An officer paid by salary would confine himself to office hours, but when he was paid by fees sometimes he would work till midnight. If the salary system were instituted the result would be no gain to the Province. The receipts would be reduced and the expenditures increased. It was now complained that in many cases the fees charged were too high, and that a change would remedy that. The meaning of that was that the receipts would be reduced. The commutation of the fees of surrogate judges had in most instances resulted in a reduction of the amount of fees. Complaint had been made of the income of the registrar in Toronto. But three years ago, when there was a Conservative in the office, no complaint was made, and the income then was $9,610. The receipts of the office fluctuated. During the first quarter of the present year they were not half what they aggregated during the last quarter of last year. He pointed out that the cashiers of the Bank of Commerce and of the Bank of Toronto received $15,000 a year. The manager of the Standard Bank received $12,000, and of the Dominion Bank $11,000. The Ontario Bank manager and the manager of the Canada Permanent were paid $10,000. These positions of trust called for proportionate remuneration. It was so in regard to registrarships, and the beauty of the present system was that under it an official was paid in proportion to his responsibility. The conclusion the Government had come to as a result of their experience was that the present system was the more workable of the two. As far as sheriffs were concerned the salary system was impracticable. The Government had had under consideration the question of taxing the surplus received over a reasonable remuneration, and without further announcement he would say that the matter was still occupying the attention of the Government, and they might submit a measure to the House next session dealing with it. As to the resolution proposed, he did not think it should meet the approval of the majority of the House, and asked them to vote it down.

To consolidate the debt of the town of Milton.

Respecting the city of Kingston Gas and Electric Light Companies.

To amend the Act incorporating the College of Ottawa.

The following Private Bills were given a second reading:

To incorporate the Tilson Spur Line Railway Company.

To amend the Act incorporating the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara.

To provide for the consolidation of the debenture debt of the city of London, and for other purposes.

To enable the corporation of the city of Hamilton to issue certain debentures, and for other purposes.

Dr. Baxter said the subject had been brought before the House in a temperate speech, but a good case had not been made out. It was easy to find fault. When the late Sandfield Macdonald was Premier of Ontario the law provided for the division of counties for registration purposes, not by the will of the House, but by order of the Lieutenant Governor in Council. When the Liberals came into power a reform was made—a reform which was the desire of the people. Mr. Edward Blake, when Premier, brought in the law readjusting the whole system, and fixing what proportion of the fees were retained by the officials and what went to the counties, the proportions varying according to the annual totals. If it were found now that in some cases the amounts retained by sheriffs, registrars, or other officers, were excessive, that could be remedied by an extension of the principle of the legislation placed upon the statute book by Mr. Blake. As for himself, he could vote conscientiously and with all due regard to his duty to the Province against the proposal of his hon. friend from North Hastings.

Mr. Davis moved in amendment the following resolution: That it is the opinion of this House:

1. That remunerating sheriffs, registrars of deeds, clerks of the peace, and county attorneys by fees is in the public interest, preferable to a system of payment by salary.

2. That placing these officers on salaries would result in a general increase of the expense and cost of carrying on the necessary business of these offices.

3. That it is very probable that the salaries to be paid to such officers and their necessary assistants would considerably exceed the total of fees received, and by reason thereof the Province would in most, if not in all, cases be burdened with an increase of expenditure.

4. That as to registrars, the result of such a change if made would in some instances wipe out, and in others greatly reduce the amounts which under the present system are payable to counties out of the fees received in registry offices.

5. That as to sheriffs, the system of payment by salary could not well be adopted, and if adopted the work of these officers generally would be apt to be less diligently performed, and thereby the interests, not alone of the general public, but of suitors, litigants, judgment creditors, and others would suffer and be greatly prejudiced.

6. That having regard to the public interests, and of persons having to transact business in or through the offices of clerks of the peace and county attorneys, the results would probably be the same as in respect of the business to be transacted in sheriff's offices, and in a somewhat less degree.

7. That having heard the assurance given that the Attorney-General purposes before next session to make official enquiry as to the remuneration at present actually received by such officers respectively, and as to such other matters as will enable the Government to fairly and fully consider in what degree and with respect to what offices, if any, and what reduction might be effected, further consideration of the question during the present session is unnecessary.

The House divided at 12.30 p.m., it being the first division of this Parliament.

Mr. Meredith's amendment to the amendment, which affirms the salary principle, was lost on a division of 30 yeas and 51 nays, as follows:

Yeas—Messrs. Barr, Bush, Campbell (Algoma), Clancy, Dunlop, Glendining, Godwin, Hammell, Hycott, Kerns, McCleary, McColl, McLenaghan, Magwood, Marter, Meacham, Meredith, Metcalfe, Miscampbell, Monk, Preston, Reid, Rorke, Smith (Frontenac), Tooley, White, Whitney, Willoughby, Wood (Hastings), Wylie—30.

Nays—Messrs. Allan, Awrey, Balfour, Baxter, Bishop, Blezard, Bronson, Caldwell, Carpenter, Charlton, Chisholm, Clarke (Wellington), Cleland, Conmee, Dack, Davis, Dowling, Dryden, Evanturel, Ferguson, Field, Gibson (Hamilton), Gibson (Huron), Guthrie, Harcourt, Hardy, Lockhart, Loughrin, McKay (Oxford), McKay (Victoria) McKechnie, McKenzie, H., McMahon, Mack, Mackenzie, C., Moore, Mowat, O'Connor, Paton, Porter, Rayside, Robillard, Ross, Sharpe, Smith (York), Snider, Sprague, Stratton, Tait, Waters, Wood (Brant)—51.

The following pairs had been made: E. F. Clarke with Mr. Biggar, Mr. Fell with Mr. Garrow, Mr. Hudson with Mr. Gilmour, Mr. H. E. Clarke with Mr. Fraser.

The only member of the House who was not paired and did not vote was Mr. Campbell, of East Durham, Equal Righter.

The amendment by Mr. Davis was carried on the same division reversed.

The House went into committee and carried the following bills:

To amend the act incorporating the Synod of the Diocese of Niagara—Mr. Harcourt.

To incorporate the Tilson Spur Line Railway Company—Mr. McKay (Oxford).

Respecting the Weston, High Park & Toronto Street Railway Company—Mr. Gilmour.

The following bills were read a second time:

To incorporate the Port Arthur & Fort William Railway Company—Mr. Tait.

To incorporate the Mimico British Line Railway Company—Mr. Gilmour.

To incorporate the Niagara River Railway Company—Mr. Tait.

The House adjourned at 6.20 p.m.

SLICK HOTEL BEAT.

His Clothes Seized in One House He Gets Square With Another.

The fellow had no baggage when he registered first at the Markham House Saturday, but had a very glib tongue and told such a plausible story that he was permitted to register and given a room, says the Chattanooga *Times*. He was well dressed and a very pleasant spoken fellow, and his bill for extras soon assumed startling proportions.

The hotel people became alarmed, and after he had been there several days a party stopping there told them he was a beat. The clerk fixed up a scheme, and that evening he got into the fellow's room on some pretext after he had retired, and calmly gathering up the fellow's coat, vest and pants told him they could be redeemed at the office for the amount of his bill.

The fellow's nerve did not desert him even in this extremity. He borrowed a mackintosh coat from the clerk which reached to his heels, which he put on over his underclothing, in order to go after some money, and walked to the Kimball House, where he boldly registered and was shown to a room, leaving word that when his baggage arrived it was to be kept until he got up in the morning.

At about 8 o'clock on Sunday morning he came jumping downstairs, making a great noise of a tale of robbery, in which he had lost his clothes and $85 in cash.

The hotel management, without stopping to investigate the fellow, got him a new suit of clothes and paid him $85 rather than have such a notoriety attached to the house. The fellow then walked back to the Markham House, paid his bill, obtained his clothes and jumped out of town.

The Lodge in Politics.

Toronto *Labor Advocate:* This lodge business is the curse of this town, and until something be done to curtail the influence exerted by the various secret societies there can be no hope of improvement in the administration of civic affairs. When a man runs for alderman, or is after any position, one of the strongest reasons urged in support of his prospects for success is "he's got the pull with the lodges; he'll get there sure," and the result generally justifies the prediction. If this be the state of affairs which prevails—and I shouldn't have said what I have if I didn't think I had grounds for it—it is more than time it were put an end to. One of the best means of doing this would be to make canvassing impossible by disqualifying any man who resorted to it, and this failing, place lodge membership in the same category. This last may be regarded as an heroic remedy, but they are sometimes necessary and have to be resorted to when the occasion demands it.

A Scotch ship.

The sailing ship Pinmore, now lying in New York harbor, is an object-lesson in merchant marine. She was built in Scotland, of steel throughout, and on her last voyage covered 308 miles in one day—sustaining a speed of thirteen miles an hour. Among the crew are several apprentices, the parents of whom have deposited $150 with the captain, which is to be paid back to the boys as salaries in yearly instalments. With a merchant marine composed of such vessels as the Pinmore the old-time glory associated with the American sailor might be soon revived.—*Philadelphia Record.*

Assignments in Ontario.

The Bradstreet Mercantile Agency reports the following assignments in Ontario: Clarksburg, Wm. Clayton, jeweller, assigned to Henry Lyne, Thornbury; Collingwood, Brown, Anderson & Co. (co, nonn.), grocers, assigned to Wm. Reekie, Collingwood; Fenelon Falls, Thos. Austin, grocer and butcher, assigned to Jas. Dickson, Fenelon Falls; Galt, Henry Darkin, brass founder, assigned to A. C. Fraser, Galt; London, Phillip Levy, clothing and hats, assigned to Thos. A. Browne, London; Toronto, J. M. Redmond, boots and shoes, assigned to E. R. C. Clarkson, Toronto; Wallaceburg, Fitzpatrick & Co. (Thos. Fitzpatrick only), general store, assigned to C. B. Armstrong, London.

Presbyterian Assemblies.

The annual Presbyterian assemblies will begin in England in April. In May the Scotch and American assemblies will meet. In June the Canadian Assembly and that of the Irish Church will meet. The European continent and Australian meetings follow in later months. The New Zealand Assembly will take place about Nov. 1st. The vast extent of the Presbyterian family may be judged from the fact that over forty annual assemblies or synods are held, representing a population of 20,265,000.

Referring to the New Orleans lynching, many papers discuss the question why the Italian murder returns exceed those of every other nation. The *St James' Gazette* shows that the Italians are eight times more murderous than other Europeans; that in Italy ten persons are tried every day for murder and eight are convicted, while a host of homicides are never recorded. The conclusion is that the Italian has murder in his blood, and that rascal excitability is heightened by a warm climate and the national habit of the use of the knife.

—The salaries of New York school teachers are very poor, the vacations in a year amount to about three months, and the inconveniences they suffer are keener than the world is ware.

In the 24 hours ended at noon yesterday 183 deaths were reported, of which 23 were from grippe, in New York. In 17 of those cases the victims also had pneumonia.

The crisis in the Lisbon Cabinet has been settled.

TRIP OF THE ABERDEENS.

"Through Canada With a Kodak" by Her Ladyship.

THE SOJOURN AT MONTREAL.

(From "Onward and Upward.")

"Glad to see you at Montreal!" "Well and what do you think of Canada?" "Lord Aberdeen, I think? You're heartily welcome, sir!" "Grand hotel this! Nothing to beat it on the continent!" Such like were the greetings which fell on our ears as we entered the vast central hall of the Windsor Hotel, Montreal, after a hot and dusty railway journey from Quebec. This hall and the spacious dining-saloon and public drawing-rooms of the hotel are practically a club for the inhabitants of Montreal and its visitors. Here we find many of our fellow-passengers from the Parisian again—here, too, was our captain; this celebrity and that were pointed out to us by the head waiter, as they sat at the inner ineffable small tables at meals, and before many hours had passed we felt ourselves quite *habitues* of Canada's commercial capital, and accustomed to her ways. Quite conscientiously, too, could we pass muster with the most exacting Canadian in paying due tribute to the comforts, the conveniences, and the splendor of the Windsor Hotel.

As at Quebec, our thoughts irresistibly turned to the contrast between this proud and splendid city, with her beautiful building, and churches, and universities, to the nestling Indian village found by Jacques Cartier at the foot of the mountain which he first called Mont Royal (the royal mountain), in honor of his King. We fancied we could see the groups of "braves," with their squaws and children crowding out of their little huts to look at these strange beings; the women stroking the moustaches and beards of the explorers, to make sure of their reality; the infirm, and sick, and feeble, with their paralyzed chief at their head, imploring for the "healing touch" which they believed these denizens of another world could give.

The words which were spoken by Maisonneuve, the leader of the little band of forty-five emigrants who landed on the island of Montreal in 1642, with the intention of founding a colony and a mission, have indeed come true. No sooner had the little party landed than they gathered together for prayer and in consecration of their mission in this new land, and at the close of their worship Maisonneuve turned to his companions and said, "You are a grain of mustard seed that shall rise and grow till its branches overshadow the earth. You are few, but your work is the work of God. His smile is on you, and your children shall fill the land."

Many were the vicissitudes which that little colony had to pass through, many were the heroes and heroines whom they were destined to nurture amidst the rough experience of a life spent in constant dread and danger of the Indian's tomahawk and scalping knife. But Maisonneuve's words proved prophetic, and from out of the small barricaded fort of Villa Marie of Montreal, defended by a few missionaries and devoted women, there rears itself the largest, most prosperous city in Canada, sheltered by her Royal Mountain, on which she lavishes her proud care.

On the sides of the mountain itself large and most carefully-tended cemeteries have been laid out separately for Protestants and Roman Catholics, and are considered one of the sights of the place. We drove through them, admiring many strange bright plants and trees, and then we wended our way to return a visit made to us in the morning by an old friend of the family, Mr. Crombie, who had been for many years a London city missionary.

And then I must tell you of the evening we spent at the beautiful house of Sir Donald Smith, whose name is a household word in Canada, as well it may be, for he has acted the part of a fairy godfather to his adopted country. I think your editor must some day try if Sir Donald cannot be persuaded to tell the H H A. some of his stories of the by-gone days of the Hudson's Bay Company, of which he is president, and in whose service he has taken many an adventurous journey. He could tell us not only of the hardships of cold, but of the hardships of heat, which beset the hunter. That very evening we were with him he told us of the terrors of the Labrador mosquitoes, and how they vanquished men who would fly from no other enemy. He instanced one case in which a friend of his was so sensitive to their bites that he had to stop every half-hour on the march to wash away the blood which was pouring from his head and face."

We had all manner of stories that night, for amongst Sir Donald's guests were Mr. Shaughnessy, the Vice-President of the Canadian Pacific Railway; the Rev. Mr. Barclay, whom many of you may have heard of, as he was colleague with Dr. Macgregor, at St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, for some years before going to the Montreal congregation, by whom he is held in such high esteem; and last, but not least, Father Lacombe, a priest missionary among the Indians, who has given all his life to their cause. I am getting a photograph of him engraved, so that you may have a glimpse of the kindly, noble old face. He lives far away in the Northwest, and is not often seen in civilized haunts, but his name is everywhere loved and respected among Protestants and Roman Catholics alike. His life of love and whole-hearted devotion to his mission has gained for him enormous influence amongst "mes sauvages," as he playfully calls them. His talk with us will always be a happy remembrance; his fatherly solicitude over his flock and the way in which he identifies himself with them is most touching. "You must never drive the Indians or frighten them; you must draw them by ever telling them of the love of the Father." Only once, he told us, was he in momentary danger from any Indian. An Indian lad had been falling into bad ways, and Father Lacombe told him that if he persisted in these ways he would surely reap the fruits of his sin. A few days later the boy was ill, and Father Lacombe went to see him, and laying his hand on his knee, asked him how he was. The boy jumped up in a fury, and seizing a knife, made a lunge at the missionary, which, fortunately, the latter eluded by a rapid movement.