

"There is a pleasure in being mad which none but madmen know."—Dryden.

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THE awakening of Canada is becoming more evident with every day that passes. The day before yesterday the young giantess was fast asleep. Yesterday her chambermaid, Ross, gave her a jolt, by snatching a handful of her hair and selling it to the person in the adjoining house for fifty cents a strand. Miss Canada yawned, stretched, and looked lazy annoyance at her disturber, then nodded off again into dozy slumber. Her interrupted dream of greatness and prosperity was resumed. She smiled in her sleep, and drowsy servants were seen to laugh; but whether their laughter was caused by the happiness of the sleeping maiden, or by her melodious snoring, could not be determined. To-day she has received another shock, which is severe enough thoroughly to arouse any less gloriously indolent young person. A heavy weight of steel rails—which she uses as a part of her food, instead of macaroni—was thrown in at her door-way, by a fat old woman named Frau Germany, with such a force that the fires in her own forge—at which her servitor, Clergue, labored, producing home-made rails for his mistress' consumption—were extinguished. This depredation on the part of the old woman was permitted by the stupidity, or faithlessness, of Miss Canada's porter, Laurier, whose duty it is to tend the door, and to admit only such articles of food as his mistress does not have made for her at home. When the rails fell, she started, quite perceptibly, and actually sat upright—the first time in many a day. She is still blinking and rubbing her eyes; and she seems still undecided whether or not her porter should be punished. That he deserves it, there can be no doubt; but it would be such a bore for her to exert herself. It is likely, however, that the extinction of her forge fires will cause her sufficient inconvenience, in these cold days, to keep her from falling into her lazy slumbers again.

THE MOON wishes to suggest, most respectfully, that a change be made in the method of manufacturing lawyers. At present, as everyone knows, a young man that wishes to be admitted to the bar must go to the trouble and expense of passing a number of

very difficult examinations, the preparation for which consumes much valuable time, which, otherwise, might be profitably spent. Why should we not adopt the same method, for the admission of young men to the bar, as is now used for the appointment of King's Counsel and judges? If this should be done, a young man that intended to be a lawyer would find it necessary to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the Government and politics of his country. At present there is no uniformity in the legal system of advancement. A man becomes a lawyer by passing competitive examinations; he becomes a K.C. through politics; and he becomes a judge by a combination of politics and competitive charges—i.e., if he can make himself so expensive to his party as Crown Counsel that it would be cheaper to the party to have him on the bench; he at once becomes a judge. This system is very defective, for it calls for so many changes of method on the part of the candidate. The competitive examinations should be abolished, and competitive politics should be used throughout.

Of course, uniformity could be obtained by making it necessary for lawyers to pass examinations before they be given their K.C. degrees, and for K.C.'s to pass examinations before becoming judges; but this would cause great labor, from which the country could not hope to benefit. Why should it be necessary for a judge to have his head crowded with a lot of useless knowledge, when all that he really needs to know is the difference between a Grit and a Tory?

THE Minister of Education and Inspector Seath have at last wakened up to the fact that there is some room for improvement in the School organization of Toronto. We congratulate them. It does not take very much reflection to see that a system which may be very good for rural schools and small towns is entirely inadequate for a city like Toronto. While they are about it, let them give us a thorough reform—no half-hearted measure. They say, let us lessen the number of Trustees and amalgamate the several boards. Very good, but this is not radical enough. Why not do away with them altogether and substitute a Board of Commissioners, composed of three or five members, who would be paid to look after this work? They would do the work more efficiently and more economically than it is done at present, and such a system would have the further advantage of driving the grafters, the lodge-pull and petty party politics out of our educational affairs.

NOW that Lord Minto's term as Governor-General of Canada is nearing its end, the noble lord is become popular. It must not be thought that the approach of the date of his departure has anything to do with this sudden popularity—oh, no! It has been learned that he possesses the erudition necessary to enable him to speak French. It is not everyone that can boast of such a qualification for the office of Governor-General. It is to be regretted that Lord Minto did not let us know of his accomplishment before this late date. It is hard to change long-standing opinions.

Everything in THE MOON is original. There are no stealings.