

FEB. 1884.

Phrenological Soundings of M. P. P.

No. I.

THE HON. OLIVER MOWAT, Q.C.

They who cast a plummet from the reporters' gallery will hardly prepare themselves for deep sea soundings, still less for the unfathomable. In striking the rock styled "Oliver" however, it must be confessed they will have come across a singular freak of nature, not unmarred by art; they will have stricken a good sized head, and if they happen to be interested in the protectorate of Oliver, they will rejoice to recognize the evidence that head affords of redundant vitality; they will not fail to perceive a deficiency in the faculty of individuality, which must necessarily result in lack of the power of observation, and consequently in lack of readiness. His secretiveness renders him too reticent to be a fluent speaker. His combativeness and destructiveness would prepare any phrenologist for such flourishes of his trumpet as—"I may remind the hon. gentleman that he is powerless here." He possesses a good memory for events, and can consequently master details without difficulty. Inasmuch as he appreciates wit, and his faculty of friendship is large, he not only secures friends, but retains them; the smallness of his individuality accounts for his having addressed Mr. Speaker as "My Lord," and must entail the inconvenience of his frequently passing his friends without recognition. His fully developed organ of approbateness renders him highly sensitive. It is to be feared that principle and expediency have many a struggle within the breast of Oliver, and sad to confess, the indications are such as to lead to the conclusion that the weaker is wont to go to the wall. As a public speaker, he can scarcely fail to be involved in his sentences, albeit he must have a good memory for words. His love of home and country are such as will result in his being loved in his home, and by his country, so that, take him all in all, we are inclined to say, "Long live Oliver the Second."

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