

gifts point out to a wealthy candidate an easy method of corrupting the constituency which he desires to represent. On one matter, however, men of all shades of opinion ought to be agreed—viz., that the manner in which some of the cases have been prolonged, and the recklessness with which unfounded charges have been made, are a public scandal. The most flagrant, though not the only example, is the *St. George's Petition*. In that case, 352 distinct charges were made against Mr. Marks, of which 76 were struck out before the hearing by order of the Court, and about 125 were withdrawn during the hearing, while on several others no evidence was offered. The discretion which the Court has in the matter of costs, which in former cases has more than once been exercised against successful petitioners, does not seem to be a restraint on such abuses. They might to some extent be checked if there were power to order security for more than £1,000, according to the number and return of the charges, and also to order an increase of the security in the course of the hearing. Such an alteration of the law is the more desirable, because men of straw are sometimes put forward as the nominal petitioners.—*Law Journal (London)*.

THE CANADIAN BAR ASSOCIATION.

The preliminary meetings for the organization of a Bar Association for Canada, were held at Montreal on Sept. 15th and 16th, and were well attended. The *bâtonnier général*, Mr. Robidoux, Q. C., presided. On the second day the following constitution was unanimously adopted and office-bearers were elected:—

Hon. President—Hon. Sir Oliver Mowat, K.C.M.G., Q.C.

President—Hon. J. E. Robidoux, Q.C.

Vice-Presidents:

Ontario—O. A. Howland, M.P.P., Toronto.

Quebec—Hon. T. C. Casgrain, Q.C., M.P., Quebec.

Prince Edward Island—Hon. Frederick Peters, Q.C., M.P.P., Charlottetown.

Nova Scotia—C. Sidney Harrington, Q.C., Halifax.

New Brunswick—Hon. Wm. Pugsley, Q.C., M.P.P., St. John, N.B.

Manitoba—J. S. Ewart, Q.C., Winnipeg.

North-West Territories—Hon. F. W. G. Haultain, Regina.

British Columbia—Aulay Morrison, M.P., New Westminster.

Secretary—J. T. Bulmer, Halifax.

Treasurer—C. B. Carter, Q.C., Montreal.