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THE COURIER.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 1881.

A paragraph has been going the round of the newspapers within these few weeks that, in consequence of the doing of a certain Mayor of a certain Corporation not a hundred miles from Montreal, a man of color had been elected, or nearly elected, to represent one of the Wards of the Council Board, and they said to wish to make a few notes on it. We can see no reason for any such horror upon any subject; Samba, for aught we know, may be every bit as good as any white man.

The City of Toronto, then, in this respect, makes Queen of the Lakes, was some time ago threatened with the same shameful calamity. If a man's brain lay in his skin to be sure, and not in his skull, and if these brains were burnt or dyed or roasted black by a sun, and thereby rendered incapable of thinking, there might be some reason for expelling poor Samba; but as a black man's cerebrum and cerebellum are in the usual cavity between his occiput and sinuist, we profess to see no more difference in his discrepancy than that which exists between a laker and a chimney-sweep. To outward eye, the one is black and the other white, that is all. If a man, however, has been highly educated, if it had really occurred to the shrewd representative of the Ward take his seat among the notables.

Suppose Samba dressed in the extreme of the fashion, the velvet collar of his new coat thrown back to display a gorgeously colored satin waistcoat open to the waist, that the four-inch-wide frill of his shirt may be seen to advantage, his short pin garters in the sun like the stripes of a winged deity, his unmentionables are fitted to his number, that nothing of the cucumber cut of his shirt may be lost, and he walks in his place with the imposing accompaniment of a gold-headed cane. Well, Samba is elected—the admiral of all beholders. Where is his eye-glass? Oh, here it is; he pulls it out and looks round the apartment with a grand air, as much as to say, "What dirty hole is this, no hab open mean. After that I'm in Virginia, and what for does our 'Imen look so pale, by good day, by good day for something. Here is a civic functionary for you and one, too, who will rise from the Council Board to the Senate—a law manufacturer ripe from the tobacco plantation, a member of the Legislative Assembly robed with all the odours, not of a faintly blue, but of a 'Avery the cure,' peering up his dot nose in the presence of hon. gentlemen, and looking round him with the most unbecoming complacency, as if he had to the whole world, "see how we appear ermin'." Well, this is exactly what reform City Corporations, Liberal Members of Parliament, Whig Ministers, and imbecile Government-General, are bringing us by the outer aspect of our public bodies will soon be as plain as his measures are now various and undigested. Our governments will descend lower and lower in the scale, until the very dogs and hares get ashamed of us, and turn us out to pasture the pastoral offices which they, as the noble Briton, no longer considered to occupy themselves with. This is, indeed, the natural point to which Liberal Legislation inevitably tends. Depending and trampling upon the educated and refined classes of society, they address themselves only to the masses, recognizing in numbers and in brute force that power which, from the beginning of the world, has resided only in the mind and in the heart of the disciplined, the educated and the wise, and uniformly appealing to a power which, in its untrammelled, unregulated, and irregular will, has swept kings from their thrones, prostrated the empires of mighty Kingdoms, and introduced anarchy and confusion into the bosom of every a peaceful nation. We are not therefore extravagant when we say that this degraded tendency descends to further and further from democracy in the strict and classical sense of the word, and, as it proceeds, descends to the ignoble level of the brute that breaths.

Let us turn back to Samba, whatever may be his rank in white, however low they may think it, there is no reason that this is not the way to rise themselves in the scale of intellect and intelligence, and it will be a poor consolation to any man, however degraded, that instead of being sunk thousands to his own ignoble level.

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