

solemnity of the scene, so much so that the comical side of it did not then occur to him. A few weeks later the legal fraternity of Ontario were seen in Court dressed in the simpler style more appropriate to their position as mere colonials. He still "went West" as exhorted by Horace Greeley. But speaking of simplicity in this regard, the habits of the legal profession of the "wild and woolly west" in the territories of our neighbours to the south of us were exceedingly so, for judges and lawyers were not only wigless and gownless, but some of them (the weather being immoderately hot) were also coatless, and occasionally the weary judge would rest his feet on the desk in front of him. Again entering His Majesty's dominions the writer eventually came to Victoria, the jumping off place of, or for, the occident or the orient, as the case may be, and the headquarters of the profession in the most westerly Province of the British Empire. It might now be supposed that the climax would be reached, and imagination painted a Court clad in cow-boy costume or possibly in the cast-off finery of some Indian chiefs. But no! for here again the ubiquitous Britisher once more asserted his national abhorrence of change; and, with a gasp of surprise and a severe shock to his nervous system, the writer again viewed the familiar horse-hair helmets.

A member of the Provincial legislature of the Province in question having come to the conclusion that this ancient head-gear had ceased to be a thing of joy or even a harmless joke, brought in a Bill which read as follows:—"The wearing or use of the customary official wigs, or of robes of any colour other than black, by judges, barristers, or registrars of the Court, during the sitting of the Court, or in chambers, is hereby prohibited." Fearing, however, that some one might be incorrigibly addicted to the vice of wig-wearing, this heartless iconoclast added a clause that "anyone violating the above provision should be subject to a fine not exceeding twenty-five dollars and not less than ten for each offence." One honourable member came to the conclusion that justice was not assisted by the wearing of wigs. Another was inclined to withhold his vote altogether; for, if the judges chose to make fools of themselves, he did not see that Parliament should step in to prevent them. Another again, with sad flippancy, remarked that "if the House were called upon to say a lawyer should not wear a wig it might per-