

steps were being taken in that direction. He also wanted to see the harbor improvements commenced and carried out with some prospect of their being commensurate with the port of Montreal. He would not be sorry, when his term of office had expired, to hand over the responsibilities and cares of the mayoralty to his successor. He was somewhat like the American who came here and had his first experience of tobogganing, and who said that he would not have missed it for \$1000, but he would not repeat it for \$10,000.

Mr. F. X. Lemieux, *bâtonnier général*, also responded, and in concluding proposed the *Bâtonnier* of the Bar of the District of Montreal, to which Mr. Carter appropriately and briefly responded. It was past midnight when the banquet was over.

GENERAL NOTES.

CRIME IN FRANCE.—Since 1881 the number of criminal cases in France has, says the *Revue des Deux Mondes*, increased by 30,000, although practically the population has not increased at all. Especially has the number of murders and homicides increased. Up to recent times Italy reported the largest percentage of criminals of this kind—namely, from 250 to 300 each year. France has now the sad distinction of being in the lead, the average in late years being about 700. While Italy reported annually about 80 child murderers, France now averages 180. Taking all the data together, the criminality of France has just about doubled in the last fifty years. The saddest feature about this increase is the fact that it is proportionally greatest among the youth of the country. The actual fact is that the number of criminals who are yet children or youths is twice as large as the number of adult criminals, although France has only about seven million children and youths, and twenty million adults. In Paris more than one-half of the criminals arrested are less than twenty-one years of age. Prostitution among children is alarmingly on the increase. During the last ten years an average of 4,000 of such cases were brought to the attention of the authorities every year. In 1830 there were but five suicides to every 100,000 inhabitants; in 1892 there were 24, and the rate is increasing. Suicides of children under sixteen were formerly unknown in France; now there are on an average 55 each year. And in 1875 there were 375 suicides between sixteen and twenty one.