

## REVIEW—APPOINTMENTS TO OFFICE, &amp;c.

in the interpretation of constitutional questions, the proper functions of Parliament in relation thereto. We have shewn that the exercise of these prerogatives have been entrusted, by the usages of the Constitution, to the responsible ministers of the crown, to be wielded in the king's name and behalf, for the interests of the state; subject always to the royal approval, and to the general sanction and control of Parliament. Parliament itself, we have seen, is one of the councils of the crown, but a council of deliberation and advice, not a council of administration. Into the details of administration a parliamentary assembly is, essentially, unfit to enter; and any attempt to discharge such functions, under the specious pretext of reforming abuses, or of rectifying corrupt influences, would only lead to greater evils, and must inevitably result in the sway of a tyrannical and irresponsible democracy. 'Instead of the function of governing, for which,' says Mill,† 'such an assembly is radically unfit, its proper office is to watch and control the government; to throw the light of publicity on its acts; to compel a full exposition and justification of all of them which any one considers questionable, to censure them if found to merit condemnation; and if the men who compose the government abuse their trust, or fulfil it in a manner which conflicts with the deliberate sense of the nation, to expel them from office'—or, rather, compel them to retire, by an unmistakable expression of the will of Parliament. Instead of attempting to decide upon matters of administration by its own vote, the proper duty of a representative assembly is 'to take care that the persons who have to decide them are the proper persons,' 'to see that those persons are honestly and intelligently chosen, and to interfere no further with them; except by unlimited latitude of suggestion and criticism, and by applying or withholding the final seal of national assent.'

The second volume will be composed, we are told, of four chapters, as follows:—I. The Cabinet Council; its origin, modern development and present position in the English constitution. II. The several members of the Administration; their relative position and political functions. III. The Administration in Parliament; their conduct in public business, &c. IV. Proceedings in Parliament against Judges for misconduct in office. We can well imagine, judging from the contents of the first volume, how interesting and instructive the second will be, and we look forward to its perusal with pleasure. It will not, however, as we are informed, be published this year, as the announcement at the end of the first volume would seem to indicate.

A glance at the apparently very complete Index, at the end of the first volume, shows a vast store of interesting topics discussed by the learned and pains-taking author. The paper and printing are of the best description, from the celebrated house of Longmans, Green & Co.

† Mill, Rep. Govt. p. 104.

‡ Mill, Rep. Govt. pp. 94, 106. The whole chapter 'On the Proper Functions of Representative Bodies,' is deserving of a careful study.

We may mention that this work has had a very flattering reception from the press in England. The *London Globe*, the *London Canadian News*, and that most hard-to-please periodical, the *Saturday Review*, all notice the volume most favorably.

To conclude. Coming as it does at this particular juncture, the crisis of Canadian history, when parliamentary government must necessarily become of more importance than it has hitherto been, the information to be derived from this book, and the sober-minded, sound and thoroughly British views held and so well expressed by the author, will be of the greatest service; and we doubt not that it will command a very extensive sale, not only amongst those intimately connected with the machinery of government and legislation, but amongst all who have any desire, as all should have, to understand the theory and practice of that admirable form of government which we have inherited from our forefathers, and which we all hope to perpetuate in this Canada of ours.

## APPOINTMENTS TO OFFICE.

## NOTARIES PUBLIC.

CYRUS CARROLL, of the village of Wroxeter, Esq., to be a Notary Public for Upper Canada. (Gazetted May, 11, 1867.)

ROBERT MITCHELL, of Guelph, Esq., Attorney-at-Law, (of the firm of McCarry & Mitchell of that place), to be a Notary Public for Upper Canada. (Gazetted May 11, 1867.)

DAVID WILSON, of Farmersville, Esq., to be a Notary Public for Upper Canada. (Gazetted May 23, 1867.)

## CORONERS.

WILLIAM J. ROE, of Bothwell, Esq., M.D., to be an Associate Coroner for the County of Keat. (Gazetted May 25, 1867.)

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"QUESTIONER"—under "General Correspondence."

HOW TO ARRIVE AT A VERDICT.—Colonel Myddelton Biddulph, M.P., and the trustees of the Wem and Bronygarth-road not being able to settle the amount of compensation for land amicably, the matter has been settled by a jury. And it would appear that the 12 gentlemen who composed the conclave were much divided in their notions of the value of the colonel's land, some considering that £75 was sufficient compensation, and others holding the opinion that £450 was not too much. After nearly two hours "deliberation," the knotty point was decided by a stroke of genius on the part of the foreman, who suggested that each should put down on a slip of paper the amount he considered a just satisfaction to the claim, and when they had done so he would add up the twelve sums and the division of the total by twelve should be the amount awarded. This proposal was heralded with delight, every one would be represented in the decision, the idea was carried out, and Colonel Myddelton Biddulph was awarded £165.—From the *Oswestry Advertiser*.