

the mother country, should go for an indissoluble union.

Canada wants social reform. Like all other comparatively new countries, our institutions are primitive. Our municipal laws are to a great extent copied from the ancient feudal charters of European countries. These are not in harmony with the advanced civilization of this nineteenth century. It is passing strange, that all over this continent, peoples who boast of liberal institutions, should still submit to the bondage of municipal despotisms which have long since been swept from the statute books of the old country. It is still more singular, that these peoples should mistake these relics of a barbarous age, for advanced liberal institutions. There are arbitrary infringements on the liberty of the subject constantly being perpetrated both in the States and Canada, which would not be endured in any city of England, no, not for one hour. The very advanced liberty so much boasted of, would appear to be, the liberty placed at the disposal of any and every Jack in office, to deprive the subject of his liberty on the slightest pretext.

The Canadian statute-books ignore the poor of the land. They only recognize two classes of society;—that is to say, the independent class, and the criminal class. Amongst the number of "*offenders*" reported by the Chief of Police for the City of Montreal, as "*apprehended*" and "*committed*" to the City Jail during the year 1862, no less than 2358 were cast into that den of thieves, for the crime of poverty. Such a state of things is a gross libel on civilization, and a blot on the whole community. The Montreal Jail, is, according to the report of its well known Governor, and the presentations of Grand Juries, one of the most efficient training institutions for crime, to be met with throughout the whole civilized world. The neglect of our lunatics, amounts to positive inhumanity. The young street Arabs through the thoroughfares of our large cities, preying upon the inhabitants without let or hindrance. The so-called social evil is alarmingly on the increase. Saloons, Concert rooms, and Casinos of all sorts are multiplying, and eating

out the morals of our young men. The facilities for the sale of intoxicating liquors, are becoming greater every day. The sanitary condition of our populous districts is almost overlooked. In the meanwhile, the taxation of the Province is becoming really oppressive, and in many respects it compares unfavorably even with England. The public purse is nevertheless empty, and the expenditure from year to year is enormously in excess of the income. This is the high-road to national bankruptcy. There are only two ways of averting such a calamity. Retrenchment is one, additional imposts is the other. In the meanwhile, politics are running mad, and some of the leaders of the people are propounding the wildest schemes, schemes which if adopted, will quadruple the already heavy burden of taxation, and go far to depopulate the Province.

It is lamentable to witness a host of political adventurers, the veriest dregs of the stump orator species, either playing, or seeking to play at the game of legislation. The absurdly high scale of remuneration for so called representative labor, offers a high premium to worthlessness. Instead of the attainment of parliamentary honours being placed far beyond the reach of men without position, or character, or stake in the country, the seats in both houses of representatives, yes! and of the government also, are first laden with gold, and then sent a-begging for occupation. The remedy is plain, and should be at once applied.

The rowdyism of the last session of Parliament, was a stigma upon the country, and a blot upon the whole community. If these men are altogether destitute of self-respect, Canada must teach them that it has a character at stake, and that the national honour can no longer be entrusted to their custody.

This fair Province has its rising cities, its populous towns and flourishing villages, its Universities and other seats of learning; its high schools, and its common schools; and its people are being educated and taught to aspire to a high state of civilization. The reflex influence of all this, ought to shine forth in its legislative assemblies. But