

APRIL, 1884.

Civic Notabilities, Phrenologically Sounded.

NO. I.

THE HON. CHIEF JUSTICE HAGARTY.

One cannot but reflect, when bringing the science of phrenology to bear on an occupant of a judicial bench, that if the judge had acquainted himself with the science, his decisions would approach more nearly to the infallible than they are likely to do, apart from the possession of phrenological knowledge. It may also be permissible to observe that one of the last thoughts likely to occur to the judicial mind is, that a gentleman of the jury should occupy himself with taking the phrenological "sounding" of the judge so soon as he might find himself in court. That such has been the case however in the present instance, may be affirmed for the behoof "all whom these presents may concern;" the result is subjoined, and indicates that His Lordship's perceptive faculties are good; his reflective faculties, which will lead him to connect cause and effect are likewise good, as is his power of comparison; he is also active, and excitable—too much so to be able to take things coolly and consequently too much so for his own ease; he is kindly disposed, but not less positive on that account; his lack of mirthfulness will render him generally "grave as a judge," but it will not prevent his indulging in hits occasionally. He would be less sensitive if his "love of approbation" were smaller; his tendency is towards impetuosity, and it will be well for counsel not to weary him with diatribes, but he will nevertheless endeavor to be just; it is a satisfaction to be able to affirm that he is not contaminated by the prevalent greed for gold; on the contrary, he is of a generous disposition. Chief Justice Hagarty (in common probably with most of the judges) is far more worthy of confidence than are ordinary juries; he is not credulous, he possesses the capacity to accumulate facts, and therefore to remember cases and precedents; he is a lover of order, and will take care to enforce it; this may be said to involve system and punctuality; he will be "rough on" rascals, he will present cases tersely and fairly, and be highly indignant when the "palladium of our liberty" renders a stupid verdict. If we were interested in a case requiring discernment, we should desire that Chief Justice Hagarty should adjudicate thereon; if, on the contrary, we happened to be committed to a blackmailing enterprise, we should elect to be tried by a jury. His Lordship is decidedly patriotic; is sufficiently like ordinary mortals to be a great lover of home and children; he possesses the self-reliance