

## JOURNALISTS AS MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT.

—I see the names of a class of men who are, I believe, destined to play a more conspicuous and useful part in the work of legislation and government than they do at present—I mean the class of journalists. Hitherto these men have only been known in the House of Commons as premiers, reporters, and loungers in the lobby; but perhaps no men are better fitted by their training and habits of thought to take part in the discussions and committee work of the House of Commons than "Gentlemen of the Press;" and I am, therefore, glad to see them throwing off the mask, and standing forward, as they do in France and America to take a distinct and acknowledged position in English politics. In the present Parliament, there are only a couple of newspaper men—Mr. Maguire and Mr. Baines; and these are the proprietors of provincial journals. There is, I believe, only one more gentleman of the Press in the House, except the Premier, and that is the Right Hon. Robert Lowe. You may frequently meet Mr. Delane, the editor of the *Times*, in the lobby, and on special occasions you may generally see him in the Speaker's gallery. But why not on the floor of the House—why not on the Opposition or the Ministerial Benches, or in that part of the House which Mr. Gladstone once called the mountain? That is the proper position for a distinguished and powerful journalist like the editor of the *Times*; and the electors cannot do themselves or the country a higher service than by selecting men of Mr. Delane's class as their representatives. There are at present, I believe, ten or a dozen gentlemen of this class standing for constituencies. I know most of them personally, and apart from their political principles, I know no men in the present Parliament who, in point of information, experience, and natural powers, are their superiors.—*Gentleman's Magazine*.

## DECEMBER, AND THE NAPOLEONIC DYNASTY.

—The month of December is remarkable for events interesting to the Napoleon family. 63 years have elapsed since Napoleon First was crowned in the Cathedral of Notre-Dame, by Pius VII. On the first of December (1807) Jerome Bonaparte was proclaimed King of Westphalia. On the second of the same month (1805) was fought the battle of Austerlitz. On the fourth (1808) Napoleon entered Madrid. On the tenth (1848) Citizen Louis Napoleon Bonaparte was elected President of the French Republic. On the twelfth (1790) General Bonaparte was named First Consul. On the fifteenth (1840) the remains of Napoleon arrived in Paris. On the sixteenth (1809) took place the divorce of Napoleon from Josephine. On the eighteenth (1812) Napoleon returned to Paris, after the disastrous campaign of Russia. On the twenty-third (1806) Napoleon defeated the Russians at Garnovo. On the evening of the twenty-fourth (1800) the infernal machine exploded, as the First Consul was going to the opera. On the twenty-sixth (1777) Marie Julie, the wife of Joseph Bonaparte, was born. It was on the fifth of December, 1792, that the National Convention decreed the penalty of death against all who exported grain from the territory of the republic. And the butchery of Napoleon III.'s *coup d'etat*, which occurred on the memorable month of December.

John Stuart Mill having been defeated, it is rumored that Mr. Bown is going to import him to this country to construct a platform to replace the one recently stolen.

## CANADIAN ITEMS.

**THE 13TH BATTALION CONCERT.**—We were glad to notice a good attendance at the Concert given by the Band last night, at the Mechanics' Hall. We need hardly say that the programme was exceedingly well played. The Band is too firmly fixed in popular favor to require any praise at our hands. The seats had been removed from the Hall, and the large concourse who assembled had a most pleasant evening.—*Hamilton Spectator*.

**SARNIA CAVALRY.**—Pursuant to a call made through the Press of last week twenty six of those whose names had been given previously obtained to organize a Cavalry Troop, met in the large Hall of the Belchamber House, on Saturday the 28th inst., to elect their Officers &c. After the oath of allegiance being taken by all present before G. Russell Esq., J. P. It was moved and carried unanimously that W. J. Keays be Captain of said Troop. The meeting then adjourned till Monday the 7th of December next at 1 o'clock to meet at the Belchamber House, to elect the balance officers and transact other important business, when it is hoped they will be a large and enthusiastic turn out. There is only room for about half a dozen other good, active and respectable men to join, so that parties desirous of enrolling themselves must not lose time.—*Sarnia B. Canadian*.

The *Union Advocate*, of Nov. 19, says the *Napoleon* came in on Monday evening, and brought the fit out for the Newcastle Artillery Company; which consists of three brass 9 pounder field pieces, and brass 24 pounder Howitzer, with 16 guns and baggage, carriages, harness, &c., for 16 span of horses, clothing for 75 men, with powder, shot, shell, and everything necessary for the complete equipment of a field battery of artillery. This is pronounced the best outfit in the whole Dominion, and we feel assured that the Company to whom it is entrusted will do credit to the volunteer service of the Dominion. The people of Newcastle should feel proud that our *call* has been heard, and that so soon after the formation of the Company the men have been supplied with all that is needed to enable them to attain proficiency in their drill.—It is certainly a great addition to the town, and we are proud to notice the matter. We understand an Artillery drill-sergeant will be here from Halifax in a few days.

The entire population of Waterdown was in the Hamilton Police Court on Monday morning to hear a charge preferred against Bernard Doran, of stealing a coat at a hall in Waterdown. It appears that the Widow Orr, who resides in that village, held a carnival in her back kitchen on Tuesday night last. The room was tastefully decorated with whitewash and greens, and the Waterdown Orchestra did the music. After the "mazy" had been tripped for about nine hours, to the tune of "The Rocky Road to Dublin," in a four hand reel, Mr Doran ventured to offer his services as convoy to a young lady who was about retiring, and his own coat being of the shabby genteel order, he appropriated another. The apology given for the offence was that he merely wished to borrow it in order to display the *contour* of his noble figure to the young lady, and had no intention of keeping it. The apology was accepted, and the case was dismissed.

## VARIETIES.

Guttu percha houses are suggested for earthquake countries.

It is fashionable now to have one's breath smell of onions, for the Empress Eugenie eats garlic.

A Newspaper biographer, trying to say his subject "Was hardly able to bear the demise of his wife," was made by the inexorable printer to say, "Wear the chemise of his wife."

Ernest Capender, a French novelist, has just died, believing for three years that he could get well if his young wife would keep in bed all the time. To this the noble little woman cheerfully submitted, in hopes to cure his malady.

A married man in Constantinople had a difficulty with five of his wives, which he settled by tying them in sacks and throwing them into the Bosphorus. His thirty-eight other wives have given him no trouble since that bit of house cleaning came off.

A novel suit is going on in Toronto—that of a gentleman named Hosken against a lady named Graham, for breach of promise of marriage. The lady pleads that she never promised, and that if she did, the time within which she promised to marry had not expired before the suit was brought.

**STUDYING YANKEE CHARACTER.**—I spent a summer in the Eastern States, for the purpose of studying Yankee character, and picking up such peculiarities of dialect and expression as I could, from constant communication with the "Critters" themselves. In Boston I was thus invited by a countryman to visit the town in which he lived: "Wal, stranger, can't you come down our way and give us a show?" "Where do you live?" inquired I. "Oh, about half way between this ere and sunrise." "Oh, yes," said I, adopting at once the style of the countryman, "I know; where the trees grow underground, and gals weigh two hundred pounds. Where some on 'em are so fat they grease the cart wheels with their shadow, and some on 'em are so thin you're obliged to look at 'em twice afore you can see 'em at all." "Wal, I guess you've been there," says he, saying which the countryman departed.

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