The Quebec Act would give this Royal Humbug a snug little surgery in the city jail. Some of our New Brunswick friends may be perhaps disposed to give him a Provincial license because he possesses a foreign degree.

## The Penalties of Office.

One of the inevitable penalties of prominence is a share of unfair and sometimes malicious criticism. Good-natured people who never indulge in personalities about men who occupy humble positions, instinctively set them up as a target the moment chance or ability gives them the precedence. Count the number of truly unselfish men who come to the front out of office, and do their best to help their leaders, and how they dwindle in comparison with the army of obstructionists. To do many a man credit, however, there are some whose nature is retiring, and who have no thought of hindering a good work, but who prefer to co-operate by silent and unobtrusive assent. When shrewd statesmen are pestered by obstructionists of a serious stamp they give them a Government berth to quiet them, and there is no better way to take the wind out of the sails of a demagogue than to put him into office. Yet there is an element of danger in this. Look, for instance, at the political tramps which infest the Province of Quebec: the host of briefless barristers who starve in their legitimate occupations, but who, like Sancho Panza, think themselves fit for government, Men who utterly neglect their only means of existence: who have been professionally bankrupt: for whom public subscriptions were not long ago raised to pay their rent, fuel, etc., within a few months after filled positions at not very extravagant salaries, yet who seem by the profuseness of their wealth and the luxuriance of their surroundings, to have discovered some magical method of "raising the wind." The Province is politically as rotten and corrupt as these men can make it. Even religion is dragged in the mire to promote