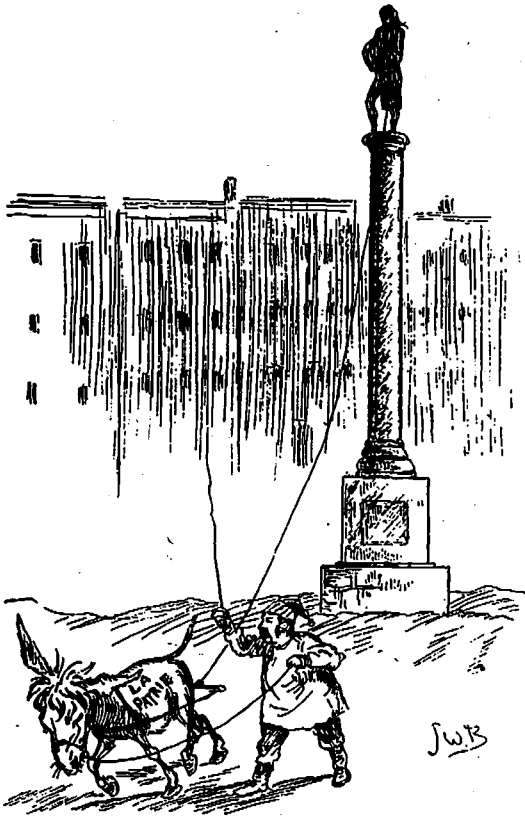


## AT THE GRIT CAUCUS.

SPEECH OF MR. M'FRE, M.P.P., ON WOOD'S MOTION TO ABOLISH OFFICIAL FEES.



## DOWN WITH NELSON!

(From *La Patrie*, Montreal.)

"We have no doubt that the column of the Trafalgar man needs repairs, but it seems to us that when there will be cash to spend over this illustrious one-armed hero, it should be used only to remove him. We want him no longer in that French section of the city. He never did anything for Montreal, and we owe him no debt of gratitude. We venture to believe that if anyone should keep guard on Jacques Cartier Square, that honor surely belongs to the brave sailor of St. Malo. It is not our intention to appeal to fanaticism, much less to raise race antagonism. We simply claim that justice and that regard to which we are entitled. In the past, the French-Canadians of Montreal may have kept silent through political prudence, but at the present day our patriotism must display more boldness and more pride, and we must not be afraid to raise our heads in those dark hours of trial and national persecutions which we are now going through. Let us hope, then, that at the next meeting of Council there will be some one manly enough to rise and give shape to the patriotic idea that we have just mentioned, that is, to ask that Nelson be removed to Beaver Hall or elsewhere. Let there be no falling off in our ranks, for this is not the moment."

## TO WHAT BASE USES, ETC.

PENNER—"Who keeps you in the necessary cash, nowadays?"

SPACER—"My mother-in-law."

PENNER—"But she is as poor as you are."

SPACER—"Yes, but I make money by writing jokes about her for the comic papers."

## "THE MOST UNKINDEST CUT."

BANKS—"Why are you so angry? Has that paper published a caricature of you?"

CUMSO—"It has done worse. It has published what it calls an excellent portrait of me."

WE are met here to-day in regard to the matter in respect to which Wood seems to raise such a clatter, Of the payment of registrars, sheriffs and so forth, And as nothing that's said here in secret will go forth, I propose to talk out and my views to define, For I hope that the party will fall into line. Now, firstly, I hope that we all shall agree To keep up the system of payment by fee; It's true, as Wood says, that the income is bigger Than if it was fixed at a regular figure, But I'd like to know who in this crowd is afraid Of seeing officials sufficiently paid? For, consider this point,—as you very well know, To get these here offices *we* stand a show. It's the regular thing when a fellow has served His party straight through, and has never once swerved, Nor kicked at bad measures, nor yet by his tone Given hint of possessing the slightest backbone, That in due course of time, when he feels like retiring, The Government, greatly such conduct admiring, May give him an office wherein he may doze For the rest of his days in congenial repose. (*Applause.*) Now, to get such an office has long been my dream, And I think Mr. Wood's a contemptible scheme To cut down the income we ought to enjoy For the time and the talents which now we employ In supporting the Government all through the piece, Till such happy time as we gain a release. He says, does this Wood, that the pay is too great For the services rendered, but here let me state That such arguments don't hit the nail on the head. The official is paid, as I previously said, Not for what little work in his office is done, But for services past ere the goal he had won. Now, regarding the subject from that point of view, I ask are those fees put too high to suit you? Why, the fellow that votes to diminish the pelf Is voting, in fact, to impoverish himself! I'm no such a chump if my feelings I know, I think office-holders should have a good show; I've a promise from Mowat, between you and I, If the sheriff of Wayupnorth County should die, (He's so old that he can't stay much longer on earth), That I shall at once slip right into the berth. And I doubt not that most of the rest are inclined To take the first chance of a similar kind; So I'm going to stick to the old-fashioned rule Of payment by fees and not act like a fool. Why should you and I lose that the public may gain? Need I say any more on an issue so plain? Surely not, for I take it we all are agreed That officials should always be heavily feed.

## TOO FRESH ENTIRELY.

HE was a newly appointed member of Fire Brigade and was just trying on his rubber boots to see how they fitted when an alarm of fire rang out. He hurried to take his place when he was sternly re-called by the foreman.

"Here you, greeny, where you goi?" Git outside of them boots darn quick."

"But—but," said the astonished neophyte, "I shall have to have them on to go to the fire with."

"Of course, yer will. Blame yer skin don't yer know nothin'? Its agin all the rul's an' reg'lations fur a fireman to leave the hall with his boots on! Yank 'em off right lively now, an' then put 'em on agin as we drive through the streets. That's the correct fireman style."

THE youthful poet who went to the City Clerk's office in order to take out a poetical licence, was last seen in a Yonge Street store enquiring for the best brand of "midnight oil."