

The proposal to give the Supreme Court Judges the assistance of the Hansard reporters when the latter are not engaged in the House is a very good one. Their Lordships need amanuenses to enable them to transact their business as expeditiously as possible, and when the country pays the Hansard reporters good salaries there is no reason why they should not work the whole year like any other employees. As things are at present we are inclined to think they earn their money far too easily. Certainly much more easily than almost any other class of Government officials. We hope that this much-needed reform will be carried out, and that these Hansard swells will be required to give a full year's work for what is a tolerably handsome year's wages, as wages go.

Imprisonment for newspaper libelling seems to be a punishment reduced as near to zero as could well be desired. Take the case of Yates, editor of the London World, for example. Our readers will no doubt remember that some months ago this gentleman was adjudged to have slandered an aristocrat by publishing some paragraph sent him by a lady correspondent saying that Lord Londale, the aristocrat in question, had not merely coveted, but actually ran away with, some other man's wife. This, of course, was terrible, and not less so because no names had been mentioned. Londale, however, seems to have felt the fitness of the cap, and brought an action against the editor. The editor was found guilty of libel and sentenced to a fine and some months' imprisonment. He appealed the case, his appeal has been dismissed, and he is now in jail, where he will remain four months. But, as we said, this imprisonment is as little of a punishment as could be imagined. He is entered as a first-class mindemanant. He has all the comforts and luxuries he likes to pay for. He has a very nice room, which he has got pleasantly fitted up with all the necessaries and conveniences to which he has been accustomed. He has books and writing materials and plenty of leisure to make use of them. At the proper times he holds regular levees, his friends coming in crowds to see him. He need not see bore unless he wants to. All his attention can be strictly devoted to the business on hand. He experiences the pleasant sensation of painless martyrdom, and the notoriety that accompanies all martyrdom, whether painless or otherwise. On the whole, Mr. Yates is not disposed to take a gloomy view of his enforced retirement. He would be a fool if he did. He has got a splendid advertisement, and has saved himself the worry and expense of appealing to the House of Lords, which was not in any case a certain way out of his difficulties. When he gets out, however, he will no doubt be a little more careful about receiving the ill-natured gossip of his lady correspondents.

It is little to be wondered at that Dr. Wilson should have declined the call to St. James's Church, Kingston, after his former experiences in that city. He would have been foolish, we think, to have put himself again under the control of a superior, who, we believe, is a good enough man, but somewhat narrow in his views. Dr. Wilson has found a sphere in New York, for which he is well suited, and which suits him well, and he is in no hurry to leave it, especially not, when by doing so he would run the risk of renewing some of the unpleasant experiences of his life. The Bishop of Ontario, by the course he saw fit to take, has deprived the Episcopal Church of Canada of a devout and earnest worker.

Eight of the Canadian voyageurs, who started in such high spirits to join Lord Wolseley in Egypt, have already found watery graves in that far-off land. If the troubles there last for any length of time, and the likelihoods are at present that they will, it is to be feared, if the same rate of loss goes on, that only a very small handful of our brave contingent will ever see their native land again. It is a satisfaction, at any rate, to know that however far away from home, it is in the service of the great British Empire that they lay down their lives.

No more perplexing question is now raised, none with more important and far-reaching consequences, than that of the land. It bristles with difficulties. It raises far more ghosts than it can lay. It will lead to many vague imaginings and many injurious impracticable dreams. Still it has to be faced, whatever may be the consequences, and it will be for good or for evil. The laws have hitherto, in most countries, been all made to favor the land holder, and much iniquity has therefore been decreed by law. A change of some kind will have to be made, and speedily, and without going into particulars. It will be in the direction of making real estate the chief subject of taxation, just the wholesale dealers have to pay the Customs, and then distribute them among their customers. Land owners may kick against this, but they will have to come to it all the same, and perhaps sooner than they expect.

We are glad to hear that Hon. A. S. Hardy, the Provincial Secretary has got so far well as to be able to resume his official duties. The genial little Minister was in no inconsiderable danger for a time, and many besides his personal and political friends will rejoice to think that he has so successfully weathered the storm.

Rev. Dr. Withrow, also, is another well-known gentleman for whom a good deal of anxiety was at one time felt. We are happy to be able to say that he too is progressing favourably, and that a very few weeks at most will be sufficient to restore him to the full enjoyment of his usual vigor.

The proof reading that appears in some of the leading dailies is quite disgraceful. One cannot but be amused at some of the blunders committed by the able compositor, and allowed to pass by the hardly less able proof-reader. One of our city judges, for instance, appeared last week labelled "Jagge Rose," a little thing, no doubt, and not one of the most flagrant errors, but at the same time one which careful reading would not have allowed.

Rumors about the Canadian Pacific Railway again! Hints that some more of the hard-earned millions of the Canadians are to be sunk in the rapid construction of a road that won't pay for years to come, and for which there was no hurry at all; none certainly for five years yet. If things go on this way we fear a good many people will be frightened out of the country. We have no objection to the building of the railroad. It is necessary for the fullest development of the Dominion, but we do object very strongly to money having been wasted in pushing the work of construction far more rapidly than was required.

The Republicans of the State of New York have good reason to congratulate themselves that Evarts and not Morton, brains and character, not the mere bullying aggressiveness of great wealth, has been nominated to represent them in the National Senate. Roswell P. Flower and Morton are two men whose political aspirations, based

principally on the weight of their purses, have been quite effectually crushed by a public sentiment, which wants something in their representative men better than mere dollars and assurance.

The Mayor of Halifax recently received a sharp reminder of the city's duty from the Island Revenue Department. He was told that unless the city took proper measures to regulate the sale of petroleum, and provide for its storage, the Department would confiscate the whole of it. The notice was a sharp one, but not too much so. A city that is so direct in an important duty, needs a sharp reminder.

It is well that the question of University Confederation should be discussed with such an amount of very evident interest. The general feeling is in favor of the scheme proposed by the Government. As we anticipated, the relative position of the colleges interested, remains practically unchanged. Queen's University will be the hardest to win over to any plan that seems to weaken her prestige, or merge her individuality as a University in what we are inclined to think, would inevitably come to be unadvisable, in popular estimation at least, from the present University of Toronto. There is no little force in what the trustees of Queen's University say about University Centralization. We had already taken the same ground. We do not believe that the best interests of higher education can be promoted by centralizing all the institutions for imparting it in one city.

Wolseley will no doubt get into Khartoum all right. The Madhi is not inclined to throw any great obstacles in the way. But getting out will be a very different thing. Matters will need to look a great deal more cheerful than they do now, to lead us to believe otherwise. Madhi, though a fanatic, is no fool, and that Wolseley will find out, if we mistake not, before the play is played out. Unless we greatly mistake, the trouble in Egypt is only beginning. If the report is true that the Madhi has 100,000 men scattered between Berber and Shendy, and Khartoum, and 10,000 between Dongola and Khartoum, then let Wolseley once fairly within the latter city, and he will find himself between the teeth of that roaring African lion. These thousands of savages will concentrate about Khartoum, and the great reliever will himself need to be relieved by another expedition from England. Wolseley has as stiff a piece of work now as ever he had in his life, and the probabilities all are that the British Government has got itself into a very bad snarl.

Destructive cyclones are reported from South Carolina. Immunity from such disastrous visitants easily reconciles one to any disadvantage which may seem inseparable from life in Western Ontario. Let us be thankful. Every lot has its compensations.

Yes, so mannered man is well mansered all through. Among strangers as among familiars, at home as in a hotel, and vice versa. Don't ask how he treats his inferiors or his equals, but how does he bear himself to his inferiors. What unutterable savages to servants are some people, not entirely bad. No word is too insolent or cutting for them to employ, and then they wonder that they can't get their helps to remain. No wonder in the case, if they thought a little. It would be all right if they could be always ladies and gentlemen. But there is very little scraping needed in order to reveal the Tartar. Nor is it in many cases wonderful that it should be so. In many cases the outward circumstances have

improved, but the soul remains as base as selfish as ever. They may have plenty of money but they are still cold and clownish the same. No doubt it may be very ridiculous to see some people spicing refinement and cultivating the aesthetic, still it is better that they should glory in their brutality. They may not become what they strive after. Still they are better than otherwise they would have been.

It is astonishing how little interest in many cases is taken in the election of school Trustees. The position is one of considerable importance, and it is not crucial to any community that no anxiety should be shown to secure the very best men possible to fill the position.

The Pope of Rome is very anxious to get back his temporal power. He is not content with ruling the souls of men, he wishes to rule their bodies. A merely spiritual kingdom is not large enough for his ambition. He wishes a kingdom of this world. This, at any rate, seems to be the tendency. He can believe what a newspaper published in Rome says about the formation of a "Temporal Power League" to restore the time imperial sway of the Pope.

Earl Derby has been somewhat of a bungler as Secretary of State for the Colonies and it is not unlikely that he will soon resign. The careless, unstatesmanlike way in which he allowed Germany to get a foothold in New Guinea was especially unfortunate for his reputation. It has incensed Australian colonists, who would have been there themselves but for Earl Derby. Lord Roseberry is spoken of as his probable successor, in case of his resignation.

The city of Manchester (Eng.) has determined to stamp out all lotteries. To this end an ordinance has been passed to the effect that any young lady selling tickets for a bazaar lottery shall make herself liable several months' imprisonment with hard labor. A radical measure, truly, and one which will doubtless have a salutary effect. How would it do were some law of a similar sort passed in Canadian cities?

France affords an illustration of university centralization. Germany, England and the United States are examples of states in which the opposite tendency prevails. Let anyone say in which the aim is any university training worthy of the name is best justified by practical results.

Canada continues to receive weekly statements of defaulters from the United States. They are of all sorts and sizes from John C. Eno, Esq., to the cashier of a village bank.

And so British prowess has once more prevailed. Savage fanaticism and headless courage have broken itself against disciplined ranks, armed with the most destructive weapons, and animated with the indomitable pluck of British soldiers. Of course we rejoice at the victory. Every true British heart must do that unfeigningly. Had it been otherwise, Stewart would have been defeated, as he might very well have been without much disgrace, the bulk of the enemy being well nigh sufficient to swamp the little British force although the result would have been too terrible to contemplate. But it is not so, Wolseley's lieutenant has fought his first battle, and won a complete victory. How many more will have to be fought no one can say. It is possible that this terrible experience will prevent even those daring Arabs from further conclusions, but we regard this

far from
has been
will be a
to fight a
Khartoum
out again
At the
is this B
to regret
of life m
To say ne
our own
fearful sh
Ever ho
is making
asked An
these wall
agencies
British
worthy of
If the d
insured
Mayor M
He had a
as that
raising
Mayor M
ed to see
which he
port-nee
going to
Departm
part of
means of
to that
low, just
benefits h
too. If
poor have
otherwise
The he
an impo
that M
propos
respon
ability of
By all
and it
the St
time mo
their tre
thing to
There i
fal about
letters of
getting
that he
do to get
factory w
From a
public sy
ing need
Mills is
servic
case, and
pay into
the very
due thi
belong to
time had
little ex
whom w
an I nou
than \$1
alves on
les of m
they tal
al well
rejection
The in
sirable b
inferior
him are t