

with and dependent on Parliament ; its members being present in both branches, ready to inform the House and country on all matters of administration, holding office by the will of the people ; representatives initiating and controlling all measures of public policy and directing generally private legislation.

An effective and methodical system of procedure, regulating and controlling all legislation of a private or special character, so as to protect vested rights and the public interests.

A judiciary not dependent on public caprice, but holding office during good behaviour, and only removable by the joint action of the two Houses and the executive of the Federal State.

A large and efficient body of public servants whose members hold office not on an uncertain political tenure, but as long as they are able to perform their duties satisfactorily, and who have always before them the prospect of a competency for old age at the close of a career of public usefulness.

A system of voting at elections, which effectually secures the secrecy and purity of the ballot, effectually guards the voter "against the ticket peddler, election workers and spies," and practically "takes the monopoly of nomination out of the hands of professional politicians, and removes the main pretext of assessments upon

candidates which now prevent honest poor men from running for office."

The jurisdiction possessed by the courts of trying all cases of bribery and corruption at elections, and giving judgment on the facts before them, in this way relieving the legislature of a duty which could not, as experience has shown, be satisfactorily performed by a political body influenced too often by impulses of party ambition.

The placing by the constitution of the jurisdiction over divorce in the Parliament of the Dominion and not in the Legislatures of the Provinces—the Upper House being now by usage the court for the trial of cases of this kind, except in the small Maritime Provinces, which had courts of this character previous to the Federal Union.

The effect of the careful regard entertained for the marriage tie may be estimated from the fact, that from 1867 to 1886 there were only 116 divorces granted in Canada against 328,613 in the various States of the Union.

The comparisons I have made ought, I submit, to show that Canada has been steadily working out her own destiny on sound principles, and has in nowise shown an inclination to make the United States her model of imitation in any vital particular.—*J. G. Bourinot.*

WHY PEOPLE PREFER TO LIVE IN CITIES.

CONGRESS at this time is debating the tariff question. But there is a larger question than the tariff question that is being debated in hundreds of thousands of homes in this country. Farm life is becoming less attractive than formerly. At all events farms are going down in value, while the price of real estate in cities is increasing with very great rapidity.

This concentration of the population in cities has been going on for a quarter of a century, and the tide has now set in with so much force, that farms that were quoted at \$100 an acre have declined to \$60, and even \$50. According to reports, farms in New England, New York, New Jersey, and Ohio are steadily depreciating in value. This is a very serious matter.