

HEADS AND ARMS.



THE arms of the Corporation should be an ass's head proper in a field of blood, with a "Fortin" dragoon and an angel of darkness as supporters; for the body being destitute of heads to preserve the peace, foolishly imagines it can supply the deficiency by putting arms into the hands of the Police. But it is said these arms are given to prevent the Police from using their legs in emergencies; a weakness to which the force is prone. This may be valid reasoning, but will make many policemen invalid. Besides a Policeman's fear teaches him to use his legs well; but the same feeling would cause him to use his arms badly. But how and when are they to be used? If some anti-teetotaler on a murky night tunelessly insists on not going home till morning, is Policeman No 10, then and there, to let "daylight into his body" by a musket ball? Is Mr. Baldwin, who is so universally known as a "slow coach" to be told to move on, or to be "prodded" behind with the point of a sabre? Is the guardian of the night to wait for a "flare up" before he fires: or fire first and make certain of having the "flare up" afterwards? If a Doctor wants a subject may he apply to one of the force to make a subject for him? Like Doctors, are Policemen to have diplomas, and be "licenced to kill," or like Lawyers, only be "licenced to bleed?" In the latter case they might occasionally be beneficial to the health, although not advantageous: for public slaughter-houses are considered advantageous to the sanitary condition of a City; yet Punch sees no advantage to be derived from turning a whole City into a slaughter-house. It is the privilege of Aldermen and Common Councillors to murder the Queen's English, but this privilege does not extend to the Queen's subjects. City Solons have no authority to turn Police stations into shambles and become carcass butchers: neither may they deal in joints of the Body-politic. But if they intend trying their hand at the trade, Mr. Coroner Coursol had better confine himself to his own house, and not even look into the streets lest he see a man killed: and as for Punch,—Punch will at once turn undertaker to the authorities, and contract to supply them with coffins.

EDUCATION FOR THE ARMY.



It is recorded as a sentiment of the Duke of Wellington—with what truth we know not—that a soldier has no right to profess religion; and we certainly never heard that he experienced much practical opposition to his theory. But however that may be, the authorities at the Horse Guards appear recently to have discovered the fact that soldiers have minds—in fact that ensigns—hitherto apparently placed much in the same category as ponies and other educated quadrupeds—are susceptible of a certain degree of mental culture. At least the tone of the programme of educational tests, recently issued by the Commander in Chief, would lead us to infer that intellect has only recently been admitted as an attribute of the subaltern of foot, and that the cornet of horse has been hitherto valued for qualifications about equivalent to those of the animal he bestrides. In pursuance of their interesting discovery, the authorities who rule the Army have issued an edict in favor of the accomplishments of reading and writing—forgetful, or never having heard of the dictum of honest Dogberry, that such helps to the ladder of learning "come by nature." In the first place, then, our candidate "should be able to read and write!"—such is the wording of the programme, leniently omitting all clause of orthography; so that if John Smith, gent., chooses to spell coffee with a K, the slight but pleasant eccentricity will not exclude him from carrying the colors of the gallant Eleventy-ninth. Nor, should his specimens of quillmanship resemble the wanderings of an insane spider with inky feet, rather than the conventional vehicle for the ideas of civilized man, need that be a bar to his occupying a distinguished position as wine-taster to his regimental mess. His arithmetical acquirements, as conditionally hinted at in the programme, should include "the first four rules:" he will thus be enabled to calculate with rapidity how many beans go to make five—a process which will be of incalculable advantage to him when he comes to keep race-horses,—as enabling him to form a closely approximating estimate of the value of a "feed." His classical attain-

ments are not strictly required to be such as would entitle him to the honor of a scholarship at Oxford;—the school-master at the Horse-Guards merely proposing that "he should be able to translate some Latin author into English." The ancient classical duoglot of "*Propria quæ maribus* he had a little dog," diligently studied and committed to memory, might thus enable John Smith gent., to pass in, *duty free*, with *great credit to himself* and to the exceeding glory of his family. Greek is not even hinted at in the list of literature,—so that when "the tug of war" comes, the candidate will perhaps feel a painful sense of his inferiority to the Greeks whom he will be bound to "meet" upon that possible contingency. But the ordinance further provides for the deficiency of our "gent" in classical lore, by accepting in lieu thereof a decent degree of proficiency in the French or German grammar. In lieu of these again, we would suggest that Magyar be taken as an equivalent—a great blessing to the young neophyte from the glens of Scotland or of Connemara, who might easily lick himself out of the scrape with his native tongue. In history he is recommended to study "Hume's History of England, with Smollett's Continuations;"—but it is optional with him whether he dive deeper into its depths, and fish up the authentic records of "Jack the Giant killer," or the "Seven Champions of Christendom." Further, "he must have had some instruction in drawing;"—and if they had added the words "on his Governor," the clause would have been complete, and the ordinance rampantly triumphant as a "curiosity of literature." Viewing this production of the Board, the mind is overwhelmed with the immensity of the contemplated reform. The walls of Guard Rooms will be charcoaled with effusions of the highest order of epic poetry, instead of being debased, as hitherto, with sentiments like those expressed in such songs as "Chip chow, cherry chow," or "Once I was a roving blade;" and outline cartoons, designed according to the rules of "high art" will supersede the pictorial steeple-chases and exaggerated *danseuses* which usually decorate the pannels of military quarters, in defiance of the barrack-master. No longer will John Smith gent., attired in the rough pea coat and smash-me-down hat of military multi, commit nocturnal depredations upon the knockers and signs of slumbering citizens. The only knockers he will now seek after, will be those upon the door of knowledge; and the signs in the heavens, "the ram, the bull and the heavenly twins," will be the only signs upon which he will condescend to expend his expanded intellect.

Well, the only thing we are sorry for is, that the Horse Guards people had such a confoundedly small opinion of him before;—however, we suppose they considered it absolutely necessary to do "something;"—and now they have "been and done it" with a vengeance!

FRENCH DOMINATION.

If further evidence of the march of Gallic ascendancy be wanted, it will be found in the melancholy fact that the league is now adopted in almost every Township of Upper Canada. The old mile-stones will, it is believed, be broken up under the direction of the Commissioners of Public Works, for the purpose of mending the very roads that they once measured.

"We must all dye,"—as the grizzled matron said to her nine carrotty daughters, after an unsuccessful season.

"Why shouldst thou thus be-tray'me?"—as the sheep's head said to the butcher's boy.

"Anything new in ties?"—as the swell gent on the drop said to the haugman.

SEAT OF GOVERNMENT.

Punch has gathered, from sources which may be relied upon, that the Seat of Government is to be permanently fixed either in Upper or Lower Canada. If in the former, it will probably be planted at some one of the flourishing towns between Cornwall and Amherstburg—but if in the latter, it is whispered that a place this side of Gaspé is to be invested with the dignity.