

of justice which are the medium by which she administers the laws are derived from the power of the crown.

In all the courts the sovereign is supposed, in contemplation of law, to be always present; but as that is, in fact, impossible, she is there represented by her judges, whose power is only an emanation of the royal prerogative.

It follows, then, of course, that the courts during their sitting should be, as they invariably are, conducted with becoming dignity and decorum. In England the judges of assize are met by the sheriff at the border of the county and conducted to the assize towns with all the ceremony that would attend the person of Her Majesty, and all the places for holding the courts are to have all necessary and suitable appointments and accommodation for the purpose.

THE ROYAL COAT OF ARMS

is emblazoned in all the Queen's courts because from remote times nations, as well as individuals, distinguished themselves by particular emblems or ensigns, and communities and states are entitled to their use. They are arms of dominion borne by sovereigns as annexed to their territories. Hence they are to be used in all the colonies and possessions of Her Majesty, as well as in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland.

THE FLAG.

As soon as men began to collect together for common purposes some kind of conspicuous object was used as the symbol of common sentiment, as the rallying point of the common force, so that from time immemorial it has been the custom, now recognized as inexorable, to set up the flag in all the British possessions at home and abroad, to mark the presence of the sovereign or his or her representative.

When the Queen changes her residence from one royal palace to another the royal standard of England, floating in the breeze, marks which of them she is in for the time being, for that is where Her Majesty is then holding her court; and the national ensign, in like manner, floats over every place where her representatives hold her courts throughout Her Majesty's dominions.

Milk may be the vehicle of disease, either from being taken from an unhealthy cow, or by absorbing germs in the course of careless handling. In the absence of inspection no one can be certain of the source from which their milk supply is brought, whether clean or the reverse. But with a thorough inspection by the health officer, the citizens can be better satisfied on these points. The inspection is also a warning to the dealers that they must keep their business at a high standard. It would be easy for the health officer to gloss over any case of insufficient care or indifference to cleanliness, but he should do his duty fearlessly and conscientiously.

CORRESPONDENCE.

This paper is not responsible for opinions expressed by correspondents.

No More Statute Labor.

To the Editor of THE MUNICIPAL WORLD:

SIR,—The move made in the council of the township of Malden was not simply to repeal the by-law requiring the commutation in money of all statute labor, but was intended as a step farther in advance, by entirely *abolishing* all statute labor. What objection was found to the present system was from those who lived in the front of the township, who claimed that thereby they lost their share of the road tax. This objection is now being met by again dividing the township in road divisions, and expending in each the amount of money raised in it.

The fault found with the whole system of statute labor is that it is an unjust tax, falling more heavily on the poor than on the rich, and cannot be expended as economically as township funds, and is a large amount of extra work for the council, clerk, assessor, collector, treasurer, and auditors—in short, is a “relic of barbarism” which has been too long imposed on a suffering public.

The probability is that the ratepayers will vote directly on the subject at next municipal election, and there is a reasonable hope that after this year “statute labor” will be a thing of the past in this township.

HENRY ATKIN.

A Provincial Association.

To the Editor of THE MUNICIPAL WORLD:

DEAR SIR,—It had been running in my mind, for some time before Mr. Neilson published his Miscellany, that a journal of low cost was urgently needed by those engaged as officers, in minor municipalities particularly, whereby some of the more perplexing points in our municipal law, might be elucidated, and practical suggestions afforded, by means of which they might be assisted in the business of their offices.

The work he so well and so opportunely begun is, I am glad to see, being continued and extended, so that while remaining a help within the reach of the humblest municipal official, it will, by reason of its larger purpose, continue to draw an ever increasing number of readers to its pages, and lead to more fruitful and gratifying results.

Perchance, when your columns have grown wider and longer, I may have a word or two to add to the common fund of municipal business, but meantime I am chiefly interested in the topic put forward in your last number, viz.: the necessity for the character and scope of an association of municipal officers.

With due deference to your expressions

ex cathedra, I am strongly of opinion that as a preliminary to the formation of any county associations a meeting should be held at some central point in the province, during the present year, to which every municipal officer should be invited, accompanied with a request to take with him a well considered list of such difficulties and objections as he has met in the pursuit of his duties.

It will, I think, be conceded by those having very good knowledge of the municipal law, that many of its provisions are obscure in meaning, difficult of interpretation, and apparently contradictory, and it so much shall be conceded, surely it is high time steps should be taken to get rid of these embarrassing and dangerous difficulties, the more so in view of the extended application of the municipal code, and the necessity for its thorough comprehension by all classes of the community. The result of discussions, and the interchange of ideas, at such a meeting could be embodied and set forth in a petition to the government, and thereafter further changes could be effected through the medium of your journal or the county organizations proposed. It might not then be inadvisable to consider how best to choke off the army of legislative tinkers of the act.

Yours, etc.,

W. L. H.

Parry Sound, 21st March, 1892.

Clerks' Salaries.

To the Editor of THE MUNICIPAL WORLD:

SIR,—There have been many opinions expressed in reference to the low remuneration municipal clerks receive, and several propositions made as to how their condition may be improved. One that seems to me very reasonable is this: that an effort should be made to secure the passing of an act whereby municipal clerks would receive a salary in proportion to the number of names on the assessment roll. As to what that rate should be, I am not in a position to say, but would suggest, however, that up to 750 names the clerk should receive fifty cents per name, and for all over that number ten cents per name, in addition to the usual extra fees for registration of births, voters' lists, courts of revision, etc. It is evident that of all municipal officers, the clerk, with his ever-increasing duties, receives the lowest remuneration. The legislature, though they are constantly imposing new duties and fixing greater penalties on clerks, have never considered the very low remuneration they receive, but leave it to the councils of the municipalities, who know very little of the many duties of the clerk. I should like to hear the opinions of other persons interested as to the best way to secure legislation to remedy this matter.

Yours, etc.,

TOWNSHIP CLERK.