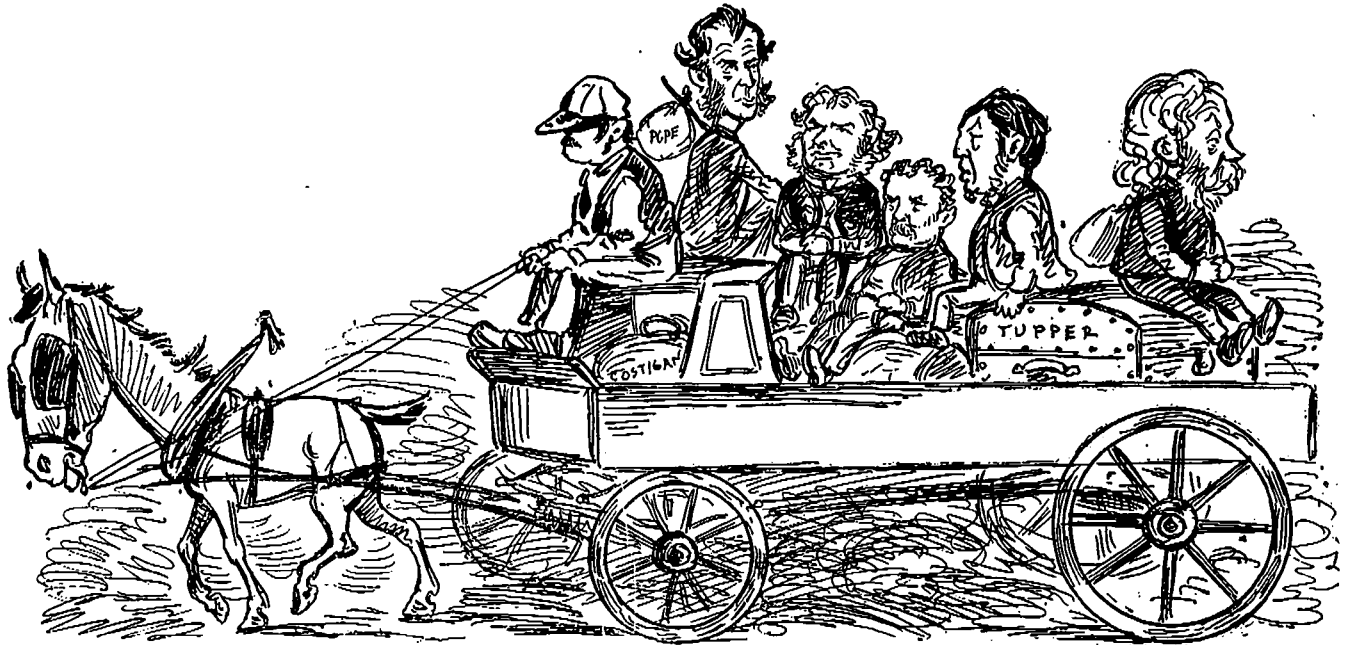


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can have caused your gentle heart such poignant anguish? What can I do for you?" Thus adjured, the poor lady sank into a chair and wiping her tears solemnly, she, to use a common phrase, sobered up a little, and then began:—"My true friend, and beloved benefactor, I perceive by your ingenious countenance, that you are not yet aware of the fearful epidemic that is making such fearful havoc among my youths and maidens—not killing them, indeed, that would be but a light trouble in comparison, but transforming them into weak idiotics, creatures of whom I am ashamed to say they are mine. Say, oh! say, my friend and adviser, what must I do to prevent the further encroachment of this terrible malady?"

"The Scott Act, Madam, it was fondly hoped would do much to—"

"Oh, tut! tut! it is not liquor I'm grappling with now, it is—Anglophobia. Anglophobia, my friend, Anglophobia of the worst type. Oh, it is terrible! It begins with partial softening of the brain, which affects the spinal column, causing it to bend offensively, and in females producing an enormous hump in the small of the back. It is also accompanied by a paralysis of the lower jaw, causing them to pronounce their words with a drawl, and rendering them incapable, of pro-

nouncing the letter r which they sound like a w; for instance, instead of "very" they say "vewy"; "half-past-three," they pronounce "hawf-pawst-thwee," and so on, *ad nauseam*. Nor is this all. The males affected take strange fancies for wearing trowsers like tight-fitting umbrella covers, and they wear jackets they might have outgrown in their boyhood. Like all other persons of diseased minds, a trifling toy ornament makes them supremely happy; thus you generally find them fumbling around with an eye-glass and a cane, as much delighted with them as a kitten with a ball of yarn. As for my maidens, I am in despair. I think the greatest proof yet given to the world of our ape-origin is this wondrous faculty in weak minds, of imitating English imbecility. Their brothers are no more the dear old Toms, Dicks or Harrys as before they went to England, to "finish" their education forsooth!—they are "nawsty wetches," they "cawn't beah the wough cweatwes," "Weally," their life is one long yawn. Fancy my humiliation, dear Grip, when foreigners hearing of this brave race of Canadians come to visit our shores. Instead of a race of bright, handsome, independent young Canadians, strong, characteristic, full of promise for the future, there they are—a generation of imbeciles, idiotically trying to imitate the ab-

surdities of English snobbery, the highest aim of their existence being to found a spurious aristocracy of caste, in this free and self-respecting country. It is horrible, Grip, horrible! I am growing grey over it. Something must be done.

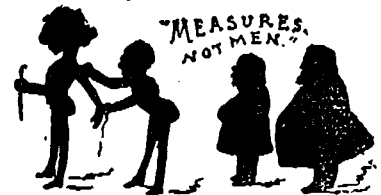
"I think, my dear Canada, I know a doctor, a sterling fellow who—"

"Name him, my friend," cried the lady, starting up in great excitement.

"His name is Dr. Common Sense. He is most generally to be found in this office, but he left to attend the trial. He was in court on the day of the committment."

"Send him to me the instant he arrives at home," she cried, and in another instant, after blowing a kiss to the bird, she was gone.

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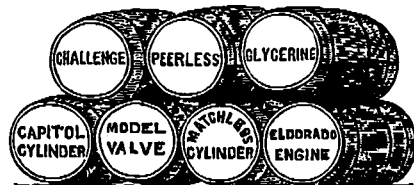


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