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## *LAWYERS IN PARLIAMENT.*

We trust the politicians of the two political parties whose respective appercarts were so unceremoniously upset by the rural electors at the recent provincial election in Ontario are recovering from the stupor occasioned thereby.

One feature of this surprising political upheaval, whereby the hitherto politically submerged tillers of the soil have come to the top, is the fact that in the Farmer Cabinet there is only one lawyer to aid in steering the somewhat unwieldy or at least the untried barge that is to carry the new Government through the rapids and tortuous channels of its first political voyage. In the past the Premiers of this Province (with one exception) have always been lawyers. In the first Cabinet, led by John Sandfield Macdonald, there were four, all of eminent ability, and in the Government just defeated there were five.

To a professional man and to those versed in parliamentary procedure the reason for this preponderance is obvious. The work of the Government is very largely a question of law; and law, of all things, is a thing with which those who have no legal training are incapable of dealing; and the person who attempts so to do only gets himself and others into difficulties.

The administration of justice and the making of our statute law, confessedly two of the most important branches of the government of any country, are subjects with which only trained and skilful lawyers are competent to deal; any ignorant assuming their control would flounder in the mire or would be practically at the mercy of others. We fear that this has been lost sight of by the new Government. To assume that a Government can be successfully carried on without the aid of a sufficient force of