

CAMERON thought it would prevent bribery if every voter was made to swear. That would be the natural effect of such a law on most electors.

MOWAT was not prepared to concur in the principle. He agreed that every elector should vote; but that to compel them was impracticable.

CALVIN in opposing the bill actually endorsed the "free will" doctrine.

PRINCE believed it was based on sound logical principles. Yes, more sound than logic.

DENOUE believed Canadians should not be afraid to originate measures without looking to foreign precedents, and immediately referred to the working of the ballot in the United States as a proof that it alone did not prevent bribery.

PAXTON propounded the idea that a man might be bribed to deposit a blank ballot.

MEREDITH thinks the Bill will yet become law. He's an inveterate joker, and will surely die a MEREDITH.

SCOTT (Peterboro') gave the measure an unconditional support.

BETHUNE closed the debate by re-asserting that he only wanted to hear the bill discussed, and moved its discharge from committee, which was done.

WEDNESDAY.

A motion was carried for a return of information as to what extent English practice justified the giving that oft-mentioned half-holiday to the Central Prison employees.

It was resolved that there be two sittings on Saturday.

A number of Orders-in-Council relating to railways were ratified.

The Supply Bill was read a first time. It supplies \$2,285,598.15 to be expended variously.

A number of private bills were advanced. The money was advanced before.

In Committee the Bill for re-adjusting the municipal debt and abolishing tolls in the County of Middlesex was given the three months' hoist.

The Bill respecting railway traffic was read a second time. It is feared the companies will think the bill fails in respecting their interests.

The Bill in reference to marriage licenses was read a second time. It permits a victim to get a license when the issuer is absent from home and relieves persons who have obtained licenses after the parties signing them had lost authority. Now, Benedict, don't rejoice; it does not "relieve" you from your wife.

Whitewash.

THE Committee of Investigation into the charges proffered against Mr. RYKERT has closed its labors. In as much as members on both sides were shown to have "taken the shilling," it was not deemed prudent to be too hard upon the member for Lincoln; so the Grit majority in order to get the Tory members of the committee to agree to a report agreed to apply the whitewash in such a manner as to clear RYKERT without censuring McKELLAR. Of course people will hold their own opinions as to who is culpable, and these opinions will be largely dependent on the political prejudice of the holder. Tories will declare that RYKERT is blameless, while they will condemn his accuser; and Grits will as certainly hold that the charges were but too true, and that the accuser was fortunate in being let off so easily. Members had better act honestly for once, and say, at least in relation to their party, if not all personally, "*pecca culpa*;" for there can be no doubt that members of them on both sides have accepted payments for assisting the passage of private bills. Indeed it is notorious that it is but too common an occurrence. The question will naturally arise as to why so many lawyers go into the House, to the sacrifice, as they assert, of valuable practice. It is strongly to be suspected that their motives are not so pure as they would try to make the electors believe. We wonder if a law were passed against employing in a professional capacity in the House not only members of the legal profession, but also any firm with which they may be connected, would there be such eagerness displayed by this class of the community "to represent their compatriots in Parliament?" We think not. We do not desire to be understood as declaring that lawyers are the only members of the House that allow a fee to be quietly slipped into their pockets, for that is far from being the case; but we do say that men who pretend to make great sacrifices in going into Parliament, and who can conveniently throw business of a paying character into the hands of their own partners, are, to say the best of it, far from being like CÆSAR'S wife. If they be honest beyond the suggestion of appearances they will be the first to agitate for a law such as we have referred to above. For the sake of the profession we hope to see a lawyer introduce such a measure at the earliest possible moment; but we would not that other members should wait for a gentleman of the gown to do it.

How Political Slanders Arise.

It has lately been whispered in certain circles, not far from the throne, that the member of the Ontario Legislature for South Ontario is a Jew. Fearing that this assertion might be repeated on the floor of the House, as many of equal importance have been, during the heat of debate, we have, at considerable expense, for drinks, and much personal inconvenience arising therefrom, traced this "charge" to its source. We find that it originated with a departmental clerk, who, being bored by one of the many inquisitive persons that haunt the lobbies and corridors of the Parliament Buildings, in his vexation failed to exercise that discreet air of mystery and unconsciousness, not to say stupidity, as well as that dignity, not to say boorishness, for which Government employes are noted. Being asked "What is FAREWELL?" the functionary so far forgot himself as to answer, "farewell is Adieu;" and the story soon spread from lip to lip, that the member for South Ontario eschewed pork and prayed on Saturday.

This will serve to show the manner in which are set afloat those tales which rob (if possible) parliamentarians of their Christian character, and give rise to innumerable and interminable Committees of Enquiry. We congratulate ourselves, the Legislature, and the public, that we have in this instance saved the Province the enormous expense of a Parliamentary committee; and we hope our efforts will be duly appreciated. We are now fully alive to the fact that we have a claim; but before preferring it we desire to see what acknowledgement the electors of North York will make of the somewhat similar claims of ERASTUS JACKSON upon them. Should they elect him we shall await better times; for we have no desire to blast our young life by accepting a seat in the Legislature, which, as things are at present, would be degrading to our pride. Sooner, however, than see the country made ridiculous in Britain, we would go to London as Ontario Emigration Agent, and earnestly strive to teach JENKINS the duties of his position, and keep him from making a donkey paddock of the Dominion.

Stark, Staring Mad.

WILL not some admirer of the *Globe* present it with a straight jacket? There is evidently a crazy man on the staff. Witness the following extract from the issue of Tuesday last:

"Dr. SMITHER has been preaching to the Icelanders at Kimmount, through an interpreter.

"Dr. FRANCIS says that this theory was first announced in a work published by him in 1871, and adds:—

"Belleville Curling Club is pitted against the Port Hope Club this season, to play for the Royal Caledonian medal."

THE Tories are just now like enthusiastic Scotchmen; for they consider WILLIAM WALLACE a hero.

THE M. P.'s are so enamoured of extra sittings that they have lately been having them on the sidewalks. Such sittings are generally very brief, and parliamentary dignity is utterly dispensed with.

THE most successful speaker in the Ontario Legislature is ALFRED BOUTBEE. When he begins to address the House the members are at once "carried away."

ELECTORS who want anything from the City Council should prefer their demands about now, as aldermen are exceedingly, even obtrusively, amiable these days.

A KINGSTON paper noticing JIMMEL BRIGGS' entrance to the lecture field with his "Experiences of a Bohemian," concludes by saying, "He may come to Kingston." Now, though JIMMEL has done a good many wicked things, and even committed murder—on the Queen's English—we have no desire to see him punished thus, though we have no doubt many better men have come to it.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER.—"Now children, who can tell me what became of the locusts after the plague?" BRIGHT LITTLE BOY (at the foot of the class).—"Please sir, John the Baptist eat 'em."

MAUD, about 5—reflectively—"Have I the measles, Lucy?" LUCY—"Yes, dear, now shut your eyes and go to sleep." MAUD—with an Archimedian shout—"No, 'tisn't the measles; it's a flea!"

QUERY—Do the Roman Catholics believe in LYSEN law?

The *Globe* has an article on "The Controversialists and the True Catholic Faith." "Polly put the kettle on!" Boiled down it amounts to this:—Inasmuch as the Archbishop of Toronto protests against certain assumptions, he is a Protestant. CARRY should carry the new convert along the straight way, FULLER should have a fuller sense of brotherly love, while ROBB should no longer rob the proselyte of the credit due for his confession of faith.

A pompous country singing master learnedly talking shop, declared that in one term he could only impart a *superfluous* knowledge of music.