

anger. It matters but little to our argument which political party was to blame, or who commenced the assault: suffice it to say, that riotous proceedings did take place, and human blood was shed. We here state our solemn and deliberate conviction, that had the police establishment of this city been on a different footing, those unfortunate proceedings would never have taken place. It required but little divination to foresee that on such an occasion, after a bitterly contested election, disturbance *might* take place. A procession was expected to pass down the principal street, and long before its appearance a body of men was observed collecting at a central point, many of them armed with sticks, and decorated with adverse party colors, evidently awaiting its arrival with no friendly intentions. What would have been done under such circumstances had we possessed two or three regularly paid and responsible public magistrates, always at their post, and whose duty required them to exercise the fullest possible diligence on the slightest apprehension of disorder? Measures would instantly have been taken to ensure a free passage to the intended procession. Constables would have been stationed at proper places, and the peaceable and right-minded portion of the citizens would have been called on to aid the arm of the law in preventing the possibility of collision between the adverse parties. Nothing, we advisedly assert, would have been easier, than by active and judicious interference and remonstrance to have prevented the attack commenced on the procession in King Street, which was the origin of the subsequent riot and bloodshed. It is needless to allege that all those instrumental in the loss of life are either in custody or on bail,—that justice will be effectually vindicated, &c. We contend that under a proper police establishment the riot never would have happened, and that it is small consolation to the community that the guilty parties will certainly be made to answer for their misdeeds, when we know that with different management, occurrences of a nature so truly lamentable and degrading to the character of Toronto, would have been completely averted. How then is an evil of such magnitude to be remedied? We conceive the first step must be a repeal or modification of the act of incorporation. In a city like Toronto, with a population of 13,000 souls, of all countries, politics,

and religions, we would humbly suggest there ought to be three, or at least two police magistrates appointed by the Government, removable at pleasure, and fairly remunerated, at salaries say of three hundred pounds a year each. A Recorder should also be appointed to preside at the City Criminal Court, being of course a lawyer. To save expence, an intelligent Barrister could easily fill both the offices of Recorder and District Court Judge, receiving a moderate salary in lieu of all fees or perquisites. These functionaries would devote their whole time if necessary to police matters—they should be tolerably well skilled in legal points, and capable of deciding in all the matters brought under their notice. They would transact all the police business of the city,—command the force of constables which it would be found necessary to maintain,—and be ever on the spot to receive information of apprehended riot, and to detect and bring to justice all breakers of the peace. Toronto should still have its Aldermen and Common Councilmen to meet in Council, and decide on all financial and general business. But immediately on being relieved from attendance and imperfect performance of all the petty police matters, the most worthy and influential inhabitants of the City would be found willing to accept seats in the Corporation. At present few persons can be found, possessing the requisite qualifications for such duties, willing to encounter the fatigue and unpleasant trouble of sitting two or three hours a day to hear petty cases of assault and battery, tavern rows, midnight robberies, stolen watches, and picked pockets. The man of business can with difficulty spare the time,—and even those who have sufficient leisure to devote to the duties of the magistracy would shrink back from the unpleasing task of presiding on the police bench.

Appoint Stipendiary Magistrates for these duties, and the Aldermen of the city can be selected from its first inhabitants, who although unwilling to encounter the daily drudgery of the Stipendiaries, will be ready to lend their aid and attention to the arrangement of the general affairs of the city.

*There is one other light in which the magistracy may be regarded, viz. as public accountants*—which they became by being directed by statute and otherwise to enforce, receive, and pay over to the Receiver General, or to certain