

Returning Officer and J. P.'s ice house. As soon as the Marshburgers heard the "head and front" of Tommy's offendings, the large and intelligent majority of my enlightened constituents decided that the best way to deal with him was to throw him over the wharf. If he sank he was guilty, if he escaped he was to be judged innocent; now as Tommy could not swim a stroke, I am afraid his chance of escape was small; here the worthy magistrate, however, interfered, he told them that there was no precedent for such a proceeding in Burns' Justice; his opinion was that Tommy should first be imprisoned, and handcuffed to prevent his escape, then some sort of a deposition should be taken against him, after that they might punish him in any way they thought proper, but the law should be strictly complied with in the first instance. Poor Tommy, coming down very seedy to breakfast the next morning, found nothing but black looks; he began to suspect that something must have gone wrong; he had heard wild stories about the way candidates had been treated in some remote settlements in the Colony, the mutterings of the storm of indignation outside doors which reached his ears frightened him, he did not dare to leave the house, and at last he told Brown that he had given up the idea of standing for the District, and he was only waiting for my return to go home, he thought the Marshburgers did not appreciate him and he did not care to represent so unenlightened a District. I arrived on Saturday, the nomination day was to take place on the following Monday, and on that Saturday under cover of night, I took my poor crest-fallen Tommy aboard the vessel that was to convey me home. We left Marshboro' with a whole gale of wind after us and made one of the fastest passages on record to the metropolis. On the following Monday, nomination day, I was declared duly elected with all the usual formalities, and rather an unusual number of glasses of grog, and that is how, gentle reader, I became Member for Marshboro'.

CANADIAN ARCHIVES.

By HENRY H. MILES, D.C.L., L.L.D., Author of The History of Canada.

AMONG the earlier inventions for recording facts, we might mention writing, or, rather, *engraving*, on the surface of various solid substances, such as stone tablets, tables of lead, copper, bronze, brass, wood, ivory, and thin sheets of wax. We read in Scripture of "the law of God written on tables of stone," and in Grecian and Roman History, of laws, orations and chronicles, engraved on plates of bronze and brass. Disraeli speaks of an Icelandic historian, who built a large wooden house, on the walls and spars of which "he scratched" the annals "of his own and more ancient times;" also, of another sage or