

giance to the new order of things. It is hard to serve two masters, and it must be extremely hard to live by extravagant flattery and by abject submission. But there is another surprise in store for the reader. For the editor reaches the very climax of all that is wildly ludicrous, when he ranks himself side by side with Dr. Sangster in literature. This is surely the last stretch of national humor, and if put on the boards as a new comedy, it should draw a full house.

In speaking of the new Council, the editor is pleased to say that, "From our knowledge we are satisfied that the temper of metal will be found hard and accurate, having few cross grains running through it." This strange sentence is a brain-twister. It is noticeable that when the ingenious editor intends to puzzle the readers he has the faculty of presenting his thoughts in a cabalistic form, so occult that the meaning is beyond human comprehension, and sometimes we are half inclined to accuse the learned editor of playing off some literary artifice upon us, merely for his own amusement.

The editor informs us that Dr. McLaughlin "aspired to" the position. This is simply untrue. It was not until after a requisition, signed by over two-thirds of the electors in the division, was presented to him that he consented to become a candidate, and he had good reasons to "feel justified" in acceding to such a flattering request. The doctor is one of the busy practitioners of West Durham, and is thoroughly in touch with the profession, and if the philosophical editor will examine the records and statutes relating to the duties of

Registrars, he will find, in case of small offices, there is no law, human or Divine, to prevent the holders from engaging in other pursuits. We might here recall the editor's mind to his own position, which is somewhat peculiar and scarcely in accordance with law and order. For instance, he takes office from a corporation of which he is a member, contrary to the statutes governing all Her Majesty's responsible institutions. Think of a member of Parliament or even a municipal councillor holding a contract with their respective corporations. They would at once be expelled for breach of independence. Verily, he straineth at a gnat and swallows a Campbell. The editor might also bear in mind that Dr. Day resigned because the law compelled him to do so, and, further, because there was no division in which he could be elected, in any event. So we see that on all points the gifted editor is grievously mistaken, and the stars in their courses seem to be fighting against him. But, fortunately for him, nine readers out of ten will prefer his inimitable power of pictorial narrative to that other faculty of truthfulness, which, it must be owned, has been sadly neglected. But, it is the old experience over again, that all these sudden and violent conversions have an element of instability in them. Apollyon hates to be fooled, and he is apt to stick to the Neophyte till he gets him into trouble one way or another. And now, without being censorious, we might remind the editor that his own position is somewhat peculiar, and is scarcely in touch with municipal law. For instance, he takes a contract from a corporation, of