

his Lordship goes much further than we ventured to do in our remarks, for there is a manifest difference between merely singing a hymn on a public square and parading the streets with beat of drum and other instruments. His Lordship says (the italics are ours):—

"As well might it be said that Wesley had 'created a disturbance' when he went to preach in Oxford, at Lincoln College, and the undergraduates mobbed him and pelted him with mud. In one sense, no doubt, he had created it, for he went there, and they did not like him; and it might be said in a sense that he had 'headed' the crowd that followed him, but he could not help that, and it was not his fault. So here, the defendants had only 'caused a disturbance' or 'headed a crowd' in that sense and no other, and they ought not to have been convicted. *Singing hymns or shouting 'Hallelujah!' was not 'brawling' and creating a disturbance within the meaning of the law, nor was playing an instrument out of tune an offence against the peace. He sometimes wished it was.* The proceedings of the Salvation Army might not always be such as he might like or approve, but they had their legal rights as other people had, and these rights were not to be interfered with unwarrantably. It was not because the magistrates or some of the inhabitants did not like these proceedings of the Salvation Army that, therefore, they had a right to interfere with them if not against the law. And this was an attempt to strain the law so as to make it operate against practices which were not liked or approved of, but which were not offences against the law. The conviction, therefore, was wrong, and must be set aside."

BUSINESS FAILURES IN CANADA.

The number of failures in the Dominion during the three months ending with September, as reported to Messrs. Dun, Wiman & Co., was as follows:—

	Number.	Liabilities.
1884.....	227	\$4,112,892
1885.....	314	3,439,891
1882.....	166	1,715,982
1881.....	130	787,889
1880.....	130	1,219,763
1879.....	417	6,998,617

Although the liabilities of traders who have failed during the past quarter are larger than in the corresponding period of any preceding year since 1879, the number of insolvents is more than 25 per cent. less than last year. This increase of liabilities has been due to the failure of two or three large firms, as for example that of Fawcett & Co., private bankers, whose liabilities exceeded a million dollars, but compensation in some measure is found in the fact that the assets have more than correspondingly increased. Taking the full period of nine months, the failures in the past six years rank thus:—

	Number.	Liabilities.
1884.....	979	\$14,855,492
1883.....	1,001	11,688,951
1882.....	537	5,832,552
1881.....	479	4,690,747
1880.....	779	6,888,611
1879.....	1,484	24,424,570

SUPREME COURT REPORTS.

To the Editor of the LEGAL NEWS:

SIR,—As the plan announced in the last number of the LEGAL NEWS does not embrace a full report of the Supreme Court decisions, I would suggest that some publication which is not entering into the extension of the LEGAL NEWS should make it a specialty to publish reports of the Supreme Court cases. The reports now published by *authority* are most unsatisfactory, especially for the Province of Quebec. There is not a proportion equal to 10 per cent. of the decisions reported. We have had most important cases, upon the decision of which other actions pending before the provincial courts depend; *Harrington v. Corse* in particular, and after over two years no report has so far seen the light, although repeatedly asked for. The length of the reports published is discouraging for any one. To find out the enunciation of a useful principle of law applicable to another case, is almost impossible in those prolix deliverances. When we read a book, there is a summary of matters and an index somewhere to shorten the labour. In these endless reports you have to go through a mass of useless matters before you find out what you want. And when one judge has explained the facts, why should we be