

regarded as necessary for the due enjoyment of the exhibition, not forgetting the orange peel, which for the benefit of Dogberry would be exceedingly convenient for emphasizing the disapproval of the audience of the liberties taken with Her Majesty's English, notwithstanding the presence of the brace of dictionaries,—but, to be serious, the dignity of the Capital of New Brunswick ought not to be dragged through the mire by such officials and practices as those complained of. The reputation of the Dominion, as well as of the Province, for the estimation in which the liberty of the person is held, are both compromised by outrages of this sort. If in the exercise of a power committed to them the councillors of Fredericton have been guilty of its abuse, the Province has the right to recall the power, and the Province ought to exercise the right. Every unjust claim made, and submitted to, is neither more nor less than an act of robbery, no value being given in exchange, and the Legislature of the Province ought not to allow the present session to pass without removing the disgrace. Restitution may not be easy or possible, but perpetuation of the wrong ought to be at once rendered impossible. If anything more were necessary to expose the iniquity of the practices, it is to be found in the discrimination that grants immunity to lawyers in spite of the sweeping word "Profession," rated at \$10 in the Tariff. Fredericton is the seat of the Supreme Court, and in that way offers a fine opportunity for the parading of the marshal's powers, as the blue bags make their appearance at the station, but the bullying served out to mere suspects, with the threatenings of law and fines, vanish before those who can fight the official with his own weapons, and after the fashion of curs that show their teeth and snarl at such as don't look like fighters, but slink off ignominiously before those who do, this official is very careful to make no ten dollar demands from the legal profession, ready as he may be to play a hectoring role over such as are unused to the use of legal weapons, or the recovery of law costs from defeated opponents.

This discrimination in the application of the law is—bah! disgusting. Away with it, gentlemen, if you have any regard for your reputation for honesty and fair dealing, and for the prosperity of your Capital. That the system has been allowed to continue so long, that pliant tools can be found to execute such unsavory work, is a sad commentary upon the manliness of the age in which we live, and justifies one in believing, that if you will only make it worth his while peculiarly, it is still possible to find a veritable specimen of what Punch calls—"A Nass."

ONE WHO KNOWS.

DECIDING THE QUESTION.

"I have decided that, if I die during the next twenty years, I will leave my family at least two thousand pounds," said George Brush to his friend Arthur Mace, as they walked home one evening after business.

"Oh ho! So you've 'decided' it, have you?" said Arthur, laughing. "Well, I suppose that is all there is to it. While you were about it why didn't you 'decide' to leave them twenty thousand, or a million, for that matter? It would have been just as easy. Why so modest?"

"You think I'm joking," replied George, "but I was never more in earnest in my life. I have not only decided to leave my family that amount if I die, but I have decided to have that amount for myself at the end of twenty years, in clean cash, if I live."

"Good for decision, say I," returned the other. "I have heard and read a good deal about the value of decision of character, but I never heard of its being turned to practical account in that way before. Some sort of magic about it, I suppose. Have you the secret for sale? Couldn't you let me in as a friend, or allow me the trade discount?"

"Go on with your fun, and when you get ready to talk sense I'll tell you the secret for nothing; all that I require is that you believe that I am in earnest, and listen to what I say."

"All right, old fellow; I'm all faith and ears; go on."

"Well," said George, "a friend of mine, with ample means, has made me this offer; if I will pay him one hundred pounds a year for twenty years, he will pay me two thousand pounds."

"Twenty times one hundred is two thousand," said Arthur, interrupting, "I should think he might well afford it. Don't you see he gets the use of your money for nothing?"

"Hear me through before you make any comments, and your comments will be worth more," said George. "If I stop paying any time before the twenty years end, he is to pay me at the end of the time a proportionate part of the £2,000; and if I die any time during the twenty years, the £2,000 is to be paid to my family at once, and all payments on my part to cease. Here is where the decision comes in, for I have accepted his proposition and made the first payment."

"Then he takes the risk of your dying during the next twenty years for the use of your money?"

"That is about what it amounts to."

"I'm blest if it isn't a good lay. You can afford to pay £100 a year to secure the return of £2,000 in twenty years, if you live, when you have the promise of the same amount for your family if you die in the meantime. Who is your friend? Some rich uncle, who wants to see you save your money, I suppose. Why wasn't I born lucky instead of handsome?"

"No, he isn't my uncle; he isn't even a relation; and he will give you the same chance if you want it—and better, for you are a younger man than I am. My friend is the Life Insurance Company, and the 'offer' I have taken is a twenty-year endowment policy. You would never listen while I explained the advantages of life insurance, but this time I was crafty, and caught you with guile."

"Have a cigar," said Arthur, "I have decided to insure."—*London Paper.*

As a result of the decreasing accessibility of pine lumber in the hitherto great lumber-producing States of Michigan and Wisconsin, it seems that energetic men engaged in that trade are not only reaching northward for a fresh hold, but have invaded the South with the requisite capital and machinery, and the axe of the Northern chopper is already heard in the forests of South Eastern Mississippi, where an immense forest of valuable pine exists, which furnishes a superior quality of lumber, and is very easy of access. According to the *Chicago Tribune*, several enterprising gentlemen connected with the lumber trade of the Northwest have commenced work on an extensive scale, employing a large number of men and erecting mills which will soon be running, and can hardly fail to be remunerative, as a brisk demand may be looked for and good prices obtained for the product.

THE FOLLOWING sums have been appropriated for the use of the United States army since 1856:

1856	.....\$ 16,963,160	1870	.....\$ 57,655,675
1857	..... 19,159,150	1871	..... 35,799,991
1858	..... 25,679,121	1872	..... 35,372,157
1859	..... 23,154,720	1873	..... 46,323,133
1860	..... 16,472,202	1874	..... 42,313,927
1861	..... 23,001,530	1875	..... 41,120,645
1862	..... 389,173,662	1876	..... 38,070,888
1863	..... 603,314,411	1877	..... 37,082,735
1864	..... 690,391,048	1878	..... 32,154,147
1865	..... 1,030,690,400	1879	..... 40,425,660
1866	..... 283,154,676	1880	..... 38,116,916
1867	..... 95,224,415	1881	..... 40,466,460
1868	..... 123,246,648	1882	..... 27,000,000
1869	..... 78,501,990		

CIGARS.—The tobacco trade, possibly contains more mysteries than any other in this age of commercial immorality. It is almost as difficult to purchase a good cigar promiscuously in Havana as it is in London; unless you know the right shop to go to you are as likely to buy Whitechapel and Bremen abominations, exported from Europe for the purpose, and put up in the most orthodox "Habana" boxes. In Vera Cruz you may buy cigars for five shillings a hundred, which the vendors for a few cents extra will pack and label with the name of some famous brand. So they will in Porto Plata or San Domingo. So they used in Brazil; but Bahian and other Brazilian cigars have now made their own name, and have established an honorable claim to be considered among the best cheap cigars in the world. It is impossible to get an inexpensive good cigar in Cuba itself; the best brands are never exported, for few people here would care to give half-a-crown or three shillings apiece for their "smokes" which the wealthy Cuban—w—o consumes them soft and green, wrapping them in oiled silk to preserve the flavor—pays on the spot. There is much in a name. Thousands of really excellent weeds are made in England and Germany from good raw tobacco imported for the purpose; but it would never do to offer them for sale as British or German produce. What a charm lies in the words "Vuelta Abajo," to be read on your cigar-boxes! Vuelta Abajo is a small district between Havana and Santiago, consisting of a few acres of land only, now in the possession of two or three of the richest planters in the Island; and probably not an atom of the tobacco—noted for its richness—which is grown there finds its way beyond their own air-tight bladder cigar pouches, or those of their intimate friends.—*Chambers Journal.*

ONE of the most grievous cases which seem possible under the present law governing the relations between debtor and creditor in Ontario, is that of J. P. Thorne, general merchant, of Picton, referred to at length in our issue of the 27th ult. As we before stated, the Montreal creditors decided to protest the judgment obtained by Mr. Hepburn, by which he seized the store goods of Thorne to satisfy the mortgage for \$5,000, which he held on the farm; but to their sorrow they discovered that he also held Mr. Thorne's notes for the amount of the mortgage, and a legal instrument providing that when the notes were paid the farm should revert to Mrs. Thorne, unincumbered. Mr. Hepburn also stated that Thorne had compelled him to promise not to sell the mortgage to his other creditors before allowing him (Hepburn) to get judgment; and it is said that Mr. Allison, who acted as counsel for both Thorne and Hepburn, would not permit the latter to sell out. The result is that Hepburn realizes upon the store goods, Thorne gets back the farm, and the Montreal and other creditors get nothing. Thorne owed about \$12,000, and had stock and book-debts to the value of about \$15,000, and it is said that he need not have stopped at all. This is one way of paying off a mortgage.

We regret to have to record the temporary difficulty of the well-known firm of Emil Poliwka & Co., of this city, importers of and dealers in glues, gelatines, etc. The firm called their creditors together last Monday and showed a statement of liabilities aggregating about \$25,000, with assets of some \$20,000, chiefly in stock, but no action was taken pending inquiry into certain book-accounts and other items of assets. At an adjourned meeting held yesterday afternoon an offer of 20c cash was accepted by those present and the bank interested; and there are fair prospects of a settlement being effected on this basis.