Civic Notabilities

PHRENOLOGICALLY SOUNDED.

No. VI.-F. S. Kirkland, Esq.

No. VII.-R. McKim, Esq., M.P.P.

No. VIII.-J. H. Dowling, Esq., M P.P.

No. IX.-Lieut.-Col. George T. Denison.

Edited by David Edwards.

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Phrenological Soundings of M.P.Ps.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

MAY, 1884.

Civic Aotabilities, Phrenologically Sounded.

No. VI.

F. S. KIRKLAND, ESQ.

The gentleman whom the Church of England prayer book has, up to a recent period, characterized as King Charles the martyr, had, it is said, no reason to complain of his decapitation, because they ax't him whether he would or no; happily it is only such reluctant martyrs to phrenological science as the Hon. A. S. (S.) Hardy, poor Mr. Caldwell, and a few other M.P.Ps. (who sought redress for their decapitation at the hands of Mr. Speaker) who can be said to have uttered any complaint on the subject. It is to be hoped therefore that our American cousin will not be of those who object to our making free with his upper storey. Making due allowance for the obstacle presented in this case, by the presence of an unusual amount of thatch in the hinder part of the head, it may be well to observe that it is that of a typical Yankee; the intellectual portion (necessarily including the perceptive faculties) is good; Mr. K. is decidedly firm; will not suffer from lack of self-esteem, nor will he be oppressed by a too sensitive conscience; he is quick, excitable, and pushing, and fairly fortified with caution; he possesses also good average reasoning power. The pressing demands on the time of American citizens, involved by the pursuit of the dollar, prevent their entertaining any such consideration as that relating to the laws of health; they therefore so far imitate the serpent as to bolt their food whole; fortunately for them, it is not necessary that they should first fascinate it; unfortunately for them, they are largely fascinated by it; hence that condition of body which resulted in our cousin fainting in Court. Mr. Kirkland's lingual organ is the tongue of a ready talker; he will seldom forget faces; he will work persistently for the accomplishment of any object he has in view; will experience no difficulty in effecting a rapid change of tactics; he will be keen in the pursuit of gain, and will be not less ready to spend money. Lastly and best, he will withal distil the crowning grace of kindess.

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R. McKIM, ESQ., M.P.P.

Neither the phrenologist who takes the "soundings" of this series, nor the writer who edits them are likely to be affected by what may happen to be either the partizan judgment of the several members, or the popular judgment, although they are conscious that in publishing certain of the "soundings," they will be found to differ from each of these tribunals. In the person of the member for the West Riding of Wellington, a phrenologist will recognize considerable push-power, with less self-confidence however than characterizes many of the members: great firmness is manifest in this case, as is the power of remembering faces, names and events; the honorable member possesses but small command of language, and will consequently be anything but a fluent speaker. It is more than ordinarily satisfactory, in view of recent events, to observe that this gentleman's faculty of conscientiousness is good, and it borders on the laughable to add that his acquisitiveness is small in comparison with that of most of his legislative neighbors. Kindliness constitutes a marked feature of his character, but he is somewhat impatient when things run counter to his expectation, and consequently will not persevere as others would, in corresponding circumstances.

As the foregoing characteristics are not such as command either success or admiration, it is easy to understand why scandalmongers make light of this gentleman's reputation at the

present time.

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No. VIII.

J. H. DOWLING, ESQ., M.P.P.

In view of "the (recent) course of human events" in connexion with the legislature of Ontario, the writer deems it desirable to observe that the "sounding" of the member for the South Riding of Renfrew (in common with those of the other members who have lately been sounded in another fashion) was taken prior to the disclosure of the financial sounding of those mem-Had the financial operators but acquainted themselves with the "phrenological soundings" they would have been spared the ignominy which attaches to their proceedings, for among the other characteristics of the gentleman in question they would have perceived that he is a man of principle, and that his title to be regarded as honorable is conferred by nature regardless of what courtsey may extend to him. To read however, as the editor does, from the notes he edits, that Doctor Dowling possesses "very greatly the faculty of using words to conceal ideas" sounds very like a case of fulfilled prophecy. Were the Rev. Barnum Wild to produce anything akin to this, one might be disposed to believe in him. We find the plummet representing this twice honorable member to be keen, energetic, and (as is wont to be the case with M.Ps.) pushing to boot; although determined he is not quarrelsome, but he will contend for a principle or for an idea, if he is sufficiently interested in either so to do; he will also be thoroughgoing in whatever he may undertake. Dr. Dowling is of a cosmopolitan disposition, and will make himself at home in any latitude or longitude; rural or civic practice would be equally suitable for him. As he is somewhat deficient in force and in constructiveness, he will succeed better as a physician than as a surgeon, if he should prove so exceptional as to be willing to learn. The doctor is not defective in regard to that aid to politicians—self-esteem; his natural suspiciousness may likewise come to his aid in his capacity of M.P.P.; he is somewhat too deficient in secretiveness to meet the requirements of a people's representative, hence he will be apt to "use great freedom of speech."

No. IX.

LIEUT.-COL. GEORGE T. DENISON.

One is not without a suspicion that Mr. Mowat must have taken counsel with a phrenologist prior to offering Col. Denison the position of Police Magistrate of this city; the ground for that suspicion will be perceived on perusal of the subjoined "sounding." The Colonel's perceptive faculties, his power of comparison, and his capacity to judge character, are exactly such as his position may be said to demand: his organ of self-esteem will cause him to sustain the position becomingly; he is patriotic, benevolent and firm; he is orderly and systematic; although his organ of veneration is large he is not credulous; he has a good memory, so that when Her Majesty's boarders are from time to time presented at his Court, he will recollect the countenance of each; he can also remember dates; his memory for names is better than that of most men. Colonel D. is not lacking in combativeness and destructiveness; he is also fairly off for acquisitiveness; he is persistent, and will know how to connect cause and effect. Although secretive, he is so exceptional as, notwithstanding this circumstance, to possess good conversational powers; he is probably never so happy as when realizing the attractions of his "sweet home;" his keen sense of mirth will account for his appreciating such incitements to merriment as occur from time to time in the "phrenological soundings."

Phrenology is one of the sciences which has not been

dreamed of in the philosophy of Minister Macpherson.