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# Civic Notabilities

PHRENOLOGICALLY SOUNDED.

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No. X.—Arthur R. Boswell, Esq.

No. XI.—Mr. Alderman Love.

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Edited by David Edwards,

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**Phrenological Soundings of M.P.Ps.**

BY THE SAME EDITOR.

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1884.

## Civic Notabilities, Phrenologically Sounded.

No. X.

ARTHUR R. BOSWELL, ESQ.,

*Mayor.*

The consequences of the electors of Toronto having followed party—instead of scientific—guidance in the election of their chief magistrate, are strikingly illustrated in the present holder of the office. This gentleman's ancestors doubtless played the part of *bos well*, but that is more than the cerebral development of their descendant would warrant any one acquainted with phrenology expecting from His Worship. None but a phrenologist would regard the faculty of self-esteem as a redeeming feature in a man's character, but it does so happen that in the absence of a conscience, such organs as self-esteem and love of approbation may practically do duty instead; so that in cases where the conscience of some men would influence their actions, and prevent their inflicting a wrong on others, self esteem, or love of approbation, in other cases, would act as a bridle to prevent wrong being inflicted; it wouldn't pay to do the wrong.

The *semi*-centennial has found us in such a condition of semi-barbarism that the unthinking mass of the enfranchised are, for the most part, the mere tools of political tricksters; by the arrival of *the centennial*, "the great unwashed" may possibly have learned to think, in which case, we apprehend, they will think twice before they elect Boswell the second. At present we may regard ourselves as living in an era of fox-rule. To return however, to the direct consideration of Mr. Boswell's mental qualities, it is due to that gentleman to state that his perceptive faculties are his mainstay; his reflectives, on the contrary, are below the average; it can scarcely be necessary to observe how such conditions would operate, should he, by the aid of popular ignorance, push his way to a judicial bench. Whenever he may preside over such athletic exercises as those which characterize "The Woodbine," he will probably figure to advantage. Such organs as are shared by men and animals in common are well developed in the case of Mr. B. His faculty of acquisitiveness is

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large, and his firmness is closely related to obstinacy. As this gentleman's perceptive faculties are those which will principally guide his judgment, he will be prone to be ensnared by any plausible scheme for making money, and his defective reasoning powers will prevent his perceiving the weak points in any such project. That character of "order" which applies to physical matters, and to routine, is well developed in Mr. Boswell's case, but it would not necessarily ascend to the region of the intellectual; his constructiveness is small, and lacks originality. It may possibly be a satisfaction to taxpayers to learn that he is unlikely to gush with benevolence; and as mankind is wont to lavish its praise on those who take care of themselves, it is more than probable that Mr. B. will find himself habitually rewarded by a large amount of commendation. It is to be hoped, in the interest of His Worship, that the likeness we present of him may be pronounced as incorrect as the supposed similitude on the semi-centennial badge; we will conclude the sketch by observing that from a phrenological standpoint, he has been compared to a house, tolerably well furnished in the basement, but not so in the upper storeys, with the single exception of a back attic, which, if the principal articles therein were mirrors, would necessarily minister to self-admiration.

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No. XI.

MR. ALDERMAN LOVE.

The pleasure of delineating a gentleman of the calibre of Mr. Love is one of the rewards of an editor. Bad as things are in our civil polity, it sometimes happens that men occupy an elected position who are qualified to discharge the duties thereof, and the subjoined "sounding" will sufficiently indicate that to be so, in the case of this representative of St. James' Ward. Alderman Love's intellectual faculties are of an exceptionally high order, and as it is our province to treat of facts which admit of easy verification, we need not hesitate to affirm (what experience will have convinced many) that his perceptive and reflective powers are alike good; he will cleave to the right for its own sake, and will take a comprehensive view of whatever subject may be presented to his notice. Mr. Love is therefore competent to examine a subject from many points of view, and will readily detect a flaw in an argument. He is logical, judicious, conscientious, and benevolent. His acquisitiveness is below the average; in so far, therefore, as he may desire self-aggrandizement, that desire will be subject to the control of reason and conscience. The alderman's faculty of caution is such as to

remind us of his Caledonian origin ; he is unlikely to be reckless in expenditure, and is eminently conservative in matters financial. His power to discern character is such as few possess ; it enables him also to perceive men's motives. This gentleman possesses a considerable faculty of agreeableness ; he also appreciates wit and sarcasm—not the less when applied to opponents. The un-aldermanic faculty of ideality is large in the case of Mr. Love ; so that while the average alderman will be more or less engrossed by the pursuit of "pickings," Mr. L. will find no slight enjoyment in the contemplation of the charms of nature and of art ; a rare and beautiful flower would be apt to give him as much pleasure in beholding it, as a prospective job emanating from the property committee would confer on an alderman of a more mundane temperament. As it is to be hoped that this "worthy" alderman's blushing days are over, we must conclude this "sounding" of him by observing that he will be true to any trust reposed in him, faithful to friends, and just to opponents ; if he should live to see the day when electors may select their representatives, instead of allowing aspirants to office modestly to advocate their own claims, or to be nominated by a party clique, it is possible (if they become adequately informed meanwhile) that they will select such gentlemen as Mr. Love for positions of honor and usefulness.