

Public Representatives.

No. 3. The introduction of machinery in the place of manual labor has produced a large number of accomplished machinists and mechanical engineers; the introduction of new branches of study in our schools and colleges has produced a large number of scholars with varied acquirements; and the result of an increased supply of skillful and accomplished members of society has been not only the dissemination of knowledge, but also, as the natural consequence of mental and intellectual competition, the creation of new paths of study, which, in their turn, demand a further supply of laborers. Thus has the world been progressing; and so we find to-day, that although our most learned and most talented men do not rank with all their predecessors, in the same class, of other ages, yet our general education is before that of any other period in the world's history.

It is therefore self-evident that the governing and legislative bodies for any civilized modern community should be mentally and intellectually in advance of their subjects, and should be proportionately in advance of those whom they represent. We therefore naturally expect our leading representatives to be possessed of at least a thoroughly respectable degree of culture. We do not wish to be understood as hinting that all our towns and country members, of either branch, in this Province, should be deeply versed in classical literature or fully conversant with mathematics and the modern languages; and, lest those gentlemen should fancy such tasks we beg to state that we do not expect Mr. Ryan to publish a translation of the Iliad or Mr. Lindsay to write a treatise on the quadrature of the circle or on French and Italian idioms. We do not expect to find Derby and Dorel in small British American Colonies; nor indeed should we wish our leading politicians to devote themselves to such pleasurable tasks, when the country requires their services in so many departments outside of literature. We will not even go so far as to say that what is technically called a liberal education is entirely essential for all public men; we do not think it is, and we can say at the present time that there are men sitting in our legislative halls, unable to construe, spell or pronounce their own language, and yet nothing whatever of Latin, whose shrewdness, capacity and experience of business render them invaluable for promoting and assisting large and useful enterprises.

Every one of our members, however, should be possessed of a good knowledge of History, both ancient and modern, for history is simply the record of what has been done by politicians, whether irreproachable autocrats or members of deliberative assemblies; and no man can pretend to be a politician unless he is conversant with the experiments of other legislators and their results. It is of course impossible to state in precise terms the qualifications which should be possessed by representative men for this Province, and in our present undeveloped and transition state it would be foolish to attempt to establish too high a standard. In fact, in many districts through the country it is absolutely necessary to select uneducated men, but we do not suffer much under similar disabilities in the thickly populated counties and in the cities, and it seems almost absurd for men such as the bulk of our representatives have generally been, to attempt to deal with great questions of education and other matters of a similarly weighty import.

As an instance of the result of being represented by men of limited education, we may call attention to the lamentable condition of our Acts of Assembly which, since the codification in 1854, has become worse and worse; and it would almost seem as though one half the litigation of the Province is owing to obscure, contradictory, inconsistent and insufficient expressions in our Acts. Indeed, scarcely a single session passes that our Legislature is not largely engaged in passing amendments in amendment or explaining enactments of those passed in previous years, and there are many instances where an important Act has been of no avail from one session to another on account of some fatal deficiency. Blunders of this kind are too common to be ascribed to mere carelessness, and the only conclusions at which we can arrive are either that we have not that amount of culture in our legislative body to enable them to express their meaning clearly and unambiguously, or that our bar is before that of other colonies in the power of detecting minute faults. Our own opinion is that the former of those two solutions will be found correct.

We may also call attention to the appointments which have been made in the Educational Department, but more especially in the University Senate; and we dare any one to assert that past or present governments have manifested anything but the grossest ignorance of the true qualifications which should be possessed by those selected for important situations. It is, indeed, difficult to refer to the history of old King's College and its never-faded phoenix-like offspring, the University, without a feeling of indignation and disgust. Never did so-called legislators present a more wretched picture of ignorance of Collegiate and Academic systems—never did men, ridiculing the demands for education, exhibit more pitiable examples of the want of education than in the doctored and now in the Government which so grudgingly gave place to its own Alma Mater, we trace a symptom of the same degeneration which in 1861 induced the appointment of a Dr. Hies to the Presidential Chair of the oldest educational establishment in the Province.

The Label Suit.

A COURT ROOM SUIT. The old Court Room walls have rarely witnessed a more quietly imposing or impressive scene than the closing up of the now famous Forbes-Anglin libel suit yesterday evening. The deep interest taken in the case by nearly all classes on account of the importance of the issues at stake and the peculiar position of the two principals in the affair, attracted a larger than ordinary crowd of listeners. No more eagerly did the Bar on the plea of the Honourable the Chief Justice, the Hon. Mr. Justice Ritchie, than did the public listen to Chief Justice Ritchie as he enunciated the rights of the Press, the individual, and the people at large. Some four or five days has the trial been going on, and no quieter legal contest, no violent contentions of counsel, no greater display of legal lore and no greater clamour of freedom from wrangling has been witnessed in our Courts of Justice for a long period. The idea having gone abroad that the acts of the Common Council would be freely, if not severely criticized, by the Chief Justice, the Court Room was early crowded to excess. The Common Council, the Sessions and the Bar were largely represented. Members of the Local Legislature, there looking pleased at the distant day to which the meeting of that derided body has been postponed. Members of the Dominion Parliament and members in prospect therealred their way in and out, smiling benignantly on their voting friends. Young men, half-dressed, leaning on their lately-fledged privileges, boisterously and with that air of dignity that doth become a King, pushed their way to the centre of the Court Room through the tightly-wedged masses. But the members of the Common Council were strangely few and far between. Alderman Maher was up in the seats reserved for Judges, Justices, and Aldermen, with a visible smile prominently fixed on his bland countenance. Alderman Glasgow did not look as if he felt at ease, particularly when the Chief Justice intimated that he could not wrongfully be accused of doing wrong on a certain occasion. It was thought that the adage, "catch a weasel sleeping," might, with justice, be applied to the volatile Alderman, but he did not seem to be in the least intimidated by the charge. Near Alderman Maher, and gratefully stroking his moustache, was ex-Alderman Godding, looking down from his seat and calculating by what majority he would be elected Mayor in April. The imposing features of the Clerk of the Circuit, elevated above the surrounding throng, displayed a varied play of countenance, as he thought of the opportunity that brought to the prominent actors in the drama, then being enacted. Charles Duff, the eloquent Counsel for the Defence, sat apparently quite satisfied, expecting a verdict more from the justice of his cause than by his own magnificent appeal to the jury; while Charles W. Weldon, apparently astonished at the ability of the speech he was capable of making when aroused, was only inwardly upbraiding the law merits in his case that he could refer to. Alderman Littlehale, from the West Side, sat as if he would have liked to have had all the officials of the Ferry Boat under his heel for a short time, and coolly calm dignified as Alderman McDougal in the body of the Court looking pleased at the enormous heap upon his head by the Chief Justice. Justice Nowlin looked with dignified disapproval at the look of newly-appointed Magistrates who stood away out near the door, as if afraid to insist upon their rights and more up to the Justice's seat. The Plaintiff moved about uneasily, and the Defendant wore a look of anxious apprehension; while from the grave faces of the Jury it was evident that all personal feeling had given way to the fact that the cause alone would receive consideration, and that trial by jury was even yet all the Chief Justice desired for it, as being the foundation and the bulwark of our rights and liberties. The verdict for the defendant was, under the circumstances, the law, the evidence, the charge to the Jury, and the opinion of the public, about the only one that could have been given. This verdict establishes once more the right of the Press to exercise the freest and most fearless criticism of the public acts of public men, and will be received everywhere with the same satisfaction with which it was greeted in the Court Room yesterday.

The Dominion Militia Cup.

The magnificent cup presented by Sir Peter Tait, M. P., to the Militia of the Dominion of Canada, was on exhibition at the office of the Minister of Militia, Ottawa, the other afternoon, after which it was sent to the Privy Council Chamber to be viewed by His Excellency the Governor General. Subsequently it was again exhibited in the office of Sir John Cartier, for the benefit of those members of the press who desired to see it, before being sent to the keeping of Lieut. Governor Howland.

It is of silver, and in design and delicacy of finish and workmanship certainly surpasses anything ever seen in this country. It was purchased at a cost of one hundred guineas, and is in the shape of an urn on a pedestal, with two handles. The height of the article is 2 ft. 9 in., and the width at the arms 1 foot 9 inches. On each of the four corners of the pedestal is a most exquisitely finished relief of a Hindu man in full uniform in the position of standing at ease, with the rifle leaning against the shoulder. On one side of the pedestal is a beautifully executed embossed coat of arms raised and delicately finished. Upon the opposite of the stand is a blank space for the purpose of recording by engraving each year's victory. The first and only inscription at present is that won by Captain McClellan at the battle of Vimy, on the 22nd of August, 1878. The inscription is as follows: "In commemoration of the victory of Lieut. Col. Skinner and his team to Vimy, Ontario, 1871. Presented by Sir Peter Tait, M. P., to the Militia of the Dominion of Canada, to be shot for annually by members from any Corps of Militia in the Dominion, at distances of 300, 500, and 600 yards; six shots at each range; and to remain in the custody of the Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Ontario, and to be competed for the time being, to be competed for the Province winning it." The arms of the urn are richly and tastefully ornamented, and the whole is surrounded by the Canadian national emblem, the beaver, richly wrought in silver. The whole constitutes a most magnificent prize, and will stimulate to great exertion in order to secure so rich and honorable a prize.—(Ottawa Free Press.)

LOCALS.

Two Lads. The warning of St. John THURSDAY came too late. Ottawa has now her scorp kitchen in running order.—(Ottawa Free Press.)

Ocean Steamers. The Steamers "North American" (which sailed from Liverpool 31st ult.) and "Marian" (30th ult.) put into Saint John's Newfoundland, 10th instant, for coal-baling experienced very heavy weather.

Entertainments, Meetings, etc., this Evening. Mr. Boyd reads in Carleton, in connection with the Presbyterian Course of Lectures. Mr. B. always "draws."

The Shooting Affair, in the Police Court. CONTINUATION OF THE EVIDENCE. The Whitman-Isaac shooting case was resumed this morning before Justice Gilbert at the City Police Court.

LEGAL TENDER ACTS. Chief Justice Chase delivered a dissenting opinion for himself and Justices Field, Clifford and Nelson.

AN INDICTION AGAINST STOKES. The Grand Jury of Oyer and Terminer Court, concluding that they are AN ILLEGAL BODY, have applied to Judge Ingraham for discharge. They were counselled to finish the business on hand and not commence new work.

THE TICHBORNE CASE was resumed to-day. Sir Jas. Duke Coleridge opened for the defence. He said that the testimony they proposed to offer would show the claimant to be a conspirator, perjurer and forger; in fact, a common impostor and villain, and that Baigent and Carter, accomplices, were unscrupulous rogues and concoctors of this stupendous imposture.

THE ITALIAN PARLIAMENT reassembles to-morrow. The Imperial Japanese Embassy numbering 105 persons, arrived at San Francisco to-day, comprising persons of highest rank ever sent abroad.

FIVE JAPANESE PRINCESSES go to Yassu College. A fire at Roshivara, Japan, burned 400 houses and 80 persons; caused by kerosene. Political troubles continue in New Orleans.

Matters in Ontario. INTERESTING FACTS AND OCCURRENCES. Some of our Ontario Special Despatches have reached us too late for publication on the day intended. They contain some interesting news items, however, which are still supplied in advance of the mails. We quote: A Convention of Reformers at Brockville, on Friday, chose Lieutenant Colonel Haell candidate to contest South Leeds at next election for the House of Commons.

THE INDEPENDENT WAR PROGRESS in the States. The following despatch appears in the Boston papers of Saturday: "Alexander Delmar's paper, the City of Brooklyn, of to-day, brings to light an alleged extraordinary financial transaction affecting the Liverpool, London and Globe Insurance Company. It charges that through financial manipulation the managers have pledged \$5,000,000 of assets in trust to secure to themselves \$300,000 per annum interest, and that the former measure sum is advertised falsely as among the company's assets. The article creates a sensation in insurance circles."

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The Whittman-Isaac shooting case was resumed this morning before Justice Gilbert at the City Police Court. DONALD McDONALD was the first witness sworn. He was in the office of the hotel at the time; did not see the firing, but a quarter of an hour afterwards went into the dining room and picked up two bullets, which he gave to the Chief of Police.

James H. McAvity & Sons, saw the prisoner, Isaac, on Friday last. He bought a small sized pistol from Mr. Don't know that the one in Mr. Gutterie's possession is the one. Don't know whether he was drunk most of the time. He generally quarrelled with small men when he was drunk.

On Friday evening in the "Waverly," on Friday evening Isaac, at about 6 o'clock, waited on Isaac at the table. He was very civil to me. He was there about a minute, when Whitman called to me "to fetch a screen to place between him and the prisoner," "that he could not see or rely anything before a sinner or Jew crusader. Isaac then got up and said to Whitman, you are no gentleman, at the same time placing his hand behind his pocket, saying, "you have insulted me, this afternoon and said, you are a damned coward, and a prisoner then got up, placing his hand in the same position he did at first. Mr. McShane caught him. He tried to get away from them. Just before he got away from the table Whitman got away from McShane and DeWolfe, just as Whitman got to the end of the table."

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BY TELEGRAPH.

British and Foreign.

(Special Telegrams to the Daily Tribune.)

PARIS, Jan. 15. The Assembly to-day resumed discussion of taxes. President Thiers addressed the Assembly, and, alluding to THE TREATIES OF 1870, characterized them as fatal to the true interests of France, detestable and intolerable.

THE REDS are becoming active in Lyons, and the authorities are exercising more than usual vigilance to prevent an outbreak. MITRAILLEUSES have been seized in the house of a carpenter at Bourdeaux.

VIENNA, Jan. 15. Both houses of Reichsrath have adopted, without amendment, AN ADDRESS TO THE CROWN, calling its attention to the manifest increase of discontent among the subjects of the various portions of the Empire, arising from recent misgovernment, and particularly opposing an increase of taxation for military purposes.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 15. In the Supreme Court, Associate Justice Strong delivered the opinion of the Court affirming the constitutionality of the LEGAL TENDER ACTS of Congress, Justices Swain, Davis, Miller and Bradley concurring.

Chief Justice Chase delivered a dissenting opinion for himself and Justices Field, Clifford and Nelson. Judge Nelson was absent. New York, Jan. 16. The Grand Jury in Oyer and Terminer Court brought in yesterday morning AN INDICTION AGAINST STOKES as the murderer of James Fisk Jr. He will be arraigned to-day. The Grand Jury of Oyer and Terminer Court, concluding that they are AN ILLEGAL BODY, have applied to Judge Ingraham for discharge. They were counselled to finish the business on hand and not commence new work.

It is reported that the same Grand Jury have decided not to continue the investigation into charges against Judge Barnard, which will stand over for the next Grand Jury. SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 15. Steamer America, from China and Japan, has arrived, and brings an IMPERIAL JAPANESE EMBASSY, consisting of Takuma, Prime Minister of Japan and Envoy Extraordinary to the Treaty power; Kedo, a member of the Imperial Privy Council and Assistant Ambassador; Akaba, Chief Minister of Finance and Assistant Ambassador; Ito, Ambassador of Second Rank; Hama Guchi, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs and Ambassador of the Second Rank.

LONDON, Jan. 15. The hearing of THE TICHBORNE CASE was resumed to-day. Sir Jas. Duke Coleridge opened for the defence. He said that the testimony they proposed to offer would show the claimant to be a conspirator, perjurer and forger; in fact, a common impostor and villain, and that Baigent and Carter, accomplices, were unscrupulous rogues and concoctors of this stupendous imposture.

The distinguished counsel read a number of letters showing that the real Sir Roger Tichborne was a refined gentleman; in point of fact, the very opposite of the claimant; and announced that he would call among the witnesses for the defence a nobleman who had tutored the genuine Sir Roger, and would also produce Madam Radcliffe, who would swear to the effect that the claimant told a falsehood in respect to those charges which affected her life.

The brief despatch to the Associated Press contains the following additional items:—] LONDON, Jan. 15. A STRIKE occurred to-day among the compositors of Stuttgart, and workmen of Charleroi, for higher wages and a reduction of hours of labor.

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uttering a piercing shriek and falling into a ditch, the Agent drove away. John Brown, a boat-keeper and Division Court Bailiff, hanged himself yesterday (Friday). Supposed cause—intemperance. At the Episcopal Methodist Burying Ground of Marine, near Napusau, on Tuesday night, the grave stones of Elizabeth Gardner and the Scotch Granite monument of Mrs. Jas. Gardner, which cost \$500, were battered to pieces by some person unknown.

The pigeon match, between Bagnards, of Chicago, and Payne, of New York, which was prevented near New York a few days ago, by the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, came off on Friday, at Fort Erie—100 birds each; Bagnards hit 66; Payne, 60. At a meeting of the Toronto Volunteer Relief Fund Committee, on Saturday, the Secretary reported a balance on hand of \$3,892. This it was decided, to distribute pro rata among the subscribers. George Sayers fell into a tank of hot water in Bell's Organ Factory, Guelph, on Saturday; he was scalded from the arms, pits downwards. Small hopes of his recovery. Taylor's Oil Refinery, at Wyoming, with 500 bbls. of oil it contained, was destroyed by fire on Saturday morning. Loss, \$15,000; no insurance.

(By Special Telegram To-day.) Travis, convicted of murder last week, has had the execution of his sentence postponed till 23rd Feb. Sheard was re-elected Mayor of Toronto, yesterday. A man, two women and two children were burned to death on Sunday morning in a house at Bradford. Sir John A. McDonald is expected in Toronto this week. A despatch from Fort Garry says, that Petitions for the reprieve of the Fenian Letendres, have been sent to Ottawa. There is still a serious division in the Manitoba Cabinet, and a prospect of their defeat on the opening of the house. The Provincial Treasurer will not accept a Dominion Senatorship till he sees his government will be sustained.

St. John's, Jan. 15. A buffalo robe stolen from his sleigh in the yard of Boston's stable last evening. City Police Court. Margaret Shea, 30, N. B., drunk; \$6 or two months gaol. Farm by Auction. This morning, at Chubb's Corner, Mr. P. O. Walsford sold at auction a piece of farm land, comprising 70 acres, situated on Long Island, Kennebecas, for \$400, Chas. E. Whitaker, Esq., being the purchaser.

A Powder-House Blown Up. ONE MAN KILLED AND SEVERAL WOUNDED. ROCKLAND, Jan. 13. About 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon a powder-house at the granite quarry near Cedar Point, Vinal Haven, was accidentally blown up, killing one of the quarrymen and severely wounding several others who were near at hand. The particulars of the accident, as near as can be ascertained from the survivors, were as follows:— A blast had been prepared in the ledge, the hole heavily charged and the fuse lighted, when, as customary, the men at work in the vicinity, six or seven in number, ran up some distance back of the powder house, which stood near the quarry, to be out of the way of the flying fragments. The charge exploded as usual, and the men were returning to their work, when another loud explosion close at hand was heard, and an instant afterwards the whole contents of the powder-house—thirty two kegs of blasting powder—blew up with a tremendous shock. The fragments of the building were thrown hundreds of yards in every direction, ponderous blocks of granite were hurled into the air like feathers before the wind; tools, boards and other articles lying on the ground within a long distance of the spot, disappeared like a flash, and the ledge where the house stood was swept as bare as with a broom. The men were thrown down and pished and rolled hither for a long distance, bruised and battered by contact with the rocks and the shower of heavy missiles which a moment after the explosion rained down upon them, their clothing torn and burned nearly off their bodies, and their skin scorched and blackened by the fiery blast. It was some time before any of them were able to ascertain the extent of the disaster, when those who could wend to the aid of their companions more severely injured. One man, named Bryan, lay dead, the upper part of his skull blown completely away, and his brain scattered in every direction. Mr. Austin Mink, overseer at the quarry, was thrown many feet by the explosion, receiving, besides numerous cuts and bruises, internal injuries which it is thought will prove fatal. Another man was shockingly hurt, and the recovery is doubtful; the others still live, but most of them will carry marks of the accident with them all their lives.

The cause of the disaster was the carelessness of the workmen, who left the can of powder out of which they charged the keg, standing outside the powder-house, and it is supposed that a fire was communicated to this by a bit of burning fuse from the blast. The explosion of the can communicated fire to the powder in the house, which blew up as above stated. FIENDS ATTEMPT TO BLOW UP A POWDER-HOUSE IN ROCKLAND! ROCKLAND, Jan. 13. An attempt was made last night to blow up the powder-house of Messrs. Bird & Co., near Blackington's Corner, in this city. A keg of powder was taken from the house and carried across the road, and a fuse was attached to this and another fuse led from the keg to the powder house. The keg of powder was exploded, but fortunately the explosion did not extend further. The powder-house contained more than 100 kegs of powder, and had it blown up the results would have been most disastrous.

