
Civic Notabilities

PHRENOLOGICALLY SOUNDED.

No. III.—Christopher W. Bunting, Esq.

No. IV.—Edward Meek, Esq.

No V—J. A. Wilkinson, Esq.

Edited by David Edwards.

Sold at No. 12 Queen Street West, and by all Booksellers.

Price, in Single Sheets, Five Cents.

Phrenological Soundings of M.P.Ps.

BY THE SAME AUTHOR.

APRIL, 1884.

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No. III.

CHRISTOPHER W. BUNTING, ESQ.

The province of science is two-fold—that of acquiring and disseminating knowledge ; it would therefore be superfluous to promulge what everybody knows ; but inasmuch as everyone does not know that Mr. Bunting was intended by nature for great things, it behoves us to disclose the fact. "What great things?" will be the natural enquiry, and our reply will necessarily be—"great commercial undertakings ;" his sanguine temperament will stimulate him to attempt great things, and he will be more successful in commercial enterprises, than he will be either as a writer or as a public speaker. Secretiveness, in the case of Mr. B., is not accompanied by corresponding caution; this might be expected (apart from the consideration of recent disclosures) to result in this gentleman desiring to compass his ends secretly, but failing in execution. As society is seldom at a loss for cynics, with much wisdom to spare, we will anticipate the objection to the foregoing remark, that it is made in the light of history ; to this we reply by challenging the examination of any competent phrenologist.

They whose proclivities lead them to peruse the *Mail* will hardly be surprised to learn that Mr. Bunting's faculty of combativeness is in a vigorous condition. The part of *despot* would repose so serenely on the shoulders of this gentleman that in the event of his aspiring (like one of his subordinates) to dramatical distinction, we would guarantee him heaps of bouquets, *unaccompanied by a cabbage*. Nature intended this second Samson for a *grinder*, and now that he has fallen among the Philistines, there would appear to be some probability of their finding employment for him of this character. The gentleman is endowed with a good memory for events, so that we may be assured that the 8th inst. is a date unlikely to be forgotten by him. In whatever direction he may fail, it will not be in the neglect of that primary duty of charity, regard for the interest of Christopher. Had he lived in the days of Nebuchadnezzar, he would have gone in for

universal empire, and would have converted the image into currency ; it is perhaps superfluous to observe that he would have transferred *the head, the breast and arms* of the image to his own immediate care, and probably—as in harmony with his imperial policy—would have left the lower portion to his retainers. Suspicious though he be, we trust he will not suspect us of undue leniency in our estimate of him, and it is satisfactory to know that his sensitiveness is not of a character to be distressed by it. They who are in his employ will be able to test the accuracy of our “sounding” in this case, when we affirm that he is systematic and orderly, firm, determined, positive, and severe ; that he is not *always* agreeable ; and that he is a pretty good judge of character ; others have reason to know that he possesses *constructive ability*, but it does not necessarily follow, we presume, that that which he constructs may not occasionally be the result of *misconstruction* ; he believes in that kind of investment which yields good returns ; his faculty of continuity is not large, a circumstance this which would render the restriction of his liberty, should such an event overtake him, the more irksome.

As we perceive that this gentleman's first name, when translated, means *Christ-bearing*, and that the bit of bunting which floats above the *Mail* building sustains the sign of the cross, we will assume that godliness, to correspond with these outward and visible signs, pervades the whole building over which he presides.

No. IV.

EDWARD MEEK, ESQ.

The fates would appear to be occasionally ironical in the bestowal of men's names, but without waiting to discuss whether, in the present case, it be so, we may content ourselves with observing that if the dove may be regarded as perpetually brooding over Mr. Meek, another creature, as proverbial for wisdom as is the dove for meekness, may presumably be found blended with the bird, in perennial association. Viewed in the light of recent events, the “sounding” of the above-named gentleman may be regarded as possessing sufficient interest to warrant one giving it a place in this series ; such features of it as have any bearing on those events may be briefly stated ; foremost among them occurs the faculty of secretiveness, which may be regarded as illustrating one aspect of the wisdom of the reptile above referred to ; *policy* may be said to result from the combination of secretiveness with caution ; secretiveness will lead to the devising of schemes, and caution will watch against their disclosure (it will not necessarily always succeed in its watching). This

gentleman will be pugnacious when he deems it safe so to be ; he is more credulous than is his robust client, and will consequently be more easily imposed on. He is persevering, and sufficiently sharp for the ordinary requirements of his profession ; a fair reasoner, and tolerably loquacious ; although he may be a martyr for his party, there is no likelihood of his suffering for his country. He would require all the help that his faculty of *hope* could afford, on the memorable 8th, and it is to be feared that that day would furnish but limited scope for the exercise of his *merriment* ; in weal or woe, there is no prospect of his *forgetting* that day, and as his client and himself were conscious that their respective "sounding" was being taken in Court, we think we may flatter ourselves that their faculty *for remembering faces* would prevent their forgetting what "manner of men" we are. So few of our race are to be complained of, on the score of lacking self-esteem, that it may possibly be a matter of congratulation that we recognize a deficiency in that portion of the organ in this case which, when fully developed, confers dignity on its possessor.

No. V.

J. A. WILKINSON, ESQ.

As Mr. Wilkinson may be regarded as sufficiently *naturalized*, to be deemed a citizen of Toronto, we take the liberty to "sound" him accordingly. He possesses the qualities which would render any man a suitable agent for such a government as that of Sir John A. Macdonald. His estimate of men is so far in accordance with the principles which have always actuated his chief, that he believes every man has his price. He is abundantly energetic, and at the same time secretive ; he reaches conclusions rapidly, and so far resembles his chief as to remember faces with ease ; he does not so readily remember names ; he will accumulate facts easily, but will not necessarily deal with them logically ; he is firm, sanguine, and benevolent, and we must add—what would probably not be expected—that his organ of acquisitiveness does not indicate the greed of gold which is manifest in one of his associates. The order in which he will regard the following claimants on his affections is that in which we present them—Country—Party (or Leader)—Children—Self.