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# Phrenological Soundings

OF M.P.P.S.

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No. XX.—J. H. Metcalf, Esq.

No. XXI.—W. C. Caldwell, Esq.

No. XXII, A. Broder, Esq.

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Edited By David Edwards.

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## Phrenological Soundings of M. P. Ps.

No. XX.

J. H. METCALFE, ESQ,

It is necessarily a satisfaction to a phrenologist, when reducing his knowledge to practice, to be conscious that they who have become the subjects of his scrutiny are not (in several instances) unacquainted with the science of phrenology. It has transpired, while taking the present series of "soundings," that several of the members had been examined previously, some have (unlike a certain medical member) studied the subject, and one has been examined twice by the same professor; an interval of sixteen years elapsed between the examinations; the professor was not conscious of having examined the gentleman previously, but gave a description in the second instance closely resembling that of the former. The member for Kingston is naturally a good judge of character, and as he is more conversant with the science of phrenology than are the other members, he must possess a fund of ceaseless amusement, as he watches the marionettes on the stage of life, speaking and acting in accordance with their organization. He is one who will quietly make his way, without appearing to push, for he is self-reliant, energetic, keen, and resolute; he is unlikely to be deterred in his course by the sentiments of Mrs. Grundy, for he is by no means imitative, but on the contrary will adopt that course which commends itself to him as desirable. The hon. member's intuitive power is such as to come to his aid at a moment's notice, in regard to speech or action; although cautious, he is not oppressed with timidity, and his lingual organ is well developed. Mr. Metcalfe possesses the advantage of having a good physical constitution; he may therefore be expected to cultivate his abilities with the more assiduity. It is always gratifying to recognize the existence of benevolence, as we do in this case, for the men who combine the disposition to benefit their kind, with the power so to do, are by no means too numerous; this gentleman's lack of credulity will happily shield him against imposture.

It is well we should have combative members, especially when they are prone to fight the battle of the weak, and this dis-

position we recognize in the person of the member for Kingston. Although attached to his home, he will know how to derive intellectual benefit from travel, and being fond of children, he will excel in controlling and managing them. As he must necessarily suffer, both in body and mind, from the pestiferous atmosphere of the Legislative Hall, one may hope that he may enlighten the children around him who have hitherto been too much occupied with the claims of property and party to pay any attention to those of common sense, in relation to the air they breathe.

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No. XXI.

W. C. CALDWELL, ESQ.

The Legislative mushroom-plots of this Continent present some remarkable points of contrast with the mushroom of the fields; the vegetable product thrives on what may be termed corruption, whereas nothing of that character can be supposed to attach to an assembly of the people's own; the savour of the vegetable is agreeable; would that our experience of the gentlemen's gallery in the Ontarian Hall warranted our affirming as much of the mushrooms below. The vegetable is entirely innocent of that disorder of long standing, the insolence of office; they who sit within ear shot of the Provincial Secretary enjoy no such happy immunity. The above named mushroom-plots also present *points of comparison* with the vegetable; the necks of certain members seem to be as unbending as is that of the plant, and there appears to be reason to fear that that which the Parliamentary neck in such cases sustains, is of much the same nature as is that of the esculent vegetable. If the member for Lanark should ever find himself a listener in the British House of Commons, he will discover that mental qualities and attainments stand for something in that arena, regardless of the presence or absence of a balance at the banker's. We are confronted by presumably inherited lack of wisdom in the person of this honorable member, before proceeding to take his "soundings," for we perceive that his immediate progenitors were so indiscreet as to attach the initials "W. C." to his name; possibly they inhabited a region too obscure to involve their being acquainted with luxuries ordinarily indicated by those initials. Be that as it may however, we must proceed to drop the plummet on the honorable member, and to indicate the result. The result yields firmness, persistency, and financing ability, which will account for the hon. member's parliamentary position; it also yields secretiveness, mechanical skill, imitativeness, appreciation of fun, good memory for events, some power of observation, and good taste;

Mr. Caldwell was intended by nature for a man of business ; he is not lacking in kindness of character, but will specially exhibit that disposition in regard to number one ; he is not oppressed with intellect, and makes but small use of that measure of it which he happens to possess ; his physical organization is good ; so long therefore as the constituents of Lanark may regard themselves as adequately represented by W. C. Caldwell and the Government aspire to no more potent support than he is likely to render, the indications are that W. C. may long figure as representative of his native county.

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No. XXII.

A. BRODER, ESQ.

The members who may be said, by dint of personal activity, to have sent themselves to Parliament rather than to have been sent by their constituents, occupy no inconsiderable proportion of the Assembly ; and the member for Dundas, we should say, was not entirely neutral in regard to this question. The hon. member may be described as energetic and quick-witted, is not given to sleep-waking, acquires knowledge rapidly, and stows it away with care ; all this however may exist apart from the power of analysis, and from that of reducing knowledge to practice ; ready-wittedness will often do duty more effectually than will a philosophical mind apart from practical ability. This gentleman is, as might be expected from the characteristics above indicated, positive and determined ; he is not oppressed with misgivings as to his powers, and we will not complain of him if he fails to appreciate the harangues to which he has doomed himself to listen ; such is one of the consequences of ambition ; distant views of parliamentary honors doubtless lend enchantment to them. Happily we are in no way bound to pronounce to what extent members enter parliament with their country's welfare as the sole object of their aspiration. The faculty of veneration is sufficiently conspicuous in Mr. Broder's case, to indicate that in sitting on the opposition benches (so to speak) he is acting in harmony with that faculty. Mr. B.'s lack of caution is no less conspicuous, and will prepare us for that operation, on his part, which is familiarly described as putting his foot in it.