

Parliamentary Peculiarities.

Curious facts concerning Parliamentary history are always interesting, and a collection of legends of British legislation or curios of the Imperial Commons cannot fail to prove attractive. For this season I propose to give some bric-a-brac of the home Parliament, and elections thereto.

Parliament is 600 years old, dating from about 1265. The first writs were issued to knights, citizens, and burgesses. About the year 1294 boroughs were first represented, about 1308 legislation first began, and 1330 the House was divided into Lords and Commons. Although this latter date is held by some writers, yet the division could not have been completed, for the following curious scene took place in Westminster in the year 1340. Parliament had met, King Edward the Third being present, when Sir W. de Killesby procured the exclusion of the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishops of Chichester and Chester. The Earl of Warrene arrived, and, addressing the King, "Sir King, how goeth on this Parliament? In former days it used not to be thus, now it is all changed in quite another manner, for those who ought to be the principal persons are excluded, and others, persons in trade, sit here in parliament who ought not to be in such council, but only peers of the land who may aid you, Sir King, and maintain you in your great need, and on this ought to think." Upon this Sir W. de Killesby and some others left. This is hardly consistent with there being two Houses of Parliament at that time. In 1337 the first speaker, Peter de la Mere, was elected.

Parliament did not always meet at Westminster. It has met in some form or other at Oxford, Winchester, Northampton, Cambridge, Leicester, Lincoln, Coventry, St. Albans, York, Bristol, Dublin, and Shrewsbury; in London at Westminster, Tower of London, and Bridewell; probably on board a vessel, and under an oak tree in Sherwood Forest (?). Parliament has had several names. It has been nicknamed a mad Parliament, an Added Parliament—parliamentum adductum—a parliament where lawyers were not allowed to sit; a Merciless Parliament, a diabolical Parliament, a Rump Parliament, a Barebones Parliament, a Mongrel Parliament, a Pensioners' Parliament, and some say a Rotten Parliament. It is now called the Imperial Parliament. There have been sitting or standing at one time two parliaments—Simon de Montfort and Henry III., and Cromwell and Charles I.

Parliament has lasted one day—when Richard II. was deposed—a few days, a few weeks, a few months, fourteen years,—the long parliament—and eighteen years the longest, parliament was fixed for three years from 1694, to 1716, when the then sitting parliament voted itself in for several years! Parliament has deposed three kings—Edward II., Richard II., and James II.—and has beheaded one, Charles I.; changed a dynasty from the House of Stuart to the House of Hanover. The existing House reigns by virtue of an Act of Parliament.

Members of parliament used to be paid by the constituencies, both knights and burgesses. The following were about the daily rates of pay:—

Year	Knights.	Commons.
1312	5 0	2 6
1318	3 0	2 6
1319	4 0	2 0
1323	3 4	1 10
1324	2 6	1 3
1324	2 6	1 3
1327	4 0	2 0

and other sums, until the "Pensioners" Parliament, caused the payment to cease in 1661. The law would compel payment. In 1681, Harwick was forced to pay Mr. Ling, its member.

Although members were paid they also were fined if they did not attend to the business of the House. Members could not then get elected and absent themselves for a whole session. Parliament had its time to commence work, which were very early at one time. Grego, in his "History of Parliamentary Elections," gives some curious regulations adopted by parliament, some of which I give.

February 14, 1606, the House to assemble at eight o'clock and enter into business at nine. Later on, parliament to meet at seven in the morning, and begin to read bills at ten. In 1620 the speaker not to move his hat until the third congee; in 1630 members to forfeit 10s. 6d. who go out in a confused manner before the speaker. Members were fined 1s. if they came after eight in the morning, 5s. if they stopped away all day, 2s. if they entered after prayers. Speaker's door to be nailed up during the session (to prevent members from slipping out unobserved, I suppose). No member to take tobacco into the gallery or to the tables sitting at committee. This looks as though members might smoke in the House, except under the named restrictions. In 1620 no member shall go out of town without leave of the House under a penalty of £10 for a knight, and £5 for a burgess, and the liability of being taken to the Tower by the Sergeant-at-Arms.

Any member staying away three days without sufficient excuse would be fined £40, and the money disposed of at the pleasure of the House. In 1541, if any member absented

himself until the sessions was over, lost all wages.

Parliament has truckled to kings and queens very frequently. It has shown its independence sometimes. Parliament declared Elizabeth illegitimate to suit Mary, and Mary illegitimate to suit Edward VI., then each legitimate to suit each in turn. It grovelled before Henry VIII., held his name sacred, and bowed its head whenever that unmitigated tyrant's name was mentioned at its sitting. Parliament put two Kings into prison, Henry VI. and Edward IV. Parliament declared Henry VIII. a usurper, then Edward VI. a usurper, then neither was an usurper.

Parliament showed its independence once in 1629 when Hollis and Valentine held Speaker Finch in the chair while Sir J. Eliot made a speech, but parliament allowed poor Eliot to die, in consequence, in the Tower. Parliament excluded John Wilkes illegally from his seat, then repented and erased the record. Parliament prevented Charles Bradlaugh illegally from taking his seat for five elections and six years. Again it repented and expunged the record, but the news arrived when Bradlaugh was dying, and he never heard it. Parliament has been "purged" by Colonel Pride in 1849, and practically kicked out by Cromwell, when someone put an announcement on the door of the House in 1653, "This House to let unfurnished." There was one "set to" in parliament, in 1893, the members actually punching each other's heads. Parliament has been forced, to its horror, to ask the Prince of Wales to leave when he was espied as a stranger by the late Joseph Biggar.

JAMES D. GROUT.

A Dandy Windmill, Make it Yourself

I have a neighbour that made one of the People's Windmills, and I have been watching it closely; it is the best mill I ever seen and anyone can make one for less than \$10. I am going to make two immediately and don't see why every farmer cannot have a windmill when he can make it himself for so little money. The mill is durable, powerful and runs easily. Any person can get diagrams and complete directions by sending 18 two-cent stamps to Francis Casey, St. Louis, Mo., and any active man can undoubtedly make money anywhere putting these mills up for others, and I see no use of paying \$50 or \$60 for a mill when you can make one just as good for \$10. A BROTHER FARMER.

WONDERFUL SCIENCE.

An Operation After the use of The X-Ray.

Guided by X-rays provided by Thomas A. Edison, a lancet operated by Drs. W. Q. Bailey and A. D. Wendell has probably restored sight to Mary Schoellner, of Newark, N. J.

The Schoellner family lives at No. 248 Fairmount avenue. Two years ago eight-year-old Mary fell from the porch of her home and struck upon her head on a tree stump. When she was picked up her skull was apparently uninjured and the scalp wound quickly healed. There was no further trouble until two months ago, when she complained that there was a mist before her eyes. In a week she was totally blind.

Dr. Bailey was summoned, and his experience told him that something was pressing on the optic nerve. The old accident was to blame. Dr. Wendell was called in consultation.

"Let's try the X-rays," they said, and two weeks ago the little girl was taken to Mr. Edison's laboratory at Orange.

Mr. Edison got out his Crookes tubes and his batteries, while Dr. Bailey used the fluoroscope. The X-rays were turned on and focused against the side of the child's head.

"I see it," said Dr. Bailey, peering through the fluoroscope.

He could see the bone pressing down on the little girl's brain and a dark shadow between its convolutions. It was a blood clot. A plaque was held before the girl's eyes by Mr. Edison while the rays were still being thrown on her head.

"Oh!" cried she, "I see something round." The X-rays had enabled her to distinguish the plaque's shadow. The physicians decided upon an operation, and the girl was taken to a private sanitarium, No. 252 Littleton avenue. Several physicians were invited to witness the operation, and last week it was performed.

Dr. Bailey and Dr. Wendell removed the top of the child's skull. The X-rays had told the truth. There was a bit of bone pressed upon the interior portion of the brain and a blood clot that extended down through the membrane and pressed upon the optic nerve, causing blindness of both eyes.

Bit by bit the clot was carefully cut away and the skull was trephined, two or three large buttons of bone being taken out so that they would not press upon the brain. Then the little patient was allowed to come out of the other. Yesterday she was taken home, fully recovered from the effects of the operation and completely out of pain. Her eyes were still bandaged and will be for five or six weeks. She could tell light from darkness.

A Great Chance to Make Money.

I want to tell you of my wonderful success. Being a poor girl and needing money badly, I tried the Dish Washer business and have cleared \$200 every month. It is more money than I ever had before and I can't help telling you about it, for I believe any person can do as well as I have if they only try. Dish Washers sell on sight; every lady wants one. The Mound City Dish Washer Co., St. Louis, Mo., will give you all necessary instructions, so you can begin work at once. The Dish Washer does splendid work; you can wash and dry the dishes in two or three minutes without putting your hands in the water at all. Try this business and let us know how you succeed. ELIZABETH C.

Papa Blunt—I like to argue with that young Tomlin. Sweetest Susan—I hope you find him logical, papa. "Why, my child?" "Because I think he's the logical candidate for your son-in-law, papa."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Playwriter—What do you think of my new work? Critique—Great slow, old fellow. Funniest thing I ever saw. Playwriter—Good heavens, man, it's a tragedy! Critique—Yes; I know it is.—New York Commercial Advertiser.

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We will offer these goods at prices unheard of before. Come now and secure a Bargain.

C. W. JENNER, Agent.
Bristol, N. B., Dec. 14, 1896.

An honest man who stood upon the ragged edge of death, but was convinced of the truth.

CLALIS, ME., May 13, 1896.
John Boyd, mason, 61 years old, says: "Last Spring I was very sick and miserable, had no appetite, could not sleep nights, began to think my time had come, and that I was to join the great majority. I walked around the streets feeling entirely used up, was good for nothing, could not do a minute's work, until like a drowning man gasping for straws, concluded to try Dr. Thomson's Sarsaparilla, and began using it, as directed; it began to help me from the first trial. After using three bottles, my old-fashioned good health returned to me, and have been well and strong ever since. I cannot express in language the great worth of this wonderful medicine and what I think of it." Yours truly, JOHN BOYD.

HELP CAME AT LAST.
I have been a hard working man doing general work. Over one year ago I suffered a severe attack of LaGrippe. It left me in a helpless condition. I suffered with severe pains in my back and could not do any work. I was advised to try Dr. Thomson's Sarsaparilla. I used five bottles, and it is marvelous how quick it cured me. That is over two years ago, and my health since that time has never been better. LINDSAY SCOTT.
Calais, Me., Jan., 1896.

PRINCETON, May 23d.
THOMSON SARSAPARILLA CO.:
Having the LaGrippe last winter, I was left near spring in very bad shape. I was all run down and I began to think I would never get any strength. F. H. Hall, of Calais, called at my place and advised me to take Thomson's Sarsaparilla. He said he would send three bottles if I would take them, and after taking two bottles I began to gain strength. I then took two more, and I must say of all the different kinds of medicines I have taken, it is with me one of the best. And I will say that I thank Mr. Hall and the Thomson Sarsaparilla Co. for what it has done for me. C. A. ROBBINS.

Given up in despair to die.

PATRICK MYERS, of Calais, Me., says: I was troubled with eruptions on the face and body, causing at times a burning and itching sensation which was almost unendurable; could do no work. I tried to get help from a number of our physicians, and paid them hundreds of dollars, which proved hopeless, was confined to my bed. I gave up entirely to despair. I was advised to try Dr. Thomson's Sarsaparilla, and I used eight bottles which entirely cured me. It purified my blood, restored my appetite, made me feel like a new man. Today am about my work, not forgetting to speak great words of praise for the above medicine.

Weak, Nervous, Sleepless, Tired and Run Down.

Nothing is so common today as the complaint of weak nerves. Read the testimony of MR. H. W. EATON, of Calais, Me.:

My nerves were so unstrung that it was a burden for me to do any business, and sleep was out of the question, also had considerable difficulty with my stomach. I tried Dr. Thomson's Sarsaparilla, and it proved a blessing to me. I think everything of it, it is a great medicine, and it is a pleasure for me to recommend it.

There are numberless people who do not call themselves sick, yet who are not well. They feel weak, nervous, languid and tired. They have lost their vim, power of endurance and ambition to work. Most people have these feelings in the spring, because at this season the blood is impure, the nerves weakened, and the liver, kidney and bowels inactive.

Prepared by the
Doctor Thomson Medicine Co.,
Calais Me., and St. Stephen, N. B.

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