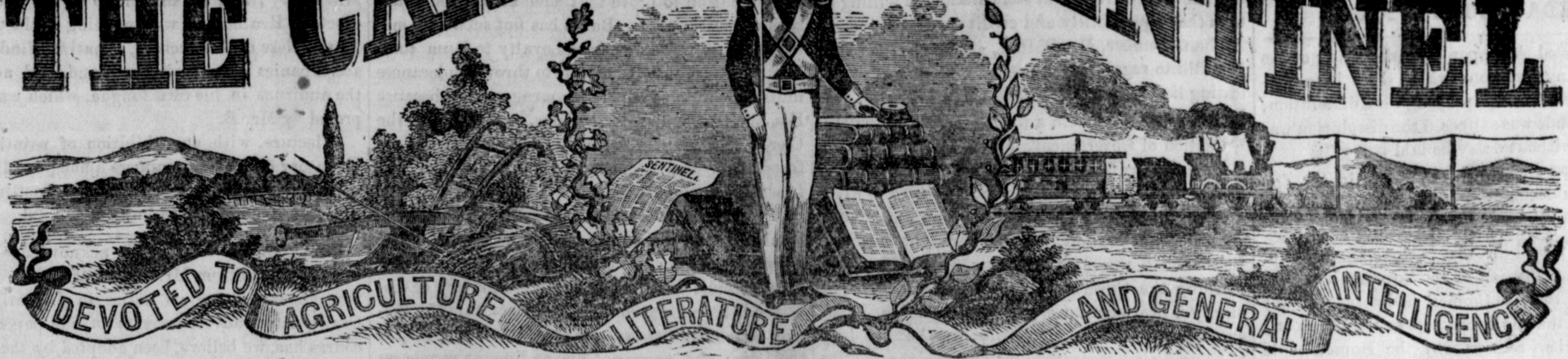


THE CARLETON SENTINEL.



Printed and Published by]

"OUR QUEEN AND CONSTITUTION."

[A. C. & J. A. McLachlan.

VOL. VIII

WOODSTOCK, N. B., AUGUST 9, 1856.

NO. 50.

Original Essay.

ABOUT LAWYERS.

We hear, almost every day, in the form of wit, sarcasm, sly insinuation, or direct malediction, something derogatory to the character or profession of the lawyer. This vocation has the credit of containing more mean men, in proportion to the whole number, than any other. Especially in our small towns, as well as in many little villages, the name of "lawyer" associated with dishonesty and littleness. Nor is this an opinion which has grown out of any new insight into the character of the lawyer, resulting from any general improvement in mental penetration. In alluding to Biogenes going about with a lamp in the day-time in search of an honest man, Byron says,

"What I can
I've done to find the same throughout life's journey,
But see the world is only one attorney."

The paradox "*Summun jus, summa injuria*,"—the greatest right—the greatest wrong,—applied to chicanery in law, was a trite proverb even in Cicero's time, as he himself informs us in "*De Officiis*."

But, in the face of all these facts, the question will suggest itself, Is the profession of the law really deserving of this defamation? Is it the uniform and inevitable tendency of the study of law, bringing down its votaries to such a low point of intellectual and moral worth as they, as a class, are generally rated at?

Were it not that the popular sentiment in regard to this profession is such as to necessitate the inference that it is based, in part at least, on this idea, the very suggestion of it would seem absurd. But this is only one of the many instances in which the most popular ideas are the most erroneous. Surely no one can entertain such an opinion, when, considering the subject by itself, without bias or prejudice, the very opposite of this would seem to be the more natural conclusion to be arrived at. Does the study of law make men regardless of its own requirements, and the proprieties of life? Is it a tendency of an acquaintance with the principles and practical working of civil government to render men despicable, and their profession a by-word among their fellows? Can that profession which has for its immediate object the equal administration of justice, and the greatest good of the greatest number, have the effect upon its followers to make them embodiments of meanness and that most contemptible of all crimes, littleness in dishonesty? It is not possible. It insults our understanding, not to say our common sense, to impute to us such a belief.

Everybody knows, even those who say the most against the profession, that our greatest men have been lawyers.—Adams, Jefferson, Calhoun, Webster, for example. With all their greatness of intellect and loftiness of genius, they could hardly have risen to such eminence if the dead-weight of a degrading profession had been ever dragging them down and hindering their upward progress. No, the idea that law is not in all respects an honorable profession cannot have originated in any such conclusions as these, in regard to the influence it exerts upon those who pursue it.

We must look for other reasons:

Have these notions grown out of the character of the men who have followed this profession?—I mean those who have made the practice of law their sole business. And here we must discriminate between such as have just been described, and those whose only right to the title of lawyer is that their sign claims it for them. Making this discrimination, we confidently assert that the general character of the bona fide lawyers of our country has been, and is, such as to entitle them to rank

among the very first, as honorable, intelligent men, and worthy citizens.

The encouragement of success is necessary to long continuance in any business. Success in the profession of law requires much ability, and talent, too, of a peculiar kind. Many enter the profession not sufficiently bearing this fact in mind, or else not well enough knowing for what their own nature best suits them, thinking that at least the profession will be successful in the line they have chosen,—that they cannot live and be honest in their business; and therefore either desert it altogether, reserving only its title, take an agency, and engage in some small matters of trade or speculation; or else they live by seeking out unimportant cases, that require neither skill in their business nor smartness of any kind, but are useful chiefly in furnishing this very class of lawyers something to quibble at. These "one-horse" lawyers, as they are sometimes styled, and pettifoggers, are justly deserving of contempt.—These are they who have brought all this current disrepute on a profession second in importance and dignity to but one, and that the sacred calling. We do not know, and hence will not say, that an inferior lawyer is any more disreputable to himself, and the community in which he lives, than a quack, or a preacher who has "robbed the mountain goats of a very good shepherd, to make a very poor pastor in the Lord's flock;" but certain it is, there are more "one-horse" men in the profession of law, in proportion to the whole number, than in either of the other learned professions, and hence it has fallen into greater disrepute with the masses. Nothing, however, can be more unjust than to condemn the whole class, and with it some of our greatest and best men, because there are some found in it who are unworthy of it, and who have forced themselves into it against Nature and all reason.

Woodstock, August 3d, 1856.

General News.

EXPENSES OF THE CZAR'S HOUSEHOLD.—The St. Petersburg correspondent of the Independence Bell gives the following curious details of an investigation recently instituted by the Emperor of Russia into the expenses of his household:

The efforts of the Emperor to establish order and regularity in the expenditure of his establishment have brought some curious circumstances to light. He has made it a point to abolish the abuses, and put an end to the frightful frauds which were daily practised even by those on the steps of the throne. One day the Emperor, looking over his household expenses, requested the items of expenditure to be furnished him, as he wished to form an idea as to the amount of his civil list. Amongst other items, he particularly remarked one of about 300,000 francs, for suet. The charge appeared strange, as he could not understand how, or for what purpose, 30,000 francs' worth of suet could have been required. He insisted on an explanation; inquiries were made, and it was found that the Empress Catherine II. was recommended by a quack doctor to take foot-baths of reindeer and other kinds of suet, as a remedy for a weakness in one of her legs, and that she continued to do so till her death. But suet still continued to be charged after her Majesty's decease, and had been regularly paid for upwards of fifty years.

Her Majesty's ship Shannon, 51, is the chief object of the preparation in Portsmouth dockyard.—The artificers are as busy (and numerous) as bees upon her, setting up her rigging and internal fittings with astonishing alacrity. Captain George

Nathaniel Broke, C. B., son of the celebrated victor in the action between the old Shannon and the Chesapeake, visited the new Shannon a few days ago, and this has given currency to a report, that he will "for auld lang syne" be appointed to the command of this the largest and most powerful steam-frigate in the world.

HEAVY FIRES IN THE UNITED STATES.—Three large beer breweries were destroyed in New York on Tuesday last, occasioning a loss of about \$8,000. The *Boston Traveller* says:—

"The flames broke out first in the small brewery of Adam Miller, on Forty-fifth street, loss about \$10,000. They then communicated to the Turtle Bay Brewery, owned by Francis Ruper, the largest lager beer manufactory perhaps in the States, and the pleasure grounds attached, which were a favorite resort with the German population and target companies. Mr. Ruper's loss is between \$50,000 and \$60,000, upon which there is an insurance of only \$3,000 or \$4,000 in the Citizens' Co. At the time of the fire, there were stowed away in the immense vaults about \$20,000 worth of lager beer, most of which has probably escaped injury. These vaults cover an area of nearly two hundred feet square and forty feet deep. The fire caught upon the large beer brewery, one story brick, owned and occupied by Charles Clement, in the rear of Ruper's establishment. This building was also destroyed. Loss about \$10,000—no insurance. Eight small dwelling houses adjoining were also destroyed. The *Albany Argus* gives a brief announcement of a destructive fire at Amsterdam, destroying the American hotel and nine stores. Loss \$50,000."

THE HERBERT TRIAL.—Washington, July 25.—The Jury in this case, after retiring for three quarters of an hour, returned a verdict of acquittal. The announcement was received with manifestation of joy and delight, and Mr. Herbert was immediately surrounded by his friends, who accompanied him to the Kirkwood house.

JUSTICE IN WASHINGTON.—Herbert, the alleged murderer of Keating, still promenades the Avenue for an airing. "The poor young man who, a short time since, shot the scoundrel who seduced his sister, does not accompany him, but is compelled to content himself in a lonely cell. Such is justice in Washington.—*Cor. N. Y. Tribune.*

The weather throughout the Season has been unusually wet, scarcely 48 hours elapse, without our experiencing heavy rain storms, accompanied with thunder and lightning. The electric fluid in many instances doing much damage. Several persons have been killed in the Province with lightning, and houses, barns, and other property destroyed thereby. On Sunday last, the thunder and lightning, which exceeded all before experienced, was accompanied with very large hail-stones, prostrating vegetation, wherever it fell.—*Chronicle*

STORMS IN WESTMORELAND, July 26th.—A correspondent writing from Bay Verte, under this date, says,

"This neighborhood was visited, during the night of the 24th inst., and again in the evening of yesterday, by severe storms of thunder and lightning, accompanied by hail of a large size. On the first occasion, several windows were broken by the hail, and considerable damage done to the crops in the adjacent district of Fort Lawrence. Yesterday a mass of electric fluid struck the chimney of the house of Joseph Chapman, Esq., in Point de Bute, which it split from top to bottom, passing off under one of the sills, and throwing up the earth to some depth. Fortunately no person was in the house at the time, or the consequences might have been fa-

tal. The cattle in the adjoining farmyard showed great symptoms of alarm, and the thunder was terrific. The storm soon passed off, and was succeeded by a serene sky and fine evening. The lightning struck a dwelling-house in Shediac, a few days ago, and killed two persons. It is much to be hoped that the frequent thunder and lightning with which we have been visited of late, will be followed by dry weather, as the farmers have commenced haying, and the crop of grass is heavier than usual."—*Cour.*

VIOLENT STORMS.—House struck by lightning and Consumed.—On Sunday evening St. John was visited by a severe storm of thunder, lightning and rain. About six o'clock the water seemed too fall from the clouds in a perfect sheet, so thick were the drops. The lightning, which was of the kind called forked or chain lightning, was very vivid. On Monday evening about seven o'clock, we had another storm, accompanied with heavy rain, which lasted some time. The broad flashes of lightning were very vivid. The following casualty telegraphed to the News Room, is the only one that has come to our notice:—

A two-story house, belonging to Mr. Calvin above Gagetown, was consumed on Monday evening by fire, caused by the house being struck by lightning. It is not known whether any lives were lost.—*Courier.*

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—The crops considering the backward state of the weather in the Spring, are in a surprisingly promising condition. For the last month, scarcely a day has elapsed without a shower immediately succeeded by a genial sunshine. The peculiar nature of our soil could not be better suited by any imaginable weather, and as a proof of this, we have only to add, that the Crops, whether esculent or cereal, now promise a larger return than at any previous time, at a corresponding period (20th July) within recollection. Making a tour westward, during the past fortnight, we were forcibly struck with the general appearance of the country—to which we shall take the pleasure of reverting in our next.—*Advertiser.*

The Halifax Chronicle says—"there is not the slightest doubt that the Railway between Halifax and Windsor will be opened on the 8th of June 1857."

THE CROPS.—We never before heard of such glowing accounts of the appearance of the growing crops. Throughout the United States, Canada, Nova Scotia, and New Brunswick there is but one opinion. A kind Providence has everywhere blessed the labours of the husbandman, and the earth promises a most abundant yield. The complaint is that the labourers are too few, especially in the Colonies, to secure the harvest in due season.

We also hear that the fisheries along our coasts have been productive this season, and that large quantities of the finest quality were secured in good order. There is much cause for thankfulness in all our borders. With industry and perseverance, New Brunswick will become a land of promise to thousands of hardy settlers.—*New Brunswicker.*

SUDDEN DEATH.—An inquest was held on Monday, 21st instant, on the body of Elizabeth McCullum, who died in her bedroom in Portland.—She was found on her knees with her head near the floor. Verdict—Died by the visitation of God.—*Cour.*

TELEGRAPHIC COMMUNICATION.—Professor Giovanni Casselli, of Florence, has just made a discovery which promises to cast all previous contrivances in electro-telegraphy into the shade. He has invented an apparatus by which the telegraphic wire will transmit to any distance an exact fac-simile of any writing or design, when made to communicate with a similar apparatus at the other station. If the account of this extraordinary invention, which we extract from the *Corrier Mercantile*, of Genoa, be true, the transmission of telegraphic dispatches by single letters will be entirely superseded, and the original writing put into the apparatus will be reproduced in an instant, with the signature of the correspondent as if written by himself.—*Galvani's Messenger.*