

at the Council Board, so that justice might be done. Her Councillors had boasted that she was one half of the County, or nearly so, or 4,273 of a population, out of 11,108, agreeable to the census of 1851. Now he would endeavor to set this matter right, and show that it was the out Parishes that should complain, and not Woodstock. In 1852 the sum of £875 was levied on the County of Carleton. The population of Carleton, at 1s. 7d. per head, would pay £879 7s. 8d.—agreeable to this Woodstock should pay for her 4,273 persons, £338 5s. 7d., but paid only £258. Wakefield for 1,848 inhabitants should pay, £146 6s., and paid £190.—Brighton should pay £119 18s. 9d., paid £110. Wicklow should pay £88 11s. 9d., paid £80.—Simonds should pay £88 11s. 9d., paid £110. Kent should pay £49 11s. 2d., but paid £59.—Northampton should pay £48 2s. 8d., but paid £58. Thus showing that for the year 1852, Woodstock was favored by the Justices £80 of her share of the County debt, and there was no doubt if the facts of the case could be ascertained as far back as 1845, which was 7 years, including '45 and '51, and exclusive of '52, that at least £50, per annum had been thrown in in the same way, making £350 more shouldered from the shoulders of Woodstock upon the out Parishes. Now he would ask who had the best right to complain, Woodstock which had been so highly favored, or the out Parishes which were asked to pay the Small Pox accounts in the same fair proportion that the County tax of £875 was paid. The balance of the Small Pox accounts due was only about £148 with the interest, the Province having paid £200, but the account itself was enough to cause dissatisfaction in any County in the Province. It was for Rum, Gin, and Brandy, Flour and Pork, loads of Potatoes unaccounted for, with men's and women's wages of from 10s to 15s. per day, and all this within the Villages of Woodstock, except one poor Indian Squaw, whilst those in the out Parishes had to support their own families, and take care of their own sick. Should there be a doubt in the minds of any with respect to this statement, let them examine the Small Pox accounts in the Secretary Treasurer's Office, and they would find Gin and Brandy enough charged to astonish them. These are but a few of the charges that might be brought forward in proof of the injustice done to the out Parishes. Woodstock has always been a kind of pet pig with the Justices, but it will be a long time before the out Parishes will pay her debts again—so says Mr. Municipal Corporation to the Messrs. Justices of Woodstock.

He did not consider the apportioning of the County rates according to the population, a just mode of proceeding, particularly as regards Woodstock, and the Lower out Parishes. The amount and value of real estate should be more looked to. Property of this description is four or five times the value in Woodstock that it is in some of the out Parishes, and if the statement made by the Woodstock Councillors on a former occasion is correct, (they had, he believed, been both assessors of late and should know) that their 20 per cent of valuation was £40,000 or nearly, they should pay 8 times as much as Northampton, where at the same rate of valuation it was less than £5000, or where Northampton paid £58, Woodstock should pay £464 instead of £258 the amount paid, and here again was the sum of £206 less on Woodstock than it should be. These things coupled with propositions at first offered and then not acted upon, had caused jealousies and doubts to exist as to the honesty of some of the Councillors. Proposals had been made that all grievances should be redressed and he thought at one time they certainly would be, but at the next semi-annual meeting he began to discover his mistake; notwithstanding all the complaints from Woodstock he was not aware that any one thing had been asked for by her Councillors or people, that could be lawfully granted that was refused, Woodstock was certainly the last Parish to complain.

[A resolution moved by Mr. Clowse seconded by Mr. Gallop, tendering the thanks of the Council to the Hon. Charles Connell, will be found in another column.]

In offering this resolution Mr. Clowse said the Municipal Act was the greatest boon ever

granted to the people of this County, they had for many years suffered grievances without any prospect of redress. They were paying taxes from year to year, were always in debt, and received no satisfaction for the money they had paid. They had no control over the Magistrates, could not hold them accountable for any of their acts, and dissatisfaction and discontent prevailed to a great extent. The Government introduced and carried a measure through the House, calculated to benefit the people, if they chose to adopt it. The Municipal Act was not forced upon them, but they could take it or leave it just as they pleased. This County alone accepted it, and although the Act was not perfect yet it had already given great satisfaction. The County was free from debt. The people's money had been prudently expended. The Council was compelled to account for every farthing of the County funds, and if their acts did not give satisfaction, a remedy was at hand, they could be displaced and others put in their stead. Many other benefits had arisen from the acceptance of the Charter, and for its acceptance the people of this County had to thank the Hon. C. Connell. That gentleman had struggled hard against a powerful opposition; almost every one in authority in Woodstock had opposed him.—There was a party in Woodstock that always opposed him, they had gone against him at all elections, and he supposed always would, but the out Parishes had supported him, and would continue to do so. Mr. Connell had always been a strong advocate for reform, and now that through his exertions it was being introduced his opponents would step in and take the credit to themselves; he was in favor of doing justice to all, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Connell for his exertions in bringing about the present state of affairs, was no more than justice.

Passed unanimously.
Moved by Mr. Gallop seconded by Mr. Lindsay,

Whereas the present mode of electing members to serve in Parliament frequently tends to disorder and sometimes riot—this Board is of opinion that it is desirable not only to change the mode of voting to that of by ballot, but also to extend the Franchise to persons who pay rates on property; and this Board is also of opinion that if such change be made in the law, that the duration of Parliament should also be diminished.

Therefore resolved,
That the Secretary Treasurer do prepare a petition, in triplicate, to the Legislature, asking such change in the election law, as will include the principle of vote by ballot—annual or biennial Parliaments—extension of the Franchise to rate payers on property with a register of voters so guarded as to allow only those to vote who are legally entitled to do so—and that the same be signed by the Warden under the seal of the Board.

Passed unanimously.
Mr. Lindsay thought that something should be done with regard to the present regulation to prevent cattle running at large in the village of Woodstock, people were not satisfied, and he thought they might be allowed to run in the back streets, where they would be out of the way and not interfere with any one.

Mr. Dibblee said there could be no such distinction made, it would be no relief to the inhabitant, and persons coming in with teams to allow cattle to run in all parts of the town except the main street. The regulation was a good one and should stand as it is.

Mr. Lindsay moved for a Committee to be appointed to frame a Bye-Law to prevent easting down hill, and throwing nuisances on the streets of Woodstock.

Mr. Giberson would support the measure and would go for extending it to his Parish—in fact to all the public streets and highways in the County. Some boys came near being killed in his Parish by sliding down hill, and he wished to see a stop put to the practice.

Committee appointed.
Mr. Dibblee thought some amendment should be made in the Bye-Law for the regulation of ferries in this County. The law was well enough as far as it went, but it should go further, and the ferries should be sold at auction, say about the first of May in every year. Some

of them, he supposed were not worth anything, but others were, and they should be all sold.

Mr. Lloyd would go with this measure, and a little further. He would compel ferrymen to do their duty. The ferryman in front of his house hired his boat out last summer, and parties wishing to cross the river had to get over the best way they could. Even after the boat was returned the ferryman was never in attendance, and people had to row themselves over.

Mr. Dibblee said there was a law to compel ferrymen to do their duty, but none to sell the ferries, and if that system was adopted it would make ferrymen more watchful and attentive to the Public. Allowed to stand over.

(To be continued.)

Vote of thanks to the Hon. Mr. Connell.

WOODSTOCK, January 20, 1853.

Sir,—By the directions of the Municipal Council of this County, I send to you the copy of a Resolution, unanimously adopted in Council on the 15th instant.

I have the honor to be, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
H. H. BEARDSLEY,
Secretary Treasurer.

To the Hon. Charles Connell.

[COPY.]
On motion of Mr. Clowse, seconded by Mr. Gallop,

Whereas by the acceptance of the Municipal Act, the people of this County have taken into their own hands the management of their local affairs, and have the right of electing those persons who levy and expend the County funds; And Whereas the elective principle is applicable not only to County offices, but to the highest offices in the Province, which is a right properly belonging to the people, if it is really intended to carry out Responsible Government, and will at no distant day be conceded to them; and as the privileges now enjoyed by the people of this County under the Municipal Act have in a great measure been owing to the exertions of the Hon. Charles Connell, Therefore Resolved, That the thanks of the Council board are due to, and are hereby accorded to that gentleman, not only for his active exertions in the advocacy of those principles in the Legislature, but also for their introduction into this County; and further Resolved, That the Secretary Treasurer do transmit a copy of the above to the Hon. Mr. Connell.

[REPLY.]

To the Warden and Councillors of the Municipality of the County of Carleton.

GENTLEMEN,—Your Secretary has just handed me the above copy of a Resolution unanimously passed at your last meeting, for which you will please accept my thanks. I am happy to find, gentlemen, that the change wrought in the management of our County affairs by the acceptance of a charter of Incorporation has met with general approbation, entirely refuting by its practical operation, the prognostications of evil, indulged in by its opponents—some of whom stated that on your acceptance of this Charter your taxes would be increased five fold—but you can now say what never could have been said before since the division of the County, that no assessment for County purposes will be made this year. The saving that has been made in all branches of the County expenditure, as well as the discharge of the whole County debt, together with the unanimity of the Council in their deliberations, shows that the people may be safely intrusted with that power which, if properly exercised, will be of great benefit to them; and I feel satisfied from these considerations, that the time is approaching when the elective principle may be extended, not only to every office in the County, but also to the highest in the Province—and there is no reason why it should not be so. If the people are to be intrusted with their local affairs, why is the principle not carried out in all branches of the Government? People generally believe that they are capable of self-government, and there is no good reason why the direction of the affairs of the Province should be in the hands of individuals having no interest in common with the people, but generally appointed more for the sake of the emoluments of office than for the benefit of the governed, and too often using their power in violation of

known and well settled principles, and in contradiction to the wishes of the people. I think with you that in order to give the people of this Country their just privileges, the right to elect their Governor should be placed in their hands, thus affording an opportunity for the humblest among you, by industry and perseverance, to attain the highest office in the Province, the only test being ability and fitness for the situation, and not the mere accident of birth or wealth, both of which are too often the only requisites required. That men as competent to discharge the duties of office as any we have ever had, can be found in this Province, cannot be denied, and who would be free from the influence of a few, and being elected by the people will serve their interests as well as those of the Crown; these two being under our Constitution inseparably united. It may be thought that the adoption of these principles will tend too much towards democracy, but I believe it will be found by reference to the history of the early periods of the Mother Country, many of the offices now in the hands of the Crown were elective. At the present time when there is more of intelligence among our people than at any former period, with a desire to increase their knowledge in political matters, introducing habits of self-reliance and confidence in their own capabilities for government, these rights may be safely conceded to them. And the opinion seems now to be very generally received that when the funds for the support of officials are raised by taxation upon the people of this Province, they by right ought to have the selecting of such persons to office as may command their confidence. The adoption of this principle will lead to a great saving in the expenses of our Government, and when the question so often asked, Why cannot the Province be governed at the same expense as some of the neighboring States, where the population is much greater?—will receive its solution. We pay now in salary, fees and perquisites, nearly \$20,000 a year to a Governor sent to us from England, of whom we never heard until his appointment. The expenditure to keep Government House in repair has also amounted to an enormous sum, and it must be remembered that these amounts are all raised by taxation upon the hard earnings of the people of this Province. These remarks will apply to other officers as well that of a Governor.—The adoption of those principles will lead to important changes, such as the exclusion of all public office-holders from the Legislature, which is now almost a necessity, and until this is accomplished there can be no proper administration of affairs; the power of the Government at present, from the number of offices under their control, is too great and ought to be checked. Corruption as a necessary consequence follows in the wake of this state of things, to the great injury of the interests of the Province. I shall willingly afford my aid towards effecting those changes, as well as the others to which you have referred—making all County officers elective—feeling in common with many of you that in this County there is great need of a change at the present time, and of adopting, as in our Parish elections, vote by ballot, and extension of the suffrage—measures I have always advocated. Our Legislators should be elected for a term not exceeding two years, thus placing them more under the influence of the people, and avoiding that corruption and bribery consequent upon our present system.—It is only necessary that the people should be united in their efforts, and demand constitutionally and boldly those changes which cannot much longer be withheld. To those of you who are heads of families, I would urge the necessity of using your endeavors to introduce a more extended system of education. To be free and happy a people must be educated, and much depends upon your deliberations in this particular.

It would please me to enter more fully into this matter, as well as others I have touched upon, but I find I have already extended my remarks to an inconvenient length. I shall always endeavor to advance the interests of our County—one of the first in importance in the Province. Born and brought up within its borders, my interests are closely identified with its prosperity, and I feel assured that it possesses resources, in common with other parts of the Province, fully to sustain us, with good Government, a happy and prosperous people.

Thanking you for your kind approbation of my support of Free Institutions,

I have the honor to be,
Gentlemen, yours truly,
CHARLES CONNELL.