

who took the alarm—men who were elected to oppose the Coalition Government that existed in 1850, and who, upon principle, voted against the Government of 1851 because they succumbed to the insolent interference of Sir Edmund Head and Earl Grey in the local affairs of the Colony. These men saw with alarm the tendencies of the party among whom they had accidentally been thrown,—they saw for the first time that hideous monster, Radicalism, exposed to the public gaze, and they shrunk from the contact. They looked around, and saw but one way of escape. The Government, unprincipled and truckling as they had been, was still Conservative, and having been tried and acquitted, any assistance henceforth afforded them could not be construed as being approbatory of their past conduct. But one alternative remained for the Conservatives in the Opposition ranks; they must either assist the Government, or prepare themselves for the advent of the Radicals to power. They chose the former course, and during the recess Messrs. Wilmot and Grey joined the Government,—a movement which met with the approbation of the people,—and Messrs. Ritchie, Simonds and Tilley, resigned their seats in despair.

By the historical sketch given above the reader will perceive that the formation of the present Government was a work of necessity rather than choice, by offering the Attorney Generalship to Mr. Street, with the nominal title of "Leader," the members of the old Government detached some five or six votes from the Opposition ranks, and attached them to their own, thus making a difference of eight or ten on a division, and thereby securing a bare majority. Under no other circumstances could the admirable tactician, Mr. Partelow, the sharp Mr. Chandler, and the talented though indolent Mr. Mr. Hazen, have submitted for a moment for the leadership (even nominally) to be placed in the hands of a man wretchedly versed in politics, ridiculously self-conceited, tedious in debate, undignified in his irritability, and laughably *maladroït* in his tactics. But "necessity," sayeth the adage, "makes us acquainted with strange bed-fellows." It is almost needless to say more about the present Attorney General. He is a man conservative in his opinions, of an honorable mind, far above doing, or countenancing anything mean—if he perceives it—and pretty straightforward as the times go. He lacks the clearness of vision, however, necessary to see and evade the traps which his enemies prepare for him. He is extremely obstinate, and cannot be driven, and often raises a laugh at his own expense when he speaks of himself as "the Leader of Her Majesty's Government in this Province." There is no doubt but he imagines himself to be the leader, because Partelow flattered him with the title when he came to him to join the Government, but as every other person knows who is really the leader, the hallucination is harmless.

The length of this letter advises me to leave off for the present. In my next I shall pass some remarks on the other members of the Government, and consider them as a whole; and at the same time I shall probably speculate upon the future opening before them. When I have done with the Government I shall comment upon the conduct of several members of the House, not much to their satisfaction, perhaps, although in a manner that will be satisfactory to the people.

Appropo, I have just received a letter from my cousin at Head Quarters, in which he details (among other things) the last act of economy.—It became necessary to send Commissioners to St. George, to determine the site of a bridge. The Government appointed two of their own number—Messrs. Partelow and Hayward—probably because they travel so cheap, it having cost the Province the trifling sum of £120 for their visit to St. Stephen last year. Every one knows that from Fredericton to St. George and back is four days easy travel, and no more; viz. one day to St. John by steamboat, one day to Magaguadavic by horse and waggon, and two days returning. The ordinary expenses for two gentlemen making the trip (not including wine) are as follows:—

Steamboat fare to Fredericton	£0 10 0
Stage fare to St. John	2 6
Horse and waggon 2 days, at 15s.	1 10 0
Stage-fare to Indiantown	2 6
Fare to Fredericton	10 0
Four days' board for two persons	2 0 0
Two days' feed for a horse	10 0
	£5 5 0

Now Mr. Partelow professes to charge nothing for his time when travelling, as his salary is running on, and certainly if Mr. Hayward got £1 15 0 for his time he would have been well paid. Thus the expedition would have cost the Province £10. But what do you think the gentlemen charged? The trifling sum of sixty-eight pounds, which, it is said, has been already drawn from the Treasury on the Governor's warrant! Comment is unnecessary.

Yours, &c.,

A MECHANIC.

To the Editor of the Carleton Sentinel:

MR. SEGEE.—On the morning of the 21st of June (the Petitions of which I gave you copies in my last) were carried into the Secretary's

office to be laid before his Excellency in Council, on that day to meet.

Mr. Hammond who was the bearer of these documents, says, he was then informed by Mr. Secretary, that no other letters and no petition had been received against the granting of the Charter than those he had formerly been apprized of. (I would here state that I may have mistaken Mr. H. respecting the time when he first heard of the LANGEVIN letters. It may have been at this time, and not at the time I have previously mentioned for the occurrence of that fact. However, it matters little, perhaps, either way.)

The prayer of these Petitions was, that the Charter be immediately granted.

It had been suggested in the conversations which Mr. H. had with the Executive Councilors I have before named, that should the Charter be granted at the meeting of the Council, and before the time arrived for electing County Councilors, though after the notices for that purpose had been given; and should any doubt be started as to the legality of such proceedings, and the validity of the Acts of the County Council under these circumstances; it could all be set right by a remedial Statute for that purpose to be passed at the next Session of the Assembly. I understand Mr. Hammond to say, that both Mr. Attorney General and Mr. Secretary, gave full assent to this plan, if the suggestion itself did not come from one of them; and instanced one or more cases where Statutes for remedies of the like nature had been passed, as authority for this procedure. Indeed, if it were necessary, advantage might be found in the ambiguity of the Statute on this point, to hold the first election for Councilors at any time, subject to the remedy proposed. It must therefore, be very evident to every man of ordinary information, that no evil or confusion could have arisen had the Charter been granted at this time. There is no substance in an objection on this ground; nor, do I believe was any of the kind made; it has not transpired outside of the Council Chamber, if it were.—The question then before His Excellency and Council was, apparently simple enough, as I view it;—and it was CHARTER, or NO CHARTER. For the Charter there was—

1st.—The CERTIFICATE of the Sheriff, full and specific in all respects as the Law prescribes.

2d.—The absolute and imperative declaration of the Law, that the CHARTER SHALL BE THEREUPON GRANTED.

3d.—The petition of more than two hundred rate payers of the County, praying that the Charter according to Law may be granted.

Against the Charter, what is there? Nothing! Absolutely nothing!! The Sheriff's certificate was pronounced by the learned Attorney General, the law officer of the Crown, and the legal adviser to His Excellency, to be conclusive,—and in no way invalidated by his letter to Mr. Partelow. Indeed it is difficult to see how the solemn record of the Sheriff, bearing his Seal of office, done under the authority of the Law, can be impeached and lessened in legal value. Surely not by his own letter, however official may be its character. It is an old principle and a good one, that no man shall be allowed to impeach his own act,—to stultify himself.—What then is there to invalidate that certificate; for surely it must be got rid of in some way, or the Charter granted. Will Mr. Rice's letter to His Excellency be considered of equal value to the Sheriff's Deed? Would any man in this County believe Mr. Rice's written or oral statement? Colonel Coombes, his brother Magistrate, frequently amuses the crowd at our Courts of General Sessions, with his fervid and elegant bursts of indignation expressive of his opinion of that gentleman's character for veracity.—"Why, Mr. Chairman," the gallant Col. will say, "Mr. Chairman, Rice lies!—he lies so I can't believe a word he says. The fact is Sir, Rice will rather lie than tell the truth, though the truth would serve him better,—he is got so used to it!" But where is Mr. Rice's letter? His Excellency dare not produce that precious document—State paper, I suppose it should be called—in justification of his conduct; and his Council are ashamed of it, and they all—the whole pack of them—ought to be ashamed of themselves, too. They know it to be an inflated production of self-evident falsehoods. It is not even the truth caricatured. I have heard something of this State paper, and know more. His Excellency and his Council know that if they published this letter as a reason for, and justification of their conduct, the veriest ragged urchin in the street would *mouth derision* on them, and *grin cachinnatory accompaniments* much to his own amusement, as they passed by him. It is here thought by those acquainted with that gentleman and his said letter, that he had *visions and revelations* from the spirit land of the renowned *Kilkenny cats*, when writing that State document; and his own head a *bee hive!* But, by what *spirit* dictated, and under what *influence* penned, we are as much in the dark as we are about its contents. The reason why Mr. Hammond made enquiries whether any other papers against the Charter had been received was, that Mr. Rice had in this letter requested a delay of the Charter, until petitions there in course of preparation, as he asserted, could be forwarded to and received by the

Council; and Mr. H. was anxious, and *curious* I believe, to see these petitions, if they had come. But, Mr. Rice evidently labored under an attack of *megrims*, when making that assertion; and you may as well seek substance in the *mirage* of the desert, as look for truth in his mind; and His Excellency and his Council know it! For this reason they dare not base a justification of their conduct on that letter; nor on their belief of the information it contained. But admitting that every word it contained was true, by what rule is it admissible to invalidate and annul the certificate? Suppose, further, that it contradicted every material statement in the Sheriff's certificate, and what is it worth? Simply, the basis of a prosecution against that officer, *inter alia*, to remove him from office. The law makes the Sheriff's certificate the only, and the legal evidence of the vote and its circumstances, with a view to the Charter, and I am bold to affirm that our four Law Judges would, under the Statute, hold that certificate to be a SOLEMN RECORD, CONCLUSIVE UPON THE FACTS CONTAINED IN IT, and not to be QUESTIONED IN THIS MANNER, where the Charter was affected. Yet this certificate did not stand alone; it was supported by the solemn assertion of over two hundred men of the County, well acquainted with the facts. Of what weight then ought Mr. Rice's letter to be taken at, against this cloud of witnesses? What then appears against the Charter? Mr. Langevin's Letter? Why, this document does not even possess the meteoric existence of the one we have talked so much about. *It was not seen* by Mr. Hammond, or any other person of this County, that I can learn. It may be said of this missive, as of some other grave document, *the time has not arrived when Her Majesty's Colonial Government can, with safety to the State, disclose on this point!!* Whether the Vicar General may have fulminated *Pro Nono*, in the State ear of His Excellency, or whispered HONORS AND SIX HUNDRED A YEAR, to the Honorable Secretary, we are at a loss to tell. Perhaps he merely suggested to Sir Edmund that, he could provide him at need, with a very sagacious person to be useful as cup and standard bearer, or chief cook and bottle washer; or to fill some other honorable and profitable position for the next four years, in Sir EDDY'S suite. Though after all, it may be only a request for some more *snuff!* What then is there against the Charter? Nothing! absolutely nothing!! At all events, the people of this County, applicants for the Charter, know of nothing existing as a legal impediment against the granting of the Charter; and yet it seems hard to say or believe, that His Excellency and Council in a delicate and grave matter like this, would act in a wilful and perverse spirit for the very *love* of the thing!

Mr. Hammond says, when he inquired what the result of the application for the Charter was, he was told by Mr. Secretary, His Excellency has decided upon sending a Special Commissioner into the County, to enquire upon the spot, into the proceedings of the Public Meeting!! I have given the WHOLE FACTS, so far at least as they are known, that were before the Council respecting the proceedings of that meeting; and I ask every man of common sense who has read this tedious and unprofitable labour thus far, to point out the circumstances which justify, or called for this determination and decision! It is absurd to say that this justification can be found in one or both of Rice's or the Sheriff's letters. The first was very properly disbelieved; and the other adjudged of no avail against his certificate. Where then is the reason—the apology, for this decision? Should the intelligent people—(and really it is a question of grave importance to every man) should the people of a County be left to conjecture the reason why the Public Rights accorded to them by Law, are withheld by His Excellency?—The refusing to make public these letters, and other information (if they possessed it) by which the interests of the people of this County were affected, is an insult so mean and so cowardly,—so wanton and so malicious, that if the faintest spark of manliness is yet left to His Excellency, and the members of his Council, they are now, and ought to be well ashamed of their conduct. Sincerely, I do pity the actors, for the mean, low, dirty parts they have to play in the Colonial comedy!

When the Honorable Solicitor General opened his Commission in this County on the eighth day of July last, the information was again asked of him, as to the letters and reports made to the Government respecting the Public Meeting. His answer was, *the way the Government is constituted, this information cannot be given!* Does this reply need any comment? That the people of this County have been done out of an intelligent system of managing their local affairs for the present, is the only thing known as a certain tangible fact in the whole affair.—What course they should now pursue it becomes them well to ponder. Will they submit quietly to the base insult? we shall see. I have been furnished with the note book of a gentleman who attended the examinations taken by the Honorable Commissioner, and really there is not a decent fight in the whole farce! Will the Law Officers of the Crown be able to pick matter out of the whole examinations, whereon to found one bill of indictment for a common assault? A day, after a careful perusal of the

whole, that reasonable grounds exist for such a procedure! And they knew this, as well before the Commission was ordered, as they do now! Since that terrible affray a Grand Jury has been sworn and held its session for this County, and they made no enquiry about the first of June.—There was nothing to enquire about! Col. Coombes had *besought* and received an apology for the slap in the *chops* he complained of, and this was all. I hesitate to fill your columns, Mr. Segee, with the examinations, until I hear what the Executive may do thereon. In the mean time other persons and things connected with THAT CHARTER, demand attention.

Yours, BOLINGBROKE.  
Tobique, August 20, 1853.

To the Editor of the Carleton Sentinel:

SIR,—Will you be so kind as to insert the following in your paper.

#### Temperance Watchman's Club.

On Friday the 12th of August, a Club of the Order of Temperance Watchmen was organised in this place, by S. O. Bro. Wiggins, and several other Brethren from Hodgen Club, when eleven persons were initiated into the "Dumfries Club," and the following Brethren elected office bearers for the present quarter.

Bros. David Dow, S. O.; Amos L. Dow, J. O.; G. N. Jones, R. T.; John A. Dow, C. T.; Thomas Connolly, C.; William Latham, T.; Darius Dickinson, M.; Alonzo B. Cumings, A. M.

After the business of the meeting had been performed, and a vote of thanks returned to the Brethren for their services, the whole company partook of an excellent repast (prepared by David Dow) with warm hearts for the Temperance cause, and may the same continue to flourish, till the foul stain of alcohol is wholly obliterated from our country's glory.

Yours,  
JOHN A. DOW.  
Dumfries, August 18, 1853.

THE RAILROAD.—Our Pioneer Line continue to advance, and long ere the Portland Convention Line will be able to exhibit a single Locomotive on the whole length of its Provincial course, we indulge in the expectation that our Whistler will be ringing his notes in the ears of our Woodstock friends. Of the likelihood of this fortunate issue to the St. Andrews and Quebec Railroad Co's enterprise, some of our St. John and Fredericton cotemporaries seem now to be fully convinced, as will appear from the extracts which will be found in another column. In short, how could it be otherwise? The pioneer Line, being the first projection of the kind in these lower Provinces, had to surmount difficulties, which other lines, in a more advanced stage of society will not be called on to encounter. The prejudices and disagreements which such large schemes naturally engender, were much increased in the Pioneer's case by ignorance and sectional feeling. These obstacles to progress, thank God! are now under a better exercise of judgement, fast disappearing, and we are now led to hail the day, as not very distant, when we will have it in our power to give our Canadian brother a daily friendly shake of the hand, and present him in exchange for his flower and other natural products, with as much as he wants of the finny tribe from our well stored waters—Charlotte Gazette.

FROM THE FISHING GROUNDS.—Accounts from the fishing grounds state that an American fishing schooner was taken into Charlottetown, P. E. I., by the English steamer *Devastation*, but afterwards released. The U. S. sloop-of-war *Deer* spoke several American fishing vessels in the Gut of Canso, and informed them of the presence of the American squadron in British North American waters.

The master of the American schooner *Arrand* arrived home from the Bay of Chaleur, reports that on the 25 of July, twelve miles from land near St. John's Island, he was deliberately run into by the steamer *Devastation*, doing him considerable damage, and that he had noted a protest and should make a statement of his case.

STEAM TO LIVERPOOL.—Just as our paper was going to press, we were informed that active arrangements are in progress for establishing a line of Screw Steamers between St. John and Liverpool. As gentlemen, in both places engaged in and well acquainted with the business requirements of the ports, have taken the matter in hand, we have every reason to believe, that it will be carried out in the most effectual manner. Success to enterprise!—Courier.