

Communications.

To the Editor of the Carleton Sentinel:

MR. SEEGE.—Many circumstances have prevented my writing to you before this. Though material has been plenty, the leisure to discriminate, and arrange that material has been wanting.

I had promised you an early account of the Public Meeting held here on the 1st of June last, to take the vote upon the question of introducing Municipal Authorities into this county. The storm raised by the party opposed to the adoption of an intelligent system of local government by the Public, immediately on the vote being cast, was so peculiar in character, and so extraordinary in results, that prudence seemed to dictate the observance of silence upon the whole matter, until the angry elements had lashed out their fury. Now, the lapse of time has divested this proceeding of much of its public interest; yet, as general principles have been involved therein, and, as the law stands, other Counties may be subjected to the like application thereof, it may not be uninteresting to review shortly the vote, and the ACTION OF THE EXECUTIVE THEREON.

In setting to work at this, so many things present themselves to me, each claiming precedence in the detail, that I find it no easy affair to decide upon a starting point. The efforts made previous to the day of voting by the *pros* and *cons*,—the conduct of parties and individuals on that day,—the character of the vote itself,—the decision of the Governor in Council upon that vote,—and the subsequent conduct of the Government in relation to this matter,—all put forward their claims to a prominent place in any review that may be undertaken of this subject. Of these, however, the two latter are most entitled to public consideration. But the others are by no means without their local interest, and not unattended by lasting local effect.

It is no trifling labour that of bringing before the people of a County the question of organic change in its affairs. The way of doing so properly, is not conceived or marked out in a moment of time, even in a community the most enlightened, as the phrase goes now-a-days.—The attempting a matter of that importance in this County without the assistance of a local press, and where two languages with their natural antipathies and prejudices prevail, to say nothing of other very unpromising facilities to correct information and coincidence of opinion, was looked upon by many as a very idle employment. The vote cast notwithstanding these unpropitious circumstances, and the death-like grasp with which men held on to old fashions, has proved this, if nothing more,—that the people of this County are not satisfied with the old apathetic state of things, nor with the men who preside over the management of their affairs, but are seeking better things.

I should not, Sir, at this late day think of intruding these matters upon the public, were it not that very erroneous impressions have gone abroad respecting the conduct of the people assembled on the day and for the purpose in question. That assembly has been arraigned before the public, and none appearing in its defence, it has been sentenced as riotous, tumultuous, disgraceful. In the secret chambers of the Executive, the like indictment has been read; and though here, sentence is delayed, yet an interlocutory proceeding is had EQUALLY DAMNING in its effects as the definitive one of GUILTY.

A wise Council would be careful not to give by its countenance and favour, a greater importance to occurrences than the reality merited; and it strikes me that *no light matter should induce a Government to so bold an act as that of detailing one of its own body to discharge the duty of an impartial Commissioner in making enquiries into a question, which every sensible man in the County knows to be a QUESTION BETWEEN THAT GOVERNMENT AND HIMSELF.* This fact, if now obscure to any one, will be apparent enough for him that runs to read, ere I have done with this matter.

When the rumour was started that the Public Meeting exhibited a scene of riot, tumult and unfairness, persons of common sense apprehensions who knew the facts, laughed con-

sumedly at the idea. When the Executive of the Province, looking through their own magnifying perspectives on this County, sent a Special Commissioner to enquire UPON THE SPOT into this *bloodless confusion, this wonderful what not, and so forth*, all men of conscious rectitude, truth and manful spirit, felt abashed and humiliated at the foul aspersion thus cast, by the whole force of the Executive, upon the character and moral integrity of the County.—They have felt and do feel that in this, an attempt has been made to exterminate the little germ of liberalism and self-reliance about to take root in this County; and that a wanton insult, and personal grievance has been inflicted upon themselves;—*and this too by men professedly in power for the purpose of carrying out Liberal Principles in the workings of the Executive Office!*

You may readily see, Sir, that I conceive the whole Municipal movement in this County, to be fraught with matters of personal importance to the people of this Province. The men, and the principles, which have rendered our application according to law for a Charter of Rights, a labour in vain, may, and assuredly will defeat the like application from any other County in the Province; unless, indeed, exposure destroy the venom of the deadly fang.

I am sorry, Sir, that a painful necessity compels me to ask a place in your columns for what, in justice to the people of this County, I may find it necessary publicly to say upon this subject; and unless you shall deem the matter wholly uninteresting, I shall continue these letters, *for the time has come, and the man!*

Yours, BOLINGBROKE.

Tobique, July 23, 1853.

SIMONDS, July 14, 1853.

MR. EDITOR.—Tuesday last being the 12th of July, the members of Lodge No. 56 met at their lodge room at Brother Johnston's, Presquise, for the purpose of celebrating the Prince of Orange's victory over James, at the Boyne. Lodge being opened in due form for the despatch of business, they then formed in procession and marched under command of lieutenant Woodward, about two miles to the Free Baptist meeting house, where the Rev. William Harris preached a very appropriate sermon from Rev. 17th chap. and last clause of the 8th verse, to a very large audience of Orangemen and others. After the sermon they marched in procession back to the lodge room, where, after partaking of some refreshment, they dismissed by giving three cheers in honor of the day, and three for her Majesty the Queen, not forgetting the Prince of Orange.

Yours, &c., A BROTHER.

To the Editor of the Carleton Sentinel:

SIR.—Can you tell me why it is that our Justices assume to be the exponents of our Laws independent of their clearly expressed enactments? Or can you tell me why it is that an individual committed a few days ago for a breach of what is termed the Liquor Law, was allowed one month to make up the Fine, when that Law explicitly states that "the person convicted shall stand committed until the same (fine) be paid?"

A QUERIST.

Woodstock, July 1853.

The Carleton Sentinel.

WOODSTOCK, N. B., SATURDAY, JULY 30, 1853.

UNION OF THE COLONIES.

We copy the following sensible article from the *Nova Scotian* of the 20th inst. The subject is of vast importance to every Colonist, and on the action taken depends the future welfare of these Colonies. It is impossible that the British North American Provinces—possessing, as they do, so many natural advantages—can remain much longer in their present state. SOMETHING MUST BE DONE, and that speedily. We want a UNION—a Union is indispensable to our welfare, and a union we must have; and that union must be brought about by an inter-colonial Railway. This has long been apparent to every thinking man, and at one time we indulged the hope that the people of these Provinces would lay aside their petty local jealousies, and unite and work together for the public

good. A Railroad from Halifax to Quebec would bring the Provinces into a closer connection with each other, and our constant intercourse would cement the bands of brotherhood; but as it is at present we are as much estranged—aye, more so—than we would be were we subjects of different nations. This would cease to be the case, were we in daily communication with each other, as we would be, were we united by means of a Railway. But the wretched system of speculation and wrangling about local matters, by our Representatives, has thus far prevented it. How long is this to continue? How long are our Representatives, by their local jealousies and squabbles, to continue to squander the money and waste the time that might be devoted to nobler objects?

"If two men ride on one horse, one must ride behind," is a truism that no one will pretend to doubt, and the maxim is not inapplicable to Railways in our case. A Railroad cannot pass every person's door, neither can a depot be build on every man's land. We therefore hope that at the next Session of the House our Representatives will throw away their local jealousies for a time, and see what a little united effort can do in promoting the welfare of the Country.

What we want is UNITED ACTION—"Union is strength,"—"United we Stand, Divided we fall," should be the mottoes of the Provincials at this time. Let us have "a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull altogether," and our word for it, the Colonies shall no longer remain in their present unknown and helpless condition, but will rise into a mighty nation,—a nation that would assert its rights, and maintain its power, and which would consolidate the interests of Great Britain in this Hemisphere, and at once prove a counterpoise to the power of the United States, and rival them in wealth, happiness, and prosperity. The article in the *Nova Scotian* referred to is as follows:—

DISUNION AND ITS CONSEQUENCES.—Every intelligent Nova Scotian who has made the tour of the adjoining Provinces must have felt—painfully felt, how little connection and oneness of interest there is between them. Divided only by air-drawn lines, they are, nevertheless, as effectually separated as if each Province was possessed of a distinct Nationality. If we except the border Counties of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick the people of British North America know far less of each other than of the citizens of Maine, Massachusetts, and Vermont. Politically, the Provinces are members—outlying members it is true, of the same nation, and owing fealty to the same Sovereign, but commercially our most intimate relations are with the United States. Geographical position and the natural desire to buy and sell in the best market, have largely helped to effect this separation of interests between the Colonies, but there are also other causes at work. There has been a sad want of union among ourselves.—The Colonial Assemblies have acted more like rivals than members of the same body politic, each Province attempting to build up its own peculiar interest at the expense of its neighbor. Unrestrained Free Trade between every member of that vast confederacy has made the United States what they are. A wretched system of discriminating and taxing each others' products, has led to mutual estrangement among Colonists, and done much to effect the result we deplore.

We long indulged the hope that out of these Colonies would spring a nation, stretching from the Atlantic to the Pacific, governed by the same laws and institutions, and united together in the bonds of interest and affection—at once a generous rival and counterpoise to the adjoining Republic. These hopes once seemed on the eve of being realized. The first steps to a more intimate union—railway connection, was proposed by Nova Scotia, and agreed to by Canada and New Brunswick. The British Government favored the project and were ready to supply the funds at a very low rate of interest. Our readers know all the rest—how cupidity and treachery first did their work at the Colonial Office, and how, subsequently, the Canadian and New Brunswick delegates abandoned the inter-Colonial and National Railway for Company Works within their respective localities.

Acting upon the principle of the wrecker—"Every man for himself and devil take the hindmost," the Delegates may not have done amiss for themselves, but their action was, we fear, fatal to the growth and permanence of British American interests. At the time we speak of, a large proportion of Canada looked earnestly and hopefully for a more intimate connection with their brethren in the Lower Provinces. New Brunswick yearned for a closer union with the sister Colonies; and Nova Scotia was ready to receive both with open arms. How stands the case now! Snail like,

each has drawn himself up in to his own shell. What cares Canada about New Brunswick and Nova Scotia? Has not Mr. Jackson united all the principal Canadian lines of Railway under one management? Has he not secured a terminus for the whole on the United States seaboard instead of at a British Port? Has he not preferred Portland, in Maine, to Halifax, Nova Scotia? New Brunswick may care a great deal about both Canada and Nova Scotia, but she can't help herself.

She cannot draw the trade of Canada through her midst, and it remains to be seen whether she will not, after all, be left in hopeless isolation. Nova Scotia has been sacrificed at the shrine of scheming politicians and jobbing contractors—as far as the outer world is concerned, and she must now work out her own destiny by developing her own internal resources. Each Province for itself again. All hopes of union, strength, nationality, prosperity, and progress dissipated. People will ask by and bye, who did it.

We fear that many of our correspondents will complain because of the non-appearance of their letters in this number; but we cannot possibly give insertion to all in consequence of their extreme length. Could we persuade those who favor us with their thoughts, or of passing events around them, to make their articles short, we could accommodate the whole; but as it is we cannot publish them, or at least many, unless to the exclusion of all other matter. We have received a well written letter describing the proceedings of Prince William Lodge, No. 83, also, No. 88, Magundy Volunteers, on the 12th, but for the reasons above given we are unable to give it insertion. We should be pleased to hear often from our able correspondent; he always remembering to write short, his communications will then be "short and sweet." We have also on hand the first and second Nos. of a series of letters on the state of the Province, by a "Mechanic," and will commence their publication next week, continuing from week to week till the whole are complete. These letters are well written, and so far as we have read, contain facts and figures, the truth of which is not to be controverted.

We have received Part IV., of the "Journal of the New Brunswick Society, for the encouragement of Agriculture, Home Manufactures, and Commerce, throughout the Province," which concludes the first volume. The contents relate principally to the Exhibition, held at Fredericton in October last, comprising the preliminary Report, President's Address, and Circular, Premium List, list of juries, &c., &c.—The Act of the House of Assembly to incorporate the Society, and the Act to amend the Act of incorporation, and to continue the former Acts, also appear in this number. These, with extracts from the letters of exhibitors, and some other miscellaneous matters, connected with the Exhibition, together with a view of the Exhibition building, make up the work. It is neatly printed by John Graham, at the "Head Quarters" office.

The Rev. Mr. Ferrie, A. M., of St. John, delivered a lecture in the Baptist Chapel, on the "Signs of the Times," on Wednesday evening last, to a large and respectable audience. All who heard it speak in its praise. He closed with an admonition to all Protestants to remain steadfast in the faith, and not to relax one atom of their Protestantism, speaking with a zealous warmth and sincerity quite refreshing in these times of popery and puseyism.

The examination of George Clingham, Wm. Reed, John Starkey, and James Akerley, the persons supposed to have been concerned in the affray at the Suspension Bridge in St. John, on the 12th inst., has been proceeding during the past week, but nothing new has been elicited. The evidence already given has shown that the accused are not Orangemen.—No witnesses have yet been called on behalf of the accused, and they have been admitted to bail for further examination.

The Miramichi "Gleaner" comes to us this week in its semi-weekly issue. It makes a very respectable appearance.

A LARGE STEAMER.—A contract has been made in England for the construction of a steamer of upwards of six hundred feet in length, and measuring twelve thousand tons.—She is to be propelled by two sets of side wheels, and a screw at the stern.