

The Carleton Sentinel.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23, 1856.

WHAT WILL THEY SAY IN ENGLAND?

We publish below some questions put in the House of Lords to the Government, by the Earl of Harrington, and likewise the prefatory remarks made by that nobleman. It is to be regretted that the prorogation of the House occurred before the Earl had finished his remarks, for we should like to have had an expression of opinion by other members of that august body. The Earl of Harrington speaks in pretty strong terms of the "prerogative"—much stronger than any we have heard used here.

In the answers to the various questions, the Earl of Harrowby seems to be lamentably deficient in information, as he denies that the Assembly was elected in 1854.

Lord Harrington said: "Next let us consider the dissolution of the National Assembly of New Brunswick by the Governor, in opposition to the council and the parliament. I absolve Mr. M. Sutton from all blame. A governor, like a soldier, must obey orders. The blame—if blame there be—is attributable to the government; for no subordinate officer would have dared to have taken so bold and so bad a course, except under the sanction of the government, for reasons yet to be made known. No sovereign in this country, since the revolution, has ever dissolved a parliament in opposition to his cabinet. Now the colonies have constitutions nearly similar to the parent state, consequently there is no precedent of a similar act of unconstitutional power having been exercised in her Majesty's North American empire."

Here the Earl of Harrington was interrupted by the process for proroguing parliament. After the prorogation, the Earl of Harrowby gave Lord Harrington the answers intended to be given to his questions.

Question 1st.—Whether, in New Brunswick in the year 1852, some 30,000 persons petitioned the Legislative Assembly in favor of a Prohibitory Liquor Law?

Reply.—According to the journals of the Assembly of 1852, there appear to have been 29 petitions on this subject; but the number of the signatures is not stated.

Question 2d.—Whether the representative body elected in 1854 carried that measure?

Reply.—The Assembly was not elected in 1854. It was elected in 1851, and passed in 1852 an "Act to prevent the traffic in intoxicating liquors." This law, which did not prohibit the importation of intoxicating liquors, was repealed in 1854 by an act to regulate the sale of spirituous liquors. The latter act has been amended by a third act of no importance. Finally, in the session of 1855, a fourth act was passed to "prevent the importation, manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquors."

Question 3d.—Whether the Queen's sign manual had been obtained in 1856 to enforce the prohibition?

Reply.—This last act, 1855, was not reserved for the crown, but was assented to by the governor. It was "left to its operation" by the Queen in Council, in November, 1855.

Question 4th.—Whether the Lieutenant Governor, Mr. Manners Sutton, has now dissolved the parliament in direct opposition to his Council, in order to appeal from the Legislative body to the appetites and judgment of the people concerning the Prohibitory Law,—an act intended to save the laboring classes from sickness, pauperism and crimes, and to secure to the state a sober and healthy race of men, the great source of power and of wealth?

Reply.—Mr. Manners-Sutton, contrary to the opinion of his then advisers, considered a dissolution of the Assembly to be requisite. On his insisting on this point, his executive council resigned, and a new administration was formed, on whose responsibility the Assembly was dissolved. The motives which influenced Mr. Sutton in this proceeding are disclosed in a despatch of the 31st May. A new Assembly has been called, and is now sitting.

Question 5th.—Whether in her Majesty's North American empire there exists any precedent for the exercise, on the part of a governor, of such an act of power in opposition to his council?

Reply.—I know of no such instance; but responsible government has only been established ten years in Canada, and about five in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

THE "WOODSTOCK JOURNAL," "TOM JONES," &c.—Our notice of this redoubtable print and its doughty champion, must of necessity be very brief this week. It is possible that some of our friends will begin to suppose, as does the Editor of that paper, that we conceive it an important sheet, and attach importance to its sayings. Verily we did imagine that it might have an undue influence on very aged women and very young children—further than this we never thought that very extensive evil would arise from it. But we felt called upon to expose its fallacious reasonings, its inconsistencies, and its wholesale abuse of parties who did entertain certain opinions,—had it not been for these we might have temperately and calmly discussed questions of importance, which would suit our own feelings much better than a pursuance of the course we have felt called upon to adopt; and in all we

have written, we have studiously avoided misrepresentation and personalities. But the Editor of the Journal—writing and twisting, unable to rid himself of the weight and applicability of the charges we have made—feels it necessary to make use of Mr. Tom Jones, who, with "trenchant blade," (this figure of the Journal is very poetical, but to render it into truth, we put it, with trenchant dung-fork,) from the filth of billingsgate, which seems to be his natural element, endeavours to bespatter and be-mire the Editor of the Sentinel.—Now we would just say to the Editor of the Journal, beware! We dislike anonymous communications. So far we have refused to use any of the many that have been offered, quite as effective as that of "Tom Jones." We want to fight our own battles and do not desire that our friends should become involved in them. We have, as we shall, while we have reason to believe that the editorial management of the Journal is in the hands of one responsible individual, direct what we have to say about that paper at and to him. But if the course commenced by the Journal be continued, we shall hold ourselves at liberty to avail ourselves of correspondence; and if supposed friends of the Sentinel are attacked on our account, why, look out for retaliation.

"We cry havoc, And let loose the dogs of war."

As to the "logic" of the arguments advanced by either paper, we leave our readers to judge; as likewise on the score of respectability and ability. We are quite satisfied ourselves both with the number and respectability of our subscribers; and if the Journal has never heard a respectable person speak well of the Sentinel, we have heard a score—outside of Woodstock—of very respectable people, indeed, speak in the most contemptuous terms of the Journal, and we have heard more than one who once were warm and strong supporters of that paper speak very disapprovingly of it.

The meanest, most contemptible, yet characteristic piece of impudence is that where the Editor hails to his assistance "Tom Jones"—the mighty Goliath of the Philistines—and adds a threat against Charles Connell, Esquire. What magnanimity is here displayed! It reminds us of an anecdote: A great big lubber having got well and deservedly licked by a smaller boy, blubbered out in revenge, "that if he couldn't lick him, he could make faces at his sister." So the Journal—finding that we are three armed in that we are disarmed and beaten on every point,—in his spiteful malice makes faces at Mr. Connell, and threatens him with condign vengeance. We presume Mr. C. is too wise and too well initiated into such wiles to feel at all alarmed; and if the Journal thinks we will, by such or any threats, be deterred from expressing a fearless opinion, he "reckons without his host."

"TOM JONES."—This is a cognomen assumed, we believe, by Mr. T. E. P., who, under cover of it, makes a laudable effort to sound forth the praises of the Journal and its Editor, and abuse the Sentinel and its Editor. As this is the first communication which has appeared against us, and as we do not wish to encourage a feeling of bitterness, and as the gentleman who, we believe, is the writer, has connections for whom we entertain a very high regard, we shall be as brief as we can in justice to ourselves. First then, "Tom," you intimated that the Sentinel, within a few weeks, has dealt very largely in personalities; this is false, you can't prove it. You next intimate that two blanks edit this paper; false again. You may yet learn (we speak without desire to evince that self-glorifying spirit so profuse in the Journal,) that its Editor is one "reality."

Thank you, "Tom," for the compliment of "smirk and cleverness." The next sentence, wherein you reiterate our quotation from Cowper, you must revise; we can't make any sense out of it, (mind, this is not an admission that there is any sense in the whole article.)

Now we come to the five questions. To the first, we have already made answer, though we find it difficult to imagine why the question was asked us. The second and third we don't understand; but there seems to be an intimation that we were in the habit, during the past winter, of having a little black bottle daily or daily filled at the Agency, or somewhere else, with liquor. We cannot bandy words on this point; we feel that our honor is at stake, and we proclaim that such an assertion or intimation is an unmitigated falsehood.

With regard to the fourth and fifth questions we will have nothing to say. Tom Jones is not the man, nor is this the time to discuss the late Liquor Law. And with these remarks, we bid a respectful good bye to "Tom Jones," only remarking, that if the Governor has any feelings of gratitude, he will immediately forward to this renowned champion in his cause, this man who in his heart

honours and esteems him for the course he took, a cap and bells, and a feather, not from the eider duck's wing, but from a peacock's tail.

A PUBLIC HALF-HOLIDAY.—We notice that some of the Canadian papers are agitating the propriety of making Saturday afternoon a standing half-holiday. We regard this as a subject well worthy the consideration of our readers, and beg briefly to state why we think the adoption of such would be a general benefit. First, then, the prospect of an afternoon's relaxation would be an incentive to industrious application to business during the five-and-a-half days preceding. Next, it would tend to preserve inviolate the ordinance of the Sabbath: that being now the only day of the week in which there is a release from business, many feel themselves excused in spending their time on that day in a way and manner not in strict accordance with its sanctity.

Again, it would be an inducement for our young men to form themselves into clubs for various kinds of manly, athletic and invigorating games, and cricket and boating clubs would spring up as a consequence.

These are a few of the benefits which we think would arise from a half-holiday weekly; and we cannot see or think of any serious evil which can arise from it. Having only Sundays and evenings,—and no rational amusements to attract attention during the evenings,—our young men are led, in too many cases, we fear, to seek relief from ennui in the bar or gambling room, and their minds and morals must of necessity suffer; but give them an opportunity for manly sport,—it will not only give strength and muscle to the body, but vigor and elasticity to the mind, give a new tone to its ambition, and lead to happy results. Think of it, friends and readers, and that, too, right away!

Quite a number of young lads were convicted before his Worship the Mayor, of improper conduct on Sabbath last, on the complaint of the Marshall, and sentenced to short terms of imprisonment.

The question has been asked us, "whether there is not a law against steamers leaving their wharfs on Sunday; and if so, whether the Marshall took notice of such violation on Sunday last." To this question we can only say, that we do not think the Marshall will be guilty of any partiality, but treat all laws alike.

A young colored lad named Wildie, of Fredericton, was accidentally drowned on Tuesday last, near Hayden's steam mill.

RAIN! RAIN! RAIN!—We believe the oldest inhabitant don't remember such a wet season, for the time of the year, as the present; for sometime we think twenty four hours have not passed without rain, and almost every day brings a heavy shower. This has raised the river, and brought the steamers up, which tends to enliven the times and make business a little brisk; but we fear that evils will follow this constant wet of a very serious nature. There is a great deal of hay down, besides a great deal not yet cut—much must rot in the field. The grain is getting ready for the harvest—in some instances, we have heard of, it has commenced; and unless there is fair weather, and that soon, it will be impossible to secure the crops.

MOUNT ALLISON ACADEMY.—We have received the Academic Gazette for June, containing the names of the students, course of instruction, &c. We perceive that the students now number 113 males, and 111 females,—total, 224. This fact is in itself sufficient evidence of the soundness of the principles on which this institution is conducted.

We extract from the Gazette as follows:

"MALE BRANCH.—This branch of the Institution has been opened and in successful operation more than thirteen years. The arrangements which were made for the accomplishment of the important object for which it had been founded, were such as obtained for it a high position in the public estimation, very early in its history; and those upon whom the direction of its affairs devolved have been stimulated and encouraged by its prosperity to continued efforts to render it, in all its departments, ever increasingly efficient. Each year has consequently been marked by valuable additions to its educational facilities, and by more or less extensive general improvements throughout the establishment. And as it will continue to be conducted upon the same principles which have secured for it such enviable and distinguished popularity, and such extensive and continued patronage, the attention of young men and of the parents and guardians of youth is confidently but respectfully invited to it, as an Institution where, under most favorable circumstances, the advantages of a thorough intellectual training may be obtained in safety and comfort."

"THE METHOD OF INSTRUCTION is that which, after careful observation and mature experience, has been judged best calculated to interest the youthful mind, and to develop most harmoniously all its powers. The best text-books extant, in the

various studies, are placed in the hands of the student, who is required to make himself acquainted with successive portions of these as they are from day to day definitely assigned by the teachers, and to furnish satisfactory evidence of such acquaintance in his recitation-rooms at appointed hours. To do this he must study, and, persevering in so doing week after week, he acquires the habit of methodical study. But, to prevent the preparation for the recitation-room from becoming mere *task work*, and the recitations mere memoriter repetition of words and phrases, the student is encouraged to extend his range of inquiry beyond the limits of his text-book,—to speak and think and talk for himself:—to lead him to do so is the constant endeavor of all the Officers of Instruction."

The Editor of the *Temperance Telegraph* had better get a pair of "leather spectacles"—he can't distinguish his friends.

The hieroglyphical writer in the *Freeman* knows a "thing or two" all right about *them* good subscribers, and about the inability of the other party to put us down. But we would just whisper to the Government that, now since one "Tom Jones" threatens to eclipse our glory by his farthing rush-light, we might receive tenders for ourselves and influence.

We perceive, by the *Christian Visitor*, that the Western N. B. Baptist Association will meet at Jacksontown on Saturday the 7th September next ensuing.

The laying down of the Electric Telegraph between Newfoundland and Cape Breton, as also between Prince Edward Island and New Brunswick, has at length been successfully accomplished.

Arthur's Home Magazine for September has been received. This number well maintains the reputation which this monthly has so deservedly attained.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—"A." has been received, and will meet with due attention next week.—"Roderick Random" will also receive attention next week.

Dealers in breadstuffs, like dealers in everything else, make the best use they can of their capital.—They buy when grain and flour are cheap, and they try to sell when they are dear, and taking all things into consideration, we see no reason why they should not do so. Sometimes there is a great deal of speculation as to what the price of flour will be. Dealers in breadstuffs are wretches who fatten on the starving pangs of their fellow creatures. If this cry be just, so would be one against speculative clothiers, who enhanced the price of woollens as the weather became inclement; for surely clothing is as necessary to life as food, in a country where even the fur-clad complain of the biting cold. It is not, therefore, because the flour speculators and dealers are in a "panic" that we are glad to record another fall in the price of breadstuffs. We have just the same amount of sympathy for them, as we have for any other class of commercial men who, in the hope of a grand speculation, make a mistake and suffer a heavy loss. It is the fortune of such a system of trade, and if they run the risks of the lottery, they must be prepared to suffer, when, instead of a prize, they draw a blank. But to the public, to the country, this fall of from two to three shillings a barrel in the price of flour is a great benefit. Nor is this all we may reasonably expect. If the prospect of good harvests has brought down the price of breadstuffs, somewhere near eight or ten per cent., will not the realization have a tendency still more to depreciate their value? If the harvest of the world should turn out as good as it promises, we believe we are not making a very hazardous assertion, when we say that we shall have flour in this market at five and twenty shillings a barrel. The difference between such a price and that which prevailed throughout the Province last winter (in many places flour had advanced to over three pounds per barrel,) will allow of a largely increased expenditure on other articles of necessity or utility, thereby giving an impetus to trade which will, in some measure, compensate the laboring class and the trader for the absence of high prices for our staples. With even a small lumber and shipbuilding business, and low price of food, the people will be better off than under the recent excitement of enormous wages and famine prices.—*Courier*.

BROKE GAOL AGAIN.—We understand that the notorious William Kenneth Bigger, succeeded in breaking out of the County Gaol, at Newcastle, on Tuesday afternoon last, and has not since been heard of. He effected his escape by cutting a piece out of the door of his room.—*Miramichi Gleaner*.

Yesterday, a man named Heans, rigger, received such injuries by a fall on board a new ship, that he has since remained insensible, and there is no expectation of his recovery. He has a wife and family.—*Chronicle*.