

[From the Morning News.]

THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT.

Mr. Editor.—In your leading article of Wednesday last, on the Progress and Enterprise of Canada, you quote the old saying that "Comparisons are odious," and when made between Canada with its present prospective prosperity with its anti-progressive and prospective retrogradation, under its present Government, I with every other true lover of his country's prosperity, must acknowledge that it becomes not only odious but deeply humiliating.

Every person acquainted with the resources and capabilities of this Province must admit, that, with one exception, we possess at the present moment, all the natural requirements to make us a prosperous people.

The exception to which I have reference is, the almost total absence of that Administrative talent in the members of the present Executive Government, which is so essentially requisite to the proper and successful development of our country's resources, to enable it to maintain a corresponding advancement with other portions of this Continent whose position and natural advantages are very far from bearing a favourable comparison with those possessed by our own Province.

When we speak of the members of the present Government, we are ready to admit, that, in the opinion of many persons, the Hon. Attorney General is one of the *prettiest speakers* in the Province; that his sentences are well constructed, and at all times in strict accordance with the rules laid down by Lindley Murray; and some do him the credit of saying that with the assistance derived from an able partner, he is "a very clever lawyer," and that the ingenuity displayed at the late Session of the House to relieve the Governor from the odium of the "Dodge" in connection with the uses of the "Great Seal" and the "Little Seal" was such as to entitle the Hon. John H. Gray to the office of Attorney General for at least another six months, but no longer.

But, Mr. Editor, are these the only requisites for a statesman? Wherein has the Hon. Attorney General, during the whole term of his Executive and Legislative existence, shown by one single act that he possessed one iota of that ability so essentially necessary in the man who is called upon to assume the direction of the public affairs of a country?—Not one, unless his portion of the College Commission Report may be an exception, but that was only in a subordinate capacity, the Leader was another man. Just as long as Mr. Gray occupies a seat in the Legislature, just so long may the people of this Province be pleased with his *pretty speeches*, but nothing more. The ideas requisite in a statesman are not in his case as some supposed, lying dormant. They do not exist. The Attorney General may, with his present competitors at the Bar, be successful; but in his position of Executive Councillor, and Leader of the Government, wherein to take initiative in matters connected with the future advancement of country. *The people will find him a failure.*

The Hon. Solicitor General, John C. Allen, is a gentleman well known in Fredericton, and highly appreciated as an honest, upright man; with a disposition to "deal kindly with all," talents of a mediocr character for ordinary matters, but to the possession of those qualifications necessary in the Statesman, "he is perfectly innocent." Fredericton is the spot in which his life's best efforts have been concentrated; beyond it his powers of vision do not extend. "York is his world."

It is acknowledged on all hands that the Executive member for Westmorland, the Hon. Mr. Chandler, is an active, shrewd, intelligent man; one who can study and advance his own interests as rapidly and securely as any man in the Province; give his support to any measure calculated to improve his own locality, such for instance as a Railway from the Bend to Shediac; ready at all times to fill an office with a Relative or Political Friend, and to advocate any measure for the general good—Provided that such advocacy would in no wise militate against his own interests. With all the hon. Gentleman's ability his views are rather too anti-progressive for the present times.

The Hon. R. L. Hazen, another member of the Government, is a gentleman well known throughout the Province, and generally admitted to be one of the most prominent members of the Legal Profession; with one or two exceptions, he is in other respects well qualified to take a leading position in the political affairs of this country; possessing great intellectual capacity to devise great things, but wanting sufficiency of physical energy to bring them to maturity. We could wish to see him in better company than serving in a subordinate capacity to the Hon. J. H. Gray.

The Hon. Surveyor General, Mr. Montgomery, is a gentleman of great physical developments; but in intellectual capacity rather inclines to the Lilliputian order,—may be very well adapted to the discharge of the duties appertaining to his office; but judging from the whole of his past political career, he is totally unqualified to suggest any measure, having for its ultimate object the improvement of the country in any respect whatever. His ideas are all ante-deluvian, and may suit the locality of Restigouche, but altogether unsuitable for any other place, notwithstanding the great eulogium of the Freeman, and its endorsement by the New Brunswicker.

The Hon. Postmaster General, the Hon. Francis McPhelim, is a self-made man; one who has by his own industry (politically speaking) raised himself from a very humble position to the attainment of an office of highly honourable and influential character, and one which has for the time being rendered him quite conspicuous; with the exception of Hazen he is quite equal and in some respects superior to his colleagues.

The Hon. Provincial Secretary is a gentleman well known throughout the Province, and more es-

pecially in this County; a man of great nervous energy and fair intellectual capacity; capable of devising and maturing measures which would tend to the improvement of the country, but too much disposed to sacrifice principles to expediency; eager at all times to attain office and power, and not sensitive with regard to the ways and means; ready to serve a friend when it will help himself to do so; when in opposition ready to vote for any measure that may tend in the slightest degree to injure the Government; vote against the Repeal of a Law to create more confusion; vote against any amendment by which a Law could be more effectually administered; and give his aid to the formation of a Government wherein his present course gives the lie to his acts for the past two years. The people generally have lost all faith in his political integrity, and the time will soon arrive when he will be called upon to resign his present position into the hands of some other man whom the people may delight to honour.

Now Mr. Editor, I am willing to believe that in seasons of general prosperity when the exports of country are on a par with its imports; when every man within its borders is well and profitably employed; the present Executive of the Province might be considered quite competent to administer its public affairs. But in seasons like the present, when the business of the country is nearly prostrate, and when its financial condition is depressed; when the people are looking to the government for the initiation, progress and completion of some great work of public utility, whereby neighbours may be brought into closer proximity with each other, and our Province relieved from its pre-occupation; when the country requires men of nerve and energy to manage its affairs, and raise it from its present depressed condition, and place it once more in a state of comparative prosperity. In the present Executive of the Province the men are not to be found of the character so essentially required, and when we compare our present state with the prosperous and advancing state of the other portions of Her Majesty's possessions on this continent, we must all feel ourselves compelled to admit the fact that our present state is truly humiliating to every sincere lover of his country's prosperity; and must continue to be so just so long as we are compelled to look up to such a body of incompetent men for the initiation of one idea that will eventuate in anything leading in the smallest degree to prosperity. P. P.

TERRIFIC THUNDER STORM.—On Monday last, thunder clouds were seen rising from the South, and shortly afterwards, clouds evidently charged with electricity were discovered rapidly approaching from the North West. The clouds met just over Fredericton, and for nearly an hour the effects of the collision were terrific. Balls of fire seemed to roll through the streets and through shops where doors and windows were open. Trees trembled in every branch, and even the very ground seemed to shake, while dash upon dash drowned every human voice, each crash following quickly flashes of vivid lightning. At length a stream of fire descended directly from heaven, awfully grand, followed instantaneously by one of the most tremendous claps of thunder it is impossible to imagine. By this shock several persons in the vicinity of Fredericton were thrown off their feet, but we have not heard of any one seriously injured. A house was struck in George street and very much shattered. The lightning seemed to have struck the chimney, carrying away all above the roof, and several feet below the ridge-pole; it then appears to have descended to the ground floor, tearing large holes through the ceiling and partitions, forcing off both plaster and lathing, and then to have escaped both front and rear. The shingles on the roof and walls are ripped off in many places; a door between two rooms in the lower story was forced out, and one of the casings torn off a brick wall; some of the rafters were split in shreds; and some of the chimney bricks were thrown across a wide street and lodged in the burying ground opposite. Fortunately there was no person in the house at the time. "The house belongs to Mr. Russel, who was in St. John on a visit.—Head Quarters.

The Crops are reported to be in a very promising condition in every part of the Province. A gentleman from Lunenburg says he never saw that fine country looking more beautiful, or vegetation looking more luxuriant than at present. The hay crop is likely to be abundant, and if Providence shall favor us with a course of fine weather (which the utmost industry and foresight of man cannot secure), the Farmers of Nova Scotia may look forward to a continuance of that prosperity with which they have been visited for the last few years. Some symptoms of potatoe blight have made their appearance, but we hope it may not prove general nor destructive.—Presbyterian Witness.

The Halifax Chronicle of Tuesday contains a letter from the Hon. Joseph Howe to Mr. Gladstone, M. P., extending over nine columns, in which a speech of the latter, in the British Parliament, reflecting on Mr. Howe's conduct in the American equiptment difficulty, is handled in such a manner as that gentleman knows so well how to do. It will amply repay a perusal. Mr. Howe winds up with a bit of advice to British Statesmen, "to

make it a principle of settled policy, to be independent of the friendship or enmity of the United States."

ROBBERY.—Gunnison's express was robbed of \$5000 in bills of the Frontier Bank, Eastport, on Thursday last, just before the starting of the steamer, the robber having entered his room and carried off the trunk containing the money.

The rapid growth of towns in Canada West is exhibited by a census of one lately taken, from which it appears that in 1848 the population was 8,889—it is now 21,855. Fifteen years ago Hamilton was an obscure village, about the size of Windsor—it is now a town nearly, if not quite as large as Halifax.—Sun.

The Council of the Board of Trade, Montreal, has decided on the adjudicating of standard Brands of Flour; these they have placed high, or, in other words, have gone back to the old standard. They have also established a new brand, viz: Fancy running between No. 1 Superfine and Extra.—Hal. Sun.

MURDER IN AUSTRALIA.—One of our townsmen, Mr. Harris Dell Hartt, who emigrated to Australia a few years ago, met with an untimely end early in the current year. He was working at the diggings about thirty miles from Geelong, and on the evening of the 4th of January he was in a tent occupied as a store. A notorious bad character named Boucher, had a quarrel with his comrade, and followed him into the store threatening to kill him. He was instantly ejected by the owner. About fifteen or twenty minutes afterwards he came back with an adze in his hands, swearing he would have the lives of all in the tent.—Seeing the shadow of a man who was standing near the canvass in the inside, and reckless whom he struck, he made two or three rapid cuts, the last of which grazed Mr. Hartt's shoulder blade and served five ribs from the back bone. Mr. H., after some delay, was removed to Geelong, and bore his fate with exemplary patience for nearly three months, but expired on the 30th of March. The murderer pleaded guilty of manslaughter, of which crime he was convicted, and got off with a sentence of five years at hard labour. Mr. Hartt has many friends in New Brunswick who will regret his untimely end.—Fredericton Head Quarters.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Reported for the Carleton Sentinel.

ARRIVAL OF THE BALTIC.

NEW YORK, August 17th.  
Steamer Baltic arrived this morning, under favourable weather.  
Panic in breadstuffs' market continues.  
Flour declined 2s. to 3s. per barrel. Corn firm and unchanged. Provisions generally unchanged. Money active. No change from previous quotations.  
Governorship of Jamaica is tendered Mr. Darling, Governor of Newfoundland.  
Spanish insurrection suppressed.

ARRIVAL OF THE AFRICA.

NEW YORK, August 21st.  
Africa arrived last night.  
BREADSTUFFS.—Flour declined 3s. to 4s. on the week. Buyers holding back for still further decline. Wheat declined 1s. Corn steady.  
Weather very fine for agricultural prospects.  
London produce market remains unchanged.  
LONDON, Saturday, noon.—Consols closed 94½ to 95 for money; 95½ to 95¼ for account.  
General news wholly unimportant.

ITALY.—The news from the peninsula begins again to attract general attention, even in spite of the events going on in Spain. At Massa, disorders have been provoked by the tyrannical proceedings and the numerous arrests ordered by the Austrian commissioner. At Parma, the quarrel continues between the government and the duchess regent, and the Austrian General Crenauville, whose recall and replacement by General Baumgarten, now at Mayence, is confirmed. Other disturbances have occurred in the Romagna, under the pretext of high prices of eatables. The peasants and mob oppose the export of grain and corn, not only from the state, but also from one province into another province, and thus furnish to the Austrian a new pretext for prolonging the occupation against which the population protests. At Genoa, a republican movement had been preparing in the dark, under the supposed influence of Mazzini, whom the popular belief affirms to be at present lurking about the frontiers, but the growing outbreak was nipped in the bud. Meanwhile the Neapolitan and Roman governments are in great alarm. At Naples a proclamation has been issued promising the people an approaching victory with

the help of the representatives from the foreign powers. Poor deluded people, who depend upon assistance from the diplomatists! King Bomba's councillors, who probably know better what kind of paper intervention they have to fear from foreign meddlers, will have laughed heartily, but not so at the news of the disbanding of the Anglo Italian legion at Malta. They fear, or at least appear to believe, that these disbanded soldiers will increase the ranks of the Mazzinian party, and that they are attempting a disembarkation on the Neapolitan or Roman coasts. Accordingly, extensive measures of precaution have been taken for their landing in Calabria and Sicily. There are a great many people who are of opinion that King Bomba only uses Mazzini as a pretext for continuing his preparations of defence in defiance of the threats of France and England. In Tuscany, the liberal and constitutional party are full of hope, and their alacrity doubles the suspicions of the Austrians, whose last act was to prohibit the wearing of long moustaches a la Victor Emmanuel. A telegraphic despatch was sent on the 22d to Gratz, ordering 3,000,000 of ball cartridges to be sent from the magazines of that place to Italy. The minister of war at the same time countermanding the orders for reducing the cavalry and artillery to a peace footing. All the troops stationed in Istria, Krain, Steyermark, and Kærnthie have received the route.

The news from Spain has been fluctuating; there is, however, too much reason to fear that the more hurtful intelligence which appeared in the Examiner, especially on Saturday evening must give place to later information of the pretty general suppression of resistance in the provinces. Even Saragossa appears likely to surrender soon to the army of the Queen and O'Donnell. Some accounts not to be relied on we fear, have represented the conspirators against the people as quarrelling already, but it is more likely that they and a third, the Emperor whom they have imitated, are still in cordial alliance. The "Moniteur," indeed, has endorsed O'Donnell's deeds with high commendation, and a French army of observation is concentrated on the Pyrenees. Should the treacherous Queen and her tool have to cross them (not indeed a very likely thing), we should then see whether our Government would permit intervention against liberty.—We fear, however, that at the cost of three or four thousand lives, Isabella and O'Donnell have obtained for the present, it may not be for long, a complete victory over constitutional restraint.

TERRIBLE STORM AT THE SOUTH.—NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 14.—A terrible storm occurred in this vicinity on Sunday, which lasted all day, as also all day on Monday. Its effects were most disastrous at Last Island, a great summer resort, and which our accounts represent to have been entirely inundated. Every building on the island is said to have been swept away, and no less than one hundred and thirty lives lost.

A correspondent of the Boston Traveller thus speaks of the richness and beauty of "Far West": "We have journeyed over a large portion of the state of Iowa, universally considered one of the healthiest and loveliest of the Western gems that deck the brow of the Union, and my eyes have been dancing with perfect delight and my soul has revelled in almost wild ecstasy at the broad and fertile prairies, that wave with luxuriant grass, high as a man's head, and fragrant with the most beautiful perfumes from the countless wild flowers that deck the sod, during the last week have met our eyes on every hand. Beautiful and lovely as is this land the remark heard on all sides from those who have been to Kansas is, that that land far surpasses everything we have yet seen in fertility and beauty. This the stake we are struggling for; this the land which is to be blighted by slavery. If the East is wise and knows her duties she will send on her young men to aid them till the struggle is over."

The last number of the Canadian Watchman states that the Queen has conferred the title and dignity of Baronet of the United Kingdom on Sir Allan M'Nab, late prime minister in Canada.

GOOD NEWS FROM KANSAS.—Chicago, Aug. 11.—Advices from Leavenworth, to Wednesday, state that the overland Emigrant Company entered Kansas, and probably arrived at Topeka safely. The company of Missourians, which had marched to intercept them, returned without fighting. The company of dragoons, headed by Judge Leecombe, which entered Nebraska to arrest Judge Lane, had also returned without effecting their object. The rumored battle between the emigrants and regulators, near Nebraska line, is not generally credited. It is rumored in Nebraska city, 30th, that a large force of Missourians and Carolinians had invaded the Territory, and blockaded the public roads. Volunteers have gone forward to drive them out.