

Correspondence.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions of Correspondents, unless editorially endorsed.

To the Editor of the Carleton Sentinel:

SIR,—A Petition was handed me the other day for signature, setting forth certain evils resulting to the County from the incorporation of the Town of Woodstock. Not supposing for a moment that either of our representatives would be vile enough to encourage such a project for the repeal of the Act, with a view to gain the good will of one part of the community by destroying the other, and at the same time the great principle of self-government, just beginning to be established—nor that the Legislature would establish so startling a precedent; yet the design, the motive, which prompted the movers in this matter, it is the duty of every honest man to expose. Among men of all professions may be found the quack, but the most disgusting of all human specimens is the political quack of Carleton. With Christians he speaks and prays; with sinners he drinks and fights; he belongs to all popular institutions and daily violates the rules of all. His aversion for truth is the most remarkable trait in his character. Where he gains the most there will he fawn the most, and anything upright or honorable is not found in him. While such persons are going to and fro in the land, it is not surprising that the innocent and unwary fall a prey to their wiles. The last patent humbug by which these people seek to draw the wool over our eyes is the repeal of the Act to incorporate the town of Woodstock; and as surely as it succeeds must follow the repeal of the Act incorporating the County,—for who can say that the people in the town are not as capable of managing their own affairs as we are in the country. I have made it a rule for many years, to learn from some other source than the bearer of a doubtful petition, its objects before signing it; and the result of my enquiries regarding this is, that the object of repeal is not expected to be attained, but that capital to the credit of the movers may be secured in the country at the expense of our present representatives, in the town, when opportunity offers.

Many of my neighbours have expressed themselves as perfectly delighted with the change of affairs in Woodstock since it became incorporated.—The horse of one of them was frightened by the screaming of boys, and ice and snow balls thrown at him, which caused him to run away, throwing the inmates out of the sleigh, and seriously injuring Mr. —. A few years ago it was unsafe to leave grain, horse blankets, buffaloes, or any other thing on our sleds, without being destroyed by a pack of hungry cows, or stolen. Again, the rapid driving of the Woodstock gentleman made us keep both eyes open to avoid being run over. Now our property and persons are both safe when we go there, and we are taxed nothing for it. We feel thankful for the change, and so must all who desire peace and good order.

But, says the petition, the moneys received from licences for the sale of liquors in the Town of Woodstock, should go to the credit of the country!

Why those moneys more than those received from licences to cartmen, or any others granted? Moreover, I was told a few days ago, when I was down, that most of the commitments were for violation of a statute of the Province, and that if the Lock-up House had not been repaired at the expense of £50 by the town, they would have been committed to the gaol, and the expense, about £50, charged to the county, which, with other necessary expenses assumed by the town, is more than equal to all received from tavern licences.

I will conclude at present by advising all my fellow countrymen to consider well before they become the tools of designing men, who have not the real interests of either town or country at heart, but strain at what, by such means, they never can attain—an honorable position.

M —.

Upper Brighton, January 3, 1856.

The Carleton Sentinel.

WOODSTOCK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1857.

The coming Session of our Provincial Legislature, promises to be one of vast importance. It is gratifying to mark the unusual degree of interest with which the people seem to look forward to its meeting.

That the people should ever feel anxiously interested in those whom they, by their suffrages, placed in the important position of legislators, none can deny; but that such anxiety and interest has not always been bestowed, is, we fear, equally

true. We hail the existing state of things with satisfaction. It seems to indicate that political knowledge is becoming more widely diffused; that the people recognize more fully the great responsibility which rests upon them; and are learning to watch the actions of the Assembly with a jealous eye, inasmuch as they see that those actions have not only a present and passing importance, but largely affect, for good or ill, the future prosperity of the country.

It may not be amiss to take a rapid glance at the most important matters which will probably engage the attention of our assembled wisdom this winter; and first will come the trial of strength between the two parties which now exist. It is said that the government intend to threaten a dissolution of the House, provided any opposition is offered. If so, let it come; but we scarcely imagine they have any desire to appeal to the people just now. They know too well the reception they would meet with. As to the propriety of a struggle, and a determined one too, by the Liberals, there can be but one opinion. Turned out by an unfair influence, just at the time when they were proving most fully their ability to guide the destinies of the Province, a common desire for fair play, and desire for their rights, would be quite sufficient excuse on their part for an attempt to regain their positions; but reflecting upon the change; upon the character and talent of those who now usurp their places; upon the prospects of the Province while subject to their impotent rule,—it were base, unnatural, and would prove an entire absence of true patriotism not to make such an attempt. A large portion of the press, a large portion of the people have said, and say—that the late Government is the one which should rule; and daily the numbers of such are increasing, and daily the pressure in that direction is making itself manifest to the government. The late government was composed of men of talent, of industry, of experience, largely personally interested in the welfare of the Province. They were consistent liberals in the true sense of the term; and they took office at pecuniary sacrifices to themselves, in many instances, in order to benefit the land. Their advent to power was hailed by the right thinking, by the intelligent, by the good, with pleasure; and their acts, generally speaking, seemed to warrant that confidence.—They themselves, of themselves, filled their respective offices, honorably, skilfully, and economically. (let the saying they effected to the Province, testify.) Can the like be said of those who now guide affairs. Some of them are excellent men in their proper places, but most woefully out of place now. Most of them entirely dependent upon their clerks, unable, removed from the suggestions and advice of their friends, with any degree of satisfaction, to fulfil the duties of their offices. Of course, it ought not to be allowed that such men as the Post Master General, should be criticized; and some people say if the government have to tolerate him, it is punishment enough. Yet even he, Catholic though he, and possessing a mighty influence, people will say is no more fit for his office than some of his companions are for theirs. Not one of these compare favourably, as men, as legislators, with those whose places they have usurped; and because they are not the proper men for their situations; because they are not capable of doing the business of the country; because they have assisted in retarding its prosperity; because they have proved themselves insincere, selfish, unscrupulous defamers of their predecessors,—they should be tried, convicted, and summarily dismissed from their ill-got position.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

JANUARY SESSION.

Mr. Justice Dibblee, presiding, in his charge to the Grand Jury, stated that the absence of any cases to bring under their notice seemed to indicate a good state of morals in the community.

He reminded them that if they were cognizant of any matter or thing requiring their attention, it should be attended to by them the same as if laid before them by the Court.

He had been told that drunkenness was on the increase, and that parties were selling without licence. He was surprised that there were no complaints made and conviction obtained—commenting upon the unfairness to the licensed seller of allowing those unlicensed places. There was no list of the licensed Taverns to lay before them, as by law directed. He did not know whether the Secretary Treasurer or the Clerk was to blame.

(The Clerk explained that the duty of furnishing the list clearly devolved upon the Secretary Treasurer.)

The foreman, Mr. D. Munro, stated that if they found it advisable they would ask for the list.

There were no cases to occupy the attention of a Petit Jury.

A petition to the Legislature was read before the Court, the prayer of which was that a tax, for

railroad and school purposes, be imposed upon all lands out of the control of the Government, and another for the repeal of the law fixing a standard weight for oats.

TOWN COUNCIL.

TUESDAY EVENING, JANUARY 6, 1857.

The Mayor stated that the duties on the new Engine, amounting to £22, had been paid. He recommended an alteration in the Bye Law relating to driving on the bridge. A Resolution was accordingly passed, making the lowest fine 2s. 6d., instead of ten shillings.

Tavern licence for three months granted to John Lindo.

Tavern licence for three months granted to Wm. Patchell.

License for Ball-alley granted to J. Lindo.

Wholesale and retail licence for three months granted to Jas. McDonald.

Mr. McLean objected to the granting of this licence. He did not think it advisable to have a house licensed in that part of the town. He had no personal feeling against Mr. M'D.; but he thought that gentleman would not be materially benefited, and the neighborhood would be injured by it.

Mr. Dibblee did not agree with Mr. McLean.—It was very currently reported that Mr. McDonald had been selling liquor without licence, and probably would continue to sell, and he thought the Town might as well reap the benefit and receive the licence money.

Messrs. Baird and Dibblee appointed a Committee to prepare a petition to the Assembly, praying that the amount of duty paid on Fire Engine be refunded.

Report from Fire Wards at Lower Corner, stating that their Engine House has been prepared, and the Engine safely housed therein.—Accepted and ordered that the building be taken off Mr. Upham's hands.

The Mayor stated that he had closed the bargain with Mr. Bull for the land for Engine House, paying him £24, which he would advance, taking a Council Debenture, payable, with interest, when the assessment was collected.

Afterwards, Mr. Collector Jacques, in answer to a question by the Mayor, stated that he had in his hands about £12 10s., fire money. When the Council recommended that an order be drawn for that amount in favour of the Mayor, to reduce the amount of his claim—which recommendation was adopted.

Several bills ordered to be paid.

The Mayor stated that the receipts of his office had amounted to £24 fines, and stated that by their occupying the Lock-up House the County had saved some £30 or £40 expense, which would otherwise have necessarily been incurred in taking the prisoners to gaol.

The Mayor spoke in complimentary terms of the new Engine Company.

Mr. Smith appointed Committee to audit Mayor's account.

The Clerk was authorised to give the necessary notice for the next election for town officers, which takes place in March. The following is the law which relates to qualifications of voters and Councillors;

5. No person shall at any time be qualified to be elected as Mayor, Councillor, or Assessor for the said Town, unless at the time of his election he be resident within the same, of the full age of twenty one years, and shall have been assessed in the Assessment next preceding such election for real or personal estate, or both, within the said Town, to the value of one hundred pounds or upwards, and shall have paid before the time of such election all rates and taxes legally due from him within the said Town.

6. At the first election under this Act for Mayor, Councillors, and Assessors, no person shall be qualified to vote unless he be of the full age of twenty one years, and possessed at the time of such election of real estate or personal property within the said Town of the value of twenty five pounds or upwards; at every subsequent election all persons of the full age of twenty one years who shall have resided within the said Town for the period of two years, and shall have been assessed upon property in the Assessment next preceding such election, and non-residents who shall have been assessed as aforesaid for real estate within the said Town of the value of twenty five pounds or upwards, and shall have paid all rates and taxes due previous to such election, shall be qualified to vote; the evidence of such payment shall be a receipt from the Collector of Rates, who is hereby required to furnish the same under a penalty of forty shillings for each refusal.

8. No person shall be qualified to be elected to serve in the office of Mayor or Councillor so long as he shall hold any office or place of profit in the gift or disposal of the Council, nor during such time as he shall by himself, his partner, or in any other way or manner, directly or indirectly have any share or interest in any contract or employment with or on behalf of the said Council; nor shall any person accountable for the Town revenues, or any part thereof, nor any officer or person presiding

at any election of a Mayor, Councillor, or Assessor, while so presiding, nor any clerk or assistant employed by him at any such elections, while so employed, be elected to the office of Mayor, Councillor, or Assessor as aforesaid, by reason of his being a proprietor or shareholder in any Company which shall or may contract with the Town Council for lighting, or supplying with water, or insuring against fire, any part of the said Town; provided always, that such disqualification shall not arise from holding any lease of land from the Corporation; and that no Councillor shall receive into his hands any monies for and on account of any contract, work, or employment, made, done, or performed by, or on behalf of, or by direction of the said Corporation, but that all monies due by the said Corporation on any such account shall be paid by the Treasurer of the Town to the person or persons who shall have actually done such work, and shall be entitled to such money by, under, or for such contract, work, or employment, or to his or their order.

DEFERRED ARTICLE.—To fulfil a qualified promise made last week, we have given the article in the *Journal* of the 25th, headed "A Spice of the Dark Ages," a perusal; but we shall not treat it with any serious or lengthy consideration, for the reason that throughout it is a continued tissue of deliberate misrepresentations and unwarrantable inferences, to spend time on which would but insult our readers.

We understand the *Journal's* object; we appreciate it; it was well-timed. It glitters and sparkles; its coils are many-hued, and calculated to charm the unwary—but, O! that hideous head, that forked tongue, that crawling, cringing demeanor, all betray its paternity—

"The trail of the serpent is over it all."

They talk about improved state of feeling!—What are its fruits? Are they not seen all around us? What does every mail bring us but the concurrent testimony of creditable witnesses to the silent yet continuous and mighty growth of an evil principle. Beneath the calm deep waters of the sea a tiny insect works unseen, silently, darkly, yet patiently,—until at last its work is discovered by some gallant vessel striking on a rock before unknown, not found in any chart, and becoming a wreck: the effects of the coral. So beneath the calm exterior of "this improved state," a fearful system of error, with its myriad heads and arms, is at work, and ever and anon the productions of its industry appear, and the works of superstition and error show themselves. Verily, "A Spice of the Dark Ages"—verily, a memento of Rome, has lately upreared its head beneath the fosterings of the "improved state,"—the Convent at St. John. A long stride that in the right direction! "Peace! peace! but there is no peace."

Reference is made to Mr. Watters'. At the time of Mr. Watters' appointment, when the report reached us that that gentleman had been called to the councils of the country, merely because he was a member of the Roman Church, and to conciliate that priesthood, we believed and hoped it was an unscrupulous libel upon the Government and Mr. Watters himself; if we were wrong, that government have learned full well what any government will, who undertakes the like.

By the kindness of Mr. Truesdell, we are in possession of the following figures relative to the "Population and some Statistics of the Incorporated Town of Woodstock." There are some thoughts which naturally arise from a consideration of these facts, which we cannot enlarge upon just now. We would merely observe that in 1847 the town contained 600 inhabitants; thus having much more than doubled in ten years; and there were then but 120 dwelling-houses. It is stated that 26 houses are in course of erection. We believe that as many more have been finished and inhabited the past summer.

POPULATION AND SOME STATISTICS OF THE INCORPORATED TOWN OF WOODSTOCK.

MALES.		FEMALES.		MALES.		FEMALES.	
Under 6.....	140	142	40 to 50.....	64	76		
6 to 16.....	294	164	50 to 60.....	41	37		
16 to 21.....	91	115	60 to 70.....	21	14		
21 to 40.....	216	250	Over 70.....	9	7		
Total Males.....					776		
Total Females.....					805		

Total Population.....1581
252 Families; Inhabited Houses, 215; Houses building, 26; Uninhabited Houses, 14; Barns, 141; and 90 other buildings, making a total of nearly 500 buildings.

Too Good to be Lost!—A number of gentlemen, comprising a family who reside not an hundred miles from Woodstock, having some time since made a tour prospecting for land in the County of York, on the proposed course of the Railroad, were asked why they wished to obtain land in York. They very candidly replied, "In order to oppose Fisher at the next election." "Well," replied the querist, "you should get your land on some of Street's proposed Bye Roads, not on Fisher's Railroad."