

was identified by each to be 'Old Davy, sure enough.' The mate, in a rage, at length mounted himself, when resolutely, as in the former case, searching for the bugbear, he soon ascertained the innocent cause of so much terror to be a large horned owl, so lodged as to be cut out of sight to those who ascended on the other side of the vessel, but which, when any one approached the cross-trees, popped up his portentous visage to see what was coming. The mate brought him down in triumph, and 'Old Davy,' the owl, became a very peaceable shipmate among the crew, who were no longer scared by his horns and eyes; for sailors turn their backs on nothing when they know what it is. Had the birds, in these two instances, departed as they came, of course they would have been deemed supernatural visitants to the respective ships, by all who had heard the one or seen the other.—Bennet and Tyerman's Voyages and Travels. Compiled by James Montgomery, author of "The World before the Flood."

HUNGRY MIDDIES.—There is no class of persons in His Majesty's naval service who have such ravenous appetites as the younger class of middies; indeed, their plates and platters leave the berth, generally, as clean as they were before the dinner ended. What may be the cause of this voracity it is needless to inquire—the fact of their prodigious appetites is universal. And it will easily be imagined that, in such a community, the Equimanx maxim of first come, first served, would sometimes introduce itself into the practice of those polished young gentlemen. One day, after keeping the forenoon watch, I went down at half-past twelve to dinner, but found nothing left on the board but a morsel of the ship's beef, which we generally called salt junk, and sometimes believed to be salt horse, resembling very much a piece of mahogany, and often quite as sapless. To this was added a very small portion of suet pudding, called, in our lingo, dough, or duff, and differing but little in aspect and weight from good honest pipe-clay. It has been very properly observed of a young midshipman, that 'although God may turn his heart, the devil cannot turn his stomach;' and, certainly, upon this occasion, I made no objection to the viands set before me—except as to the quantity. In five minutes, the dish and the plate had returned to their habitual state of purity, which would have rendered the office of scullion a complete sinecure, had we been honoured with such an attendant.—Captain Hall's Fragments.

A MOORISH BEAUTY.—The Moorish ideas of female beauty differ from our English notions on that point in one considerable respect. With us, a slender waist and graceful figure add very greatly to our personal charms, a fat people, though much respected, are not much admired. This is the very antipodes of Moorish criterion. A really handsome woman ought not to be able to walk, corpulence and comeliness being synonymous, and the extreme of the one being considered the height of the other. A woman of a ton weight is, in the opinion of a Moor, a morsel fit for the sultan, and, instead of the waspish proportion of a modern waltz, which is laced in as tightly as the stomach, liver, and other superfluous parts will allow, a Moorish shape;

"If shape that can be called which shape hath none," is considered, in the opinion of these sensual connoisseurs, as nearly approaching to perfection when it resembles, or rather exceeds, the circumference of a butt, pipe, or any other large measure.—Brooke's Sketches in Spain and Morocco.

POLYGAMY AMONG THE MOORS.—Notwithstanding the Mahomedan religion allows a plurality of wives there are few, compared with the great mass, who either avail themselves of this latitude, or are enabled from their circumstances to do so, it being a luxury which none but a few who are tolerably rich can afford, and a poor man is thus obliged to content himself with one. At Tangier, among a population of several thousands, there were very few instances of more than one wife being kept; and a sensible Moore observed once, in conversation to a friend of mine, that they did not entertain a better opinion of a person for keeping a large female establishment, but rather the contrary and that none but basnaws and other wealthy persons indulged in these excesses.—Brooke's Sketches in Spain and Morocco.

HORRID INFANTICIDE.—Meer Mahommed has no family; and I may here remark, that it is the custom of the court of Sinde to put to death all children born to the princes of slay women. The butchery which this horrid cruelty engenders must be shocking, as I was assured that one member of the family alone had consigned to the tomb no less than twenty seven of his illegitimate offspring. The authority of ages may sanc-

tion, and the rites of religion sanctify, the inhuman practices of suttee and infanticide among the Hindoos; and we may pity, if we cannot pardon, the misguided feeling which induces the proud Rajpoot to crush at the birth the daughter, whose preservation, as in Cutch too often ends in her prostitution; but humanity turns with unmingled horror from the monstrous barbarity I have now mentioned, which is as repugnant to the precepts of the Koran as it is to the dictates of nature, and for which we search in vain for any reasonable apology. "They are utterly lost," says Mahommed, "who have slain their children foolishly, without knowledge, and have forbidden that which God hath given them for food, devising a lie against God.—Burnes's Narrative of a Visit to the Court of Sinde."

ORIGINAL.

COUNTY OF GASPE.

At a Meeting of the Freeholders of Douglastown, in the Bay of Gaspé, held the 3rd July, 1831, to take into consideration the state of the County of Gaspé, and consult upon the most proper manner of proceeding, in order to obtain redress against the unconstitutional vote of the Assembly, disfranchising the County, and depriving the Inhabitants thereof of their rights as British Subjects, by excluding, during the late and present Parliament, the Member freely chosen as Representative for this County, by the Freeholders thereof; and to consider of other grievances.

ISAAC KENNEDY, Esq. Presiding.

Mr. CONNLY Addressed the Meeting in nearly the following terms:

"We are called upon to day, to vindicate our character as men, qualified to judge of our just and constitutional rights as British subjects, and to maintain our Magna Charta. To shew the Province that we will not suffer our rights in the Constitution to be trampled upon; but that we will guard them with the vigilance of men understanding, and resolved to maintain them. I view those rights as having been wondrously violated in the expulsion of our Representative from the Assembly;—his Constituents have never heard nor seen the shadow of a reasonable cause for it. If he had been guilty of any crime or offence, why not have publicly tried him for it? Why was he not heard openly at the bar of the Assembly, with the privilege of examining the witnesses who had given in private information affecting him?—surely the cause that would not bear light could not be a good one. Why not have given him an opportunity of vindicating or explaining himself? Yet it has been by a vote of expulsion, without trial—without hearing—without evidence—without offence, I may say (for the matters used as a pretext do not amount to it) that an attempt is made to disqualify him, and disfranchise us, as if that vote were a law! The Assembly must have strange notions of the efficacy of their own vote."

"Actuated by proper feelings, we have hitherto discharged with firmness, a duty we owe the Constitution, ourselves, and our posterity, in returning in the face of those unreasonable and absurd expulsions, the Representative of our own free choice, and shall again and again, if the Assembly repeat the measure against which the County are unanimous, and are about raising a voice that will be heard in a quarter where there is redress. Our neighbours at Percé, have shewn us the way—we are now to examine what they have done, and see whether we conscientiously can agree with them in sentiment on the subject, and go hand in hand with them, with one feeling and one heart."

READ—The proceedings of the Freeholders and Electors of the County assembled at Percé, the 29th ult. and:

RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY—that this Meeting concur in, and adopt the Resolutions passed by the said Freeholders and Electors at the meeting aforesaid; and:

RESOLVED—That the thanks of the meeting be given Mr. Kennedy for calling the Freeholders of the settlement together on the present occasion, and for his conduct in presiding at the Meeting.

At a Meeting held pursuant to notice, the 9th July, 1831, at St. George's Cove, of Freeholders and Electors, residing at Little Gaspé, Grande Gaspé, St. George's Cove, and Indian Cove, in the said Bay of Gaspé, for the purposes above mentioned.

NICHOLAS LENTETEV, Esq. in the chair.

Captain FRANÇOIS AUBER, addressed the Meeting:

"Gentlemen—our Representative Mr. Christie, has explained to you, the purpose of the present meeting, and in thanking us for our attendance, and the patient hearing given him, expresses his regret, that he should be the cause of the existing misunderstanding between us and the Assembly; but in truth our thanks are rather due to him. The trouble he has taken for us, and continues to take, deserves our warmest thanks and support. As our Representative he has no remuneration—the confidence we place in him puts nothing in his pocket, but may possibly take something from it; our thanks are therefore doubly due him, but we know also that he is sensible he possesses what no money could procure for him—the confidence—the good will—the support of the firm and upright Freeholders of the County of Gaspé. As for the misunderstanding, he is not the cause of it, the real cause is to be found in the unconstitutional, the unreasonable vote of the Assembly, during the two Sessions of the late House, and above all, at the last Session of the present Assembly; it is to be found in the caprice, and absurd antipathies of that body, which puts up its own illegal vote as a law of the land. That vote is not in any sense entitled to our respect; on the contrary, it is in every respect reprehensible, as, by it, the Assembly assumes the power of disqualifying a subject, and disfranchising a County, a power only appertaining to the three branches of the Legislature. This attempt is the more criminal, as the majority of that body must feel in their hearts that it

is unjust and oppressive, and arising from party spirit, and that the three branches never could concur in it, although for reasons best known to themselves, some of them may wink at it. Not being able to effect so daring an act of injustice by a law, they do it by a vote, giving it the effect of a permanent law, by adopting it as such from Session to Session, and from Parliament to Parliament, making one piece of violence and injustice, precedent and pretext for another, to the prejudice of this remote and neglected County. They seem forgetful that oppression to a weak party, by the very circumstance that it is practised upon the weak, is an act of baseness as well as injustice—nay, they seem to think that we ought not even to feel it, but in complacency to their pleasure, part with our own sense of right and wrong; and do as they bid us—we are not to be represented but as they please to dictate to us;—we will, however, stand by our rights, and be guided by our own judgments, and although in point of numbers, not so considerable as some other Counties in Lower Canada may be, we, I believe, understand our rights as well, and will maintain them too as steadily as the best and most populace of them. Our rights are as valuable and dear to us as theirs to them, and they also are as sacred. The rights of ten, and of ten thousand men, are in the eyes of the constitution, the same.

"Our cause, Gentlemen, is good, and if persevered in, must succeed, because it is so. The sensible and thinking part of the Province is with us, all Upper Canada, New Brunswick, and Nova Scotia, are with us, in short, every friend to justice, every reasonable man knowing the matter, must be. The Freeholders of the County, are not in the choice of a Representative, bound to consult the caprice, the pleasure, or the antipathy of the Assembly, or any part of it, and send thither such an one only as may be acceptable to a party there,—we are free to choose any person we please not disqualified by law to represent us, and we never will, nor ought to consider a vote of the Assembly a disqualification, much less, such a vote as the present. It affords no reason for altering our opinion of the Representative we have chosen. We have not heard of any misconduct on his part, on the floor of the assembly, and he neither ought to be, nor is accountable to it for his opinions or his conduct out of doors. None but the Assembly of Lower Canada would ever think of such a thing—they have surpassed the inquisition. He has been chosen by us freely and without constraint, and we will not be constrained to abandon him. He was, when we first returned him, better acquainted with the wants of the County and its resources, than most of ourselves, he knew us personally, and we confided in him; and let not the Assembly, or the creatures of the Assembly, imagine that by a perseverance in wrong doing, and oppression, they will disgrace him in our eyes. The odium of an unjust act rests upon the perpetrator, not upon the victim of it. If we look at the matter which the Assembly consider his offence, it will at most, taking the whole to be fact, resolve itself into matter of opinion, and no more. The Assembly ought to be the last to meddle with, or punish opinion. He is said to have been instrumental in removing some two or three mischievous Magistrates from the Commission of the Peace;—and what then?—this may have been an act of duty, and I have reason to believe it to have been so. But then these Magistrates were also Members of the Assembly,—and what if they were? What has that to do with the rights and franchises of this county?—Because THEY were removed, the Representative of this County is to be accountable for it, and the Freeholders disfranchised with a precipitancy, and in a way that staggers belief. The County remains unrepresented in the Assembly, while that same Assembly are making Laws, and for ought we know, chains to bind us. They proceed as if they had the right to appoint a Representative for us, and it is surprising they have not condescended to recommend us by a vote, the person they would consider most acceptable to themselves as our Representative, that in complacency to them, we might as matter of form, elect the Gentleman of their choosing. The pretext used by the Assembly at the last Session, exceeds all. He it seems was the same man whom the previous Assembly had twice expelled, most unnecessarily it is true, and this Assembly could not, therefore, but repeat the measure, and for no other cause, than that those acts of injustice stood recorded and unexpunged on the journals. That Assembly did two acts of great injustice—it behaved this to commit a still greater—Such is the substance of the debates in support of it.—Those discreditable proceedings will, soon or late, be expunged from the Journals of the Assembly,—the Province must do itself that justice, and wipe out the blot which the late and present house have cast upon its character. But read the solid reasoning and debates of the Members on the other side, and see what a difference. They have reasoned the matter with an evident love of justice, and on constitutional principles, and although borne down by numbers, they remain unconquered, and have done honor to themselves and their country, for they have shewn that there is in that body a spirit of justice, which may yet retrieve its character. In the mean time, let us speak out our sentiments in a lawful and constitutional way. We are now met to take the matter into consideration,—it is one, of vital importance to the County, and can neither be lightly treated, nor longer put off. We are now three years without being represented in the Assembly, which makes laws for us. In England this would be a serious subject, and will, you may rely upon it, be so considered there, if properly represented, and to the proper authority. There must be a fault somewhere, and a responsibility to answer for it. The County is now stirring—we have, it is to be hoped, some friends, some protectors, on the other, if not on this side of the Atlantic, to rescue us from our oppressors. We could have wished that they themselves, had done us justice, but redress at their hands appears hopeless. We seek no privilege—no advantages that are not common to all the King's subjects in Lower Canada, but we are entitled to exemption from oppression at their hands, and an equality of rights, and these are all we ask, and these we must have. We must be represented, and by the person of our own free choice, or not at all. Our friends at Percé, have already met, and expressed their sense upon the subject, and you probably will be of opinion that we cannot do better than follow their example."

Strong expressions of public approbation followed Mr. Aubier's discourse, which is but imperfectly traced in the above.

After which—Read the Resolutions of the Freeholders and Electors at the Meeting, the 29th June last, at Percé, and:

RESOLVED—Unanimously—that this Meeting concur in, and adopt the said Resolutions.