

squirrels, that are so troublesome in thatched houses. On the mantel piece were a leopard's skull, and some bear's tusks and tiger's claws mounted in silver; and affixed to the opposite wall two pairs of antlers of the hog deer and baruh-singha, Indian stag, from one of which depended three billiard cues, a buggy whip, and a French raquette; while on the other reposed a regimental sword and belt, crossed by a native tulwar-schimitar, and a pair of pistols, over which, from the tips of the horns, were fastened two crimson sashes—one for service and parade, the other, newer, for high days—not holy-days; the front veranda was turned also to account, by being made to afford room for a wooden horse with a gig harness and cushions and a military and a hunting saddle and bridles. Of the furniture, a small square table with many legs, which, should the general say,

“Strike your tents and march away!” could be packed up for camp purposes, half-a-dozen Barelly chairs, and a brace of teapots, formed the sum total; a couple of wall-shades were fixed above the fire place, whence dangled a stuffed painted snipe and the dried wings of a black partridge. The floor was spread with a cotton setrinjee carpet, striped alternately purple and white, divided into two pieces; and a handsome leopard skin, akin to the head over the fireplace, on which stood the polished bookah, completed the contents of the apartment. Such are the luxurious, the spacious domiciles, for which many a fond parent consigns his child to seek fame and fortune in the East.

ORIGINAL.

DEAR LARRY,

Excuse the mistakes in this, which I send hastily to you, with grateful thanks for your kind letter, and must say I have acquired much knowledge from the perusal of it. I never thought that a description of America, or Americans could ever impart wisdom amongst us learned people, particularly as we always considered those in your country to have but little learning, or experience, although I must say in looking over some of the newspapers, I observe they show much shrewdness and foresight in political affairs, and I begin to think the unfavourable opinion we had formed in regard to the ignorance of the people, and poverty of New Brunswick must be altogether owing to our own ignorance, for how immensely rich must be your revenue to give the Governor £1500 sterling on his leaving you; and although from your letter I should infer you must have a curious society, you surely can have no poor people to support; and when I come to reflect that cannot be either, for it is said “the poor ye have always with you.” But surely Sir John must be deserving of all the favours, and high encomiums bestowed upon him. His many fair promises stand not last on the list of his good acts, and not like the unjust judge, has he determined in the integrity of his heart to do justice to the wronged, “least by their oft coming they might trouble him.” They say he is from our Emerald Isle; perhaps so, for you know we are famous for insinuating speech, but I hope combined with sincerity of heart.

But I have quite forgotten myself, and began upon politics, which I've been told is a very unpopular mode of obtaining any preferment amongst you, particularly if people express their opinion in an independent manner: but dear Larry, I wish we could see you arrive at the honor of eating off this said handsome service of plate, so much spoken of, and which the poor people of New Brunswick will have to contribute to so largely.

In regard to one of the establishments you allude to, it was quite unnecessary to make any comments upon, their character for enterprise and liberality is well known both in Europe and America; and many a warm hearted Emigrant when waffled to your shores, will join their grateful voice in thanks and best wishes for their prosperity, both in their commercial and steam navigation pursuits; the latter, I'm informed, has raised them in public estimation above all the commercial establishments in the colonies. The one in your place being conducted on such a liberal and straightforward system, cannot fail to give satisfaction to the people, and prosperity to the gentleman who conduct it—and at this distance I can only join with my Hibernian brothers in wishing long life to his Honor. I have only to add, I hope you'll continue your amusing and witty letters to,

Your Brother,
JERRY.

MR PIERCE,

The fifth session of the General Assembly is closed, and His Excellency has been graciously pleased to release

the representatives of the good people of New Brunswick from further attendance upon their legislative labours. Their duties have been arduous no doubt—but not more so than those of the Editor of the ‘Court Journal,’ who must feel right glad at being also released from his ‘labours;’ his situation is extremely trying, and it must require no little tact to manufacture speeches, and frame editorials in such a manner as to please the three branches; but Mr Ward appears to be possessed of that happy faculty—if we can judge from the grants of money he has received from the house, and from the fact of his being Major Domo at Government House; but as my business is not with him at present, I shall pass on, promising, should opportunity offer, to give him a passing notice in a future letter.

It may not be uninteresting, and perhaps not altogether unprofitable, to acquire some knowledge of what our representatives have done during the sixty five days they were in session, to deserve our thanks or disapprobation; whether they have not regarded their own interest more than that of their constituents; whether they have pursued that strict economy which is so desirable in a young country, or whether they have not, by their lavish expenditure, brought the Province in debt. That it is in debt cannot be denied; of which fact, the public as well as the house, were apprised in the early part of the session; notwithstanding which, this session has been as extravagant as the last, and two of equal extravagance have never been in this or any other Province. The sums lavished are really frightful, and a few more such years of ‘harmonious working,’ would be utter ruin. I am inclined to think the members themselves, if they were to take the trouble to add the different sums expended, would feel no little surprise at the enormous amount. Few persons read the journals, in which are recorded the sums annually expended, and those who do, merely shrug their shoulders, and exclaim ‘monstrous,’ but think no more of the matter. It is, however, a subject for grave consideration, and one which should be brought to the minds of our representatives, and not overlooked or lightly treated by those whose business it is to watch over the interests of the Province.

In 1837 we had a surplus revenue of £120,000, and it has been frequently debated in the house, whether it would be more advisable to expend this surplus immediately on the roads, or in small sums annually, in general improvements; while they have been thus debating, the money has been frittered away, and in the short period of three years, we find the Province reduced from an overflowing treasury to a state of bankruptcy. A few years ago, we heard a great cry about retrenchment, and were led to believe that as soon as the Assembly got the controul of the revenues, we should be in a most prosperous and flourishing condition. It has now the controul, and are we better off than we were ten years ago? The question is easily answered by comparing the state of the Province now with what it was at that time. Our expenditure within the last ten years has increased out of all proportion to our revenue. In 1830 the revenue was £49,070 and the expenditure £44,307; in 1835 the revenue was £60,716, and the expenditure only £50,567; last year the revenue was £99,872, and the expenditure £143,000, being an increase of expenditure of £43,128.

A report on the state of the Province was submitted by the finance committee to the house, on the 24th February last, in which they recommend strict economy. That report was accepted, but the recommendation not acted upon, as appears by the extraordinary and extravagant grants made subsequent to that report, a few of which I shall mention, and compare them with grants of former years, with a view of calling the attention of some of our members to the subject, in order that they may be prepared to resist the present ‘Ministry’ in their extravagance at the next session, for I do hope there are some in the house who are not seeking place, and are disposed to look a little beyond self, and make an effort to save the Province ere it be too late. I am aware that under the present system, there can be but few, but even one will be sufficient if he is but firm in his opposition.

In enumerating the expenditure, out of respect to His Excellency I will commence with Government House, where we shall find the trifling sum of £8,700 expended within the last year, made up as follows:

His Excellency's Salary	4,035
Do Private Secretary	230

Provincial Contingencies (not accounted for)	1,000
Repairs to Government House, curtains, carpets, &c.	1,644
Grant for Service of Plate	1,800
	£3,709

Not so bad for a Reformed House of Assembly and Ministry. This is for one year, but let us go back and see what sums have been expended in former years. In 1836 £1,000 was granted towards repairs, and £241 to pay James Taylor & Co. a balance due them. In 1837 the further sum of £1,000 was granted for repairs. In 1838 £3,000 for the same purpose. In 1839 £1,250 towards paying James Taylor & Co. the balance due them; and in 1840 the sum of £1,750 for the same purpose, and last session £430 to pay the balance due them to March 1840; and the further sum of £1,265 to reimburse them for repairs, curtains, carpets, &c., making a total in five years of £9,986 or £2,000 per annum. For last five years the expenditure will stand thus—

On Government House and Furniture	8,695
His Excellency's Salary	16,140
Do Private Secretary	920
Provincial Contingencies	2,150
Service of Plate	1,800
	£29,705

Or £7,426 per annum, nearly equal to the whole amount of the ordinary revenue of this County. This Provincial contingency, like its twin brother the Legislative Contingency, is increasing at a rapid rate, and ere long they will be two sturdy rogues to grapple with. In 1833 we find it amount to only £150, while for the last three years £1000 per annum has been granted for that purpose. In 1830 the Provincial Contingency was only £426, while in 1840 it amounts to £2,594. But, as I shall in my next, give a comparative statement of this expenditure for the last ten years, I shall not here further allude to it.

MONITOR.

Miramichi, April 19, 1841.

MR. PIERCE,

It will doubtless be matter of surprise, that after the severe castigation “poor Vindez” received, in your last No. his “little body and mind” should so soon have received sufficient strength and courage again to appear in public—but here he is: the little ‘champion,’ who has the “forwardness” to oppose this modern Goliath, and to convince him, that there is yet a pebble in his sling.

Notwithstanding Mr Williston's suggestion to the contrary, I must still retain my assumed name; indeed, I cannot agree that it would be more conducive, either to truth or harmony, that a writer should appear “in propria nomine”—for if the arguments be sound, it matters little by whom they are advanced—“the rose by any other name would smell as sweet”—and if, upon the contrary, they carry falsehood on their brazen fronts, not even the name of Mr Williston, can give them currency: that it would not conduce to harmony, his letter must prove; for, if he attempts personal allusions to one who is confessedly and really unknown to him, there is little reason to hope, that he would be less abusive, if he knew the party—let him attack the article, not the author;—as for myself, I am content that the tree ‘should be judged by its fruit,’—and Mr Williston would certainly have been known by his bark, tho' his name had not been inscribed on the leaves;—so much for Mr Williston—and now, in order to keep the minds of the public to the subject, I must remind them, that in my former letter, I took up, first—the charge against the County Meeting, and—that ‘the business was despatched speedily;’ that it was conducted with coolness and deliberation, I think, I proved, and this, Mr Williston has not denied;—next, I answered the charge against the Sheriff, as alleged in the resolution of the second meeting; which will be found (on reference to that resolution) to be, that he was wrong in ‘so abruptly dismissing the meeting;’—that he was not wrong, and that he had no power to keep it open longer, I also proved, even to the satisfaction of Mr Williston—for he states, that ‘he agrees with me on this point.’ How then, has he answered my letter?—by changing his ground, and stating, that ‘the Sheriff should not have taken the chair so soon.’ This is certainly a new charge, and one directly at variance with the opinion of the meeting as expressed in that resolution, which he tells us, was selected by him—and he did not act fairly, when he accused me of ‘wishing to draw off the minds of the public from (what he calls) the true facts of the case.’ The charge shall however, receive an answer, in addition to the contradiction given to

it by his own resolution—first, then, the Sheriff was called to the chair, and by refusing to take it, he would not only have shewn a want of respect to the Governor, and the meeting; but would have afforded a just ground of complaint. Secondly the meeting was at a late hour in the evening, and it was impossible for him to have known, whether the business would take one hour, or five; and lastly, all persons are aware, that the present Sheriff, has ever been punctual, and that want of punctuality was the great complaint against his predecessor; the Sheriff knew that in our county, no man could act, without receiving blame from one side, or other, and chose, rather, to bear the blame of acting correctly, than incorrectly. the persons who held the second meeting, were wrong, by their own shewing, they were too late. Mr Williston asks, ‘why the Sheriff did not go back to the square,’ the Sheriff answered this question at the time, by telling them that he could not officially attend an unconstitutional meeting, but, if they would procure a requisition, he would be happy to call a County meeting whenever required. Next, I am accused of making false statements. Mr Williston says, I stated that ‘he was appointed a magistrate, at Bay du Vin which (he says) ‘is not true;’ had he not better have taken my language?—that he was appointed with an understanding that it would be for the district of Bay du Vin;’ but no, he could not have denied this, for it is known to several persons, that Mr Simonds, to whom he was indebted for his nomination, stated more than once, that if he had known that Mr Williston intended to remove to Chatham, he would not have recommended him; whether does Mr Williston mean to say, that he was residing in Town when appointed? or to inform us that he was sailing the schooner Chatham.

The next false statement he charges is, that ‘speeches were ready made for the meeting;’ this he does not deny, but says ‘he had not written a word.’ Then he says ‘if I meant that he was at the meeting the night before ‘it is untrue.’ I said ‘a private meeting was held,’ but does he mean to deny, that he was at the band room with several others on the evening spoken of? Thus it would appear that the whole charge against Vindez, consists in Mr Williston's false statements of my language, and his assumption, that every thing I said must relate to him, as the most conspicuous man of the party. There he is really mistaken, for he occupies but a very short paragraph in my letter. Next, Mr Williston is wrong with regard to the respective numbers at each meeting,—the first was as large as our county meetings generally are, and the second by no means as large as he states.* Many persons in Newcastle attended the second meeting from motives of curiosity, for, from the language used on the public square, they had good reason to expect something extraordinary when the parties met in a room.

I have now shewn that Mr Williston has not answered a single argument or statement in my former letter. I have also disproved his new position, and as my sole object was to lay the facts clearly before the public, and not to enter into a paper war, I shall not again trouble you, unless further attempts be made to mislead; but I can assure Mr Williston that whether he or others come forward to the attack, the bold assailants

“Shall have blows enough.
And find they too, are penetrable stuff.”

VINDEZ.

* The only way that I can account for the numbers stated by Mr W. to have been at the second meeting, is by supposing him to have made a somewhat extraordinary application of an arithmetical rule with which (where the community is concerned) he would appear to be conversant, I mean Division, e. g. suppose Mr W. to be the divisor,—a major the dividend, the quotient would be a major a householder, and a merchant's clerk, put the remainder through the same process and the number will be considerably augmented.

DEAR MR. EDITOR,

You make a great fuss about the extravagance of the House of Assembly, in incurring such a large expenditure as £2095 for Contingencies, and £449 for Postages, I have heard some members say, that if Sir William Colebrooke, will act like a good fellow, and let them set out their seven years, they will snap their fingers in the face of the public, and do for the future, as they like. Instead of their little Postages criticized, and their peccadillos in the back streets inquisitorially looked into, they will, in defiance of their constituents, and as their wives consider it unquestionably their duty, send their Breeches home for the use of their better halves. No one can blame the latter for the former, showing so much attention to that which they dare not refuse,