

superabundant fertility which so universally characterizes the west.

COMMUNICATIONS

RELATIVE TO THE LATE ELECTION.

Miramichi.

21st January, 1843.

Mr. Editor,

It is an old but true aphorism 'that nothing cuts like the truth' whence the volley of small arms leveled at me and some of my friends by a few of Mr. Williston's self-termed respectable supporters in your last paper, in consequence of my speech at the close of the Election, and of the proceedings of a meeting of some of my friends which took place on the evening of the day on which the poll finally closed, and published in your paper of the 10th inst. That speech, sir, my opponents well know contains the truth, and nothing but the truth, every word of which can be proved to the letter. I did not in that speech mention the names of the persons to whom I particularly alluded, nor did I make personal attacks, as that was not my purpose; my object being merely to state generally the cause of my present defeat; but I think now sir, that the public, if they had any doubt before, can no longer be ignorant of the name of the Leader of the gang of Ruffians, who committed the outrages upon the persons and property of my supporters in Chatham, and who so frequently during the contest, and especially on the last day, surrounded the poll and prevented a great number of my friends from polling, and thereby defeated my election; and also of the names of some of the self-styled respectable supporters of Mr. W. who gave countenance, if not aid, to these illegal proceedings, and to many other acts equally disgraceful and improper throughout this contest; and I now say to those persons, and to all who take umbrage at my speech, whom the cap fits let him wear it. I regret however that Mr. William Carman should have felt it necessary to put forth his publication in your last paper, in defence of the respectability of Mr. Williston's supporters? at the same time, he may be considered, in some degree, excusable, seeing that he stands at the top of the list, as published in your last paper, a fact I was not before aware of, and therefore what he says may well be considered as an *'argumentum ad hominem'* and doubtless intended to apply personally to himself. It appears he has been obliged to have recourse to Walker to get the definition, or right pronouncement of his own standing. I think if he had resorted to his own heart, he would have found in respect to the part he has taken in the late disgraceful proceeding, on the part of Mr. W. and his party, a much more correct definition, although not quite so palatable; but I say I regret he has thought proper to take up the question, as I had no wish to bring Mr. W. Carman's name before the public in this matter, as it was quite obvious that Mr. W. Carman throughout the contest was absolutely victimized, and acting a part in giving countenance by his presence, and attendance upon his principal Mr. W. to a proceeding at which I am sure, from what I know of him, his better feelings (which he is not devoid of) must have recoiled with disgust. I throughout considered Mr. William Carman in a most pitiable situation; Mr. Williston supported him and acted as his Esquire in the memorable contest of 1837, and Mr. William Carman, I am willing to suppose, was merely, in the part he has taken, returning a debt of gra-

titude, and not actuated by my recollection of feelings of disappointment on the former occasion; and I am also in justice to that gentleman (I will apply the term to him) willing to admit, that if there was any respectability, in any sense of the word, attached to the party it was centered in him, and he is welcome to the full benefit of this admission. In regard to the standing and respectability of my supporters, I think there is not a little discrepancy in Mr. Wm. Carman's contradiction of my assertion that 'I was supported by all the most respectable people of the county,' (and I mean this in the largest and most comprehensive sense of the word) and in the list put forth in the beautiful letter of his friend, and *very respectable* coadjutor, Mr. John Hea. Let those who know anything of the standing and respectability of the people of this county, contrast my supporters even as named in that list, with those named on the part of Mr. W. and say whether I was not fully justified in the assertion I made.

In respect to the *very, very gentlemanly* letter of H. C. D. Carman, Esq., I have only to remark, that that person is always bold when backed and upheld by a mob, and no person when thus supported, is capable of being more insolent and presumptuous; whence arises his impertinent and presumptuous production in your last paper. Mr. H. C. D. Carman's conduct throughout this contest, in the opinion of every respectable man, has been disgraceful in the extreme; and he has on this occasion, as well as some others of recent date, shown himself to be totally unworthy of the commission he holds, and to be as regardless of his duty as a magistrate as he is of truth and honorable feeling; to use his own happy expression, "in wagging his tongue and wielding his pen," and a mighty pen it is. This is all I have to say to Mr. H. C. D. Carman, on the present occasion, and shall therefore treat him and his absurd scribbles, with the contempt which people of his cast of character deserve; and as to his friend Mr. John Hea, I should indeed feel myself degraded in the extreme were I to condescend to reply to the sayings and writings of so vile and detestable a character. Nature has given to the man a countenance which characterizes the *Fiend in the worst of forms*, and all who know him, know by his actions, that his countenance is an *Index to his mind*. This is the only notice I think, or shall think it necessary to take of him or his scurrilous publications. The whole proceedings will shortly be brought under the consideration of the Legislature, where justice, no doubt, will be done to the Constituency of the County and all concerned. I shall therefore forbear entering into further particulars through this medium.

Your obed't Serv't.

J. A. STREET.

Mr. Pierce,
Sir,

In entering the lists, to measure lances with H. C. D. Carman—the redoubtable—I do so, you may well imagine, full of alarm and misgivings from the great celebrity of the Hero. Did he not shew himself one, and one of prowess, on the memorable David Horan's occasion? when he declared his invincible determination of 'seizing and shaking the old Lion by the beard?' I should be incredulous indeed, were I for a moment to doubt the man's prodigious valour. The improvement in the valourous Gentleman's exterior, too, has manifestly increased. With which additional advantage, of course, the bold bearing of the man, must gain for him, now as formerly, unqualified admiration of all

beholders! The figure he then cut on the hustings, and for many a long day after, is it not quite green in our memories! One might have supposed, that achieving so much, and acquiring such *real glory*, as he did, on that wonderful occasion; that it might have satisfied the reasonable ambition of any modest man, and that in his 'quiet and peaceable abode,' he might have resigned himself to the delightful task of detailing to his children—and in fancy to his children's children—his personal narrative, so fraught with interest and the wonderful, that the very story of Tom Thumb must have appeared to their young imaginations, as completely outdone! But dearie me—the man's ambition is wonderful—and H. C. D. Carman is not to be judged of by common rules. He is now again fairly in the arena, and before he retire, how many honest reputations, and fair fortunes, may not be dissipated into thin air, or he taken captive at his pen! one is really quite lost in conjecture; for 'while he can either wield a pen or wag a tongue,' is he not pledged to the combat? But a truce. His conduct on the present occasion deserves for him equal reprobation as contempt. I may venture to predict that he did the very reverse of studying his own quiet, in provoking particular notice on the present occasion. I put it to the candid judgment of any man residing in this community, who may have taken the trouble to peruse his *CLEVER* communication in last Gleaner, if he has not shewn himself in it equally impertinent and devoid of veracity? In stating that I was Poll Clerk to R. and S. meaning Rankin and Street, he has stated what is manifestly false. In stating it at all, in disparagement to me, I laugh at in derision. For Mr. Rankin, and Mr. Rankin only, did I act in that capacity, and for him, it may be, from motives which might even do no discredit to Mr. Carman.

His sneering allusions to the Gentlemen who took a prominent part in the meeting held at Newcastle, are as devoid of good breeding as they are of truth. Concerning the Gentlemen who are made to move and second the first Resolution, and in passing I would remark, that in the original copy, that Resolution read Leaders, and not A Leader. The error—either committed in transcribing, or typographical one, Mr. Carman is very welcome to take the full benefit of. Mr. Wm. Masson is certainly a Tavern Keeper, but one, let me tell Mr. Carman that could buy him up, body and bones, and have something then left for an emergency. Mr. Hugh Ferguson is not of the calling, but a man who for good broad acres, and yellow pieces, Carman may hope in vain to equal, notwithstanding that he has earned for himself the enviable appellation of 'the Bold *****'. But now adays Magistrates (and Mr. Carman tells us, or those at a distance, that he holds the office. God save the mark!) can doff his Magisterial garb, and assume that of the swaggering braggadocio, as they can upon occasions also that of the petty Trafficker in ***** even *****. A man whose name is associated with such respectable doings, may well obtrude upon us his high standing and circumstances. Out upon such barefaced presumption! Do I exceed propriety in alluding to this man's fawning sycophancy and black ingratitude—to a man too—whose crumbs had long and generously fed him, and to serve whose purpose and through whose influence alone was he put in the Commission, which he has abused—and well has he repaid such fostering care and advancement! But I will leave it to those concerned to lay in soak for him 'a dirty rod' to use it at discretion.

Whatever connection Mr. H. C. D. Carman may have had with the Election, is not my present purpose. His misrepresentations of facts connected therewith—squeaked through his puny Trumpet—will amount to very little. These matters I hope, may find an abler Chronicler. Knowing the man, one cannot feel surprised at his conduct. Only last year he was foremost in the van in depriving Mr. Williston of office—a very onerous one I believe—and was vain enough to arrogate to himself a character for independence by so doing. But his consistency is quite in keeping with his principles, and the exhibition of either will astonish none who know him. If he be inclined to molest any further with his miserable Twaddle, he may find to his cost that he is not preparing for himself a Bed of Roses.

I remain, Sir,

Your very obedient Servant,

NIEL McLEAN.
Newcastle, January 20, 1843.

Mr. Pierce,

Not possessing the modest 'reluctance of appearing in public' at once claimed and manifested by H. C. D. Carman, Esq. in your last No., but feeling that even I (one of the *antitectotal* members of the *inebriate* meeting, at which those *intemperate* Resolutions were passed) 'may boldly speak in right.' I am willing to take my share of 'The People's' displeasure conveyed in characteristic style through him their *Literary* organ, and am ready coolly, deliberately and unreservedly to corroborate those resolutions because I know that their bitterness proceeds only from their truth.

Remembering the old adage 'in vino veritas,' I shall not attempt to accuse this 'Vox Populi' of labouring under any artificial excitement, while concocting his epistle, nor shall I wait to criticize severely an article written so long after his leaving school, and so deservedly placed by you under the *Original* head as the *first of its kind*.

I cannot, however, but remind him that there are fixed and established rules for the construction of words and sentences, and that he is not dealing fairly with the memory of old Murray, thus at 'one fell swoop' to deprive him of all his well earned honors. Defective Orthography I can excuse, as Walker appears to have been monopolized by a brother correspondent.

And now what has he promised and what has he performed by his indefinite article?

1stly—He would take a retrospective view of *who* composed the meeting—it is well (as he cannot look us in the face) to acknowledge his intention of talking behind backs.

2ndly. His *sense of justice* will not allow 'those Resolutions to pass unanswered.' How deeply is this love of justice implanted in the human breast—when the long latent spark is now glowing in his but would he not have done well to have informed us what portion of the Resolutions he means to object to, it might perhaps have enabled us to imagine the whereabouts in the columns the promised answer is to be found. Is it not strange that he has not dared to arraign before the *worshipful* bar of his *magisterial* displeasure, any one of these odious statements? that there is not one weak point in the truth and force of these resolutions where a breach might have been effected by the volcanic explosion of his wrath! He does certainly go so far as to affirm that he has yet to learn 'that base falsehoods, coercive means, and acts of violence were used.' If ignorance were bliss, this is not the first reason we have for supposing Mr. C. a happy man,—but here he has got himself into a dilemma—for if he assert his ignorance of the two last charges, he at once gives us the best possible proof of the first. Does he, the *active* magistrate, living in the heart of the Town, 'mark only the peace and quiet of the mob?' and when destruction of property begin, does he retire to the 'quiet and peaceful abode' he mentions—and console his classic mind with the translation of Virgil—

'That when confusion o'er the country reigns
To him alone the happy state remains'
or would he not rather act in accordance with his own words—when requested to use his influence to prevent the injuries—'I will exercise my authority when I think proper.' He might more truly and excusably have said—I will exercise it (like my discretion) when I get it; was he marking this peace and quiet as a magistrate when he said 'I would not go outside my door to prevent the destruction of McBeath's property—he deserved all he got; but perhaps he did not mean what he said, and a perusal of his letter convinces me that he cannot say what he means.

I suspect he set out with a determination that with his ability 'to wield a pen or wag his tongue' he would break up our camp by *storm* and then discovering how firm we were in our *first Resolution*, he deemed it more advisable to depend upon a long siege; and I would now advise him not to waste his ammunition in the 'forlorn hope.'

Let me congratulate him on the boasted respectability of his associates, as I have no doubt but that by the assistance of some of those friends (*the tipstaves*) into whose company Mr. Hea has introduced him, the justice loving magistrate may one day be removed to the 'Queen's Bench.' In the meantime let him not suppose that I entertain the presumptuous wish to overstep the broad line of distinction which Mr. Hea has so judiciously placed between us; for I assure him

'My admiration only I expressed,
No spark of envy harbours in my breast.'
I most heartily bid him farewell.

J. M. JOHNSON, JUN.
Chatham, 21st January, 1843.