

not without the chord in our bosom that thrills in something like faint unison with that superstition, while, beneath cathedral arches, we gaze with delight upon the interwindings of the gothic tracery which had its origin in the forest; while, as an incident of our common life, as an ingredient in our every-day tastes, we treasure a flae tree as a thing to love, to hang thick with clusters of never withering associations, of ever blooming memories. What bard lays down his lyre without a tribute to this feeling, or trusts his name with posterity without invoking a dryad to keep it fresh forever?

We have met with the works of a writer on this and kindred subjects, who enumerates many scriptural subjects connected with trees, of which a good share are memorable indeed. We will endeavor to recall a few of these. It was beneath an oak that the angel appeared to Gideon, when that mighty warrior was called to deliver Israel from the Midianites; "and Saul carried in the uttermost part of Gibeath under a pomegranate tree, which is in Migron." In Eden, it was among the trees that Adam and Eve sought to hide themselves from the eye of their Creator; and it was by the casting of a tree into the midst of the waters of Marah, that the Lord made them sweet for Israel. After this came they not (led us add,) "to Elim, where were twelve wells of water, and three score and ten palm-trees?" It was a fig tree, which served as the occasion and the example of one of the Saviour's most solemn teachings, and there is a tree whose "leaves are for the healing of the nations."

Jamartine tells us that to this day the Arabs entertain a traditional veneration for the cedars of Mount Lebanon; asserting them to be divinities under the form of trees; endowed with an intelligence like instinct in animals, and reason in man. Raffles, in his work on Java, relates a tradition of the people, in which it appears that Sang Yang Tunggal plucked a leaf from the kastuba-tree, and having worshipped it, saw it assume the form of a beautiful woman, whom he took to wife and had by her four sons.

It was a fine feature of the classic mythology that Minerva as well as Diana inhabited the forests. Ask "melancholy Jaques" else. He could see that without a teacher; though a Christian man was pagan enough to believe so much of the fallen faith. The beauty of it is, moreover, that seeking the goddess of the silver bow, we may fall there, if we will, into easy converse with the daughter of Imperial Jove, in her own secluded domain. Many of the old poets speak of an oak as a patriarch and a sage. Think of a senate of oaks! Those of Libanus are reckoned at two thousand years of age. Venerable sages—primeval patriarchs! Teachers of wisdom—insulators of the true religion! Who has not heard the tale of that unlettered savage's conversion to a belief in the Deity, and to an acknowledgment of his omnipotence, by the reflection that the mere external structure of oak or acorn could never teach that the first had its origin in the last? And did not Hipparchus discover the parallax of the planets by the aid of a tree? For what says Burke, in his "Sublimities"? "Noticing that a tree on a plain, from several situations and distances, changed its apparent position, he determined the real and apparent distances of the planets, when observed from the face of the earth and at its centre."

Thus Minerva dwelleth in the forest as well as Diana, even as those pagans of the Pantheon sang. Nor has Plutus been unpropitious to those who seek him there. In ancient Greece rich store of iron was discovered by the accidental burning of some woods, and three thousand years later the accidental unearthing of a shrub by the Indian Hualpa, discovered the wealth of Potosi.

With wealth of mines and wealth of mind, with store of thought and feeling, memory, association, poesy and religion in her bosom—all rich and ripe, and ready for those who will come to gather them, provided that, like Aiadia, they knew how to rub their lamp aright—the forest opens wide her portals for the true pilgrim to her shrine. Come then, but leave those world-dusty shoes behind thee. Thou comest to talk with Elgeria!

## Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAN, TUESDAY, APRIL 22.

**CLOSING OF THE LEGISLATURE.**—The protracted session of our Legislature was brought to a period on the 14th instant. The following is a copy of the Speech of His Excellency on the occasion. The three closing paragraphs of this Speech contain matter for serious consideration; and we sincerely trust they will sink deep into the minds of the people of this Province, and cause them seriously to reflect on the present unfortunate state of affairs, and the causes which led to it:—

*Mr President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,*

*Mr Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

The public business having been brought to a termination, I am glad to be able to release you from your further attendance.

I congratulate you on the accomplishment of some measures of importance, which I had recommended to you at the commencement of the Session.

The acts to facilitate the opening, by Her Majesty's Government, of a great Line of Communication through these Provinces, and the provision made for improving the Post Communications and the Navigation of the river Saint John, will stimulate, as I hope, the enterprise of the people, and prove an earnest to them that the Legislature has not overlooked their convenience, and the means by which the resources of the Province may most effectually be developed.

In accordance with the instructions I have received, no time will be lost in promoting the settlement of the Lands, contiguous to the new Line of Road which has been surveyed by direction of Her Majesty's Government.

I regret that the measures so urgently required for the improvement of the Parish Schools, and to remedy the defects of the existing Laws relating to them, have not been accomplished in the present year. I comprehend the difficulties in legislating on this vitally important subject, and anticipate from the publication of the Reports of the Inspectors, that the diffusion of accurate information regarding their condition, will dispose the Public mind for the reception of an improved system. It is unfortunate, however, that any delay should occur in forming a Model Establishment for the training of Teachers on those principles which are now so generally recognized in elementary Schools, and without which the application of an effectual remedy for acknowledged defects will, I apprehend, be found impracticable.

*Mr Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

I thank you for the Supplies which you have granted. It will be my care to protect the Public Interests, in their due application to the services for which they are intended, and by proper regulations to ensure efficiency and integrity in the Public Departments and Officers who may be entrusted with the expenditure of Public Monies.

*Mr President, and Honorable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,*

*Mr Speaker and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,*

The discussions which have arisen in the course of the Session, and which have engrossed so much of your attention, will not have been unproductive of advantage, if they should lead to a just appreciation of the true principles of the Constitution, in their application to the Government of the Colonies.

To all who venerate that Constitution, and desire to preserve it in these distant parts of Her Majesty's Dominions, the authority of the Crown cannot be a matter of indifference; and those who entertain the truest regard for the liberties of the People, would be the first to lament any departure from those settled rules and prescribed limitations within which it is constitutionally and responsibly exercised.

I am well aware that the people of this Province have ever been distinguished for that spirit of devoted Loyalty which springs from a cherished regard for the Institutions of our Common Country; and as it is our duty, in our several stations, to strengthen and confirm this feeling, I invite you, in returning to your homes, to lose no opportunity of impressing them with a just sense of Her Majesty's benevolent desire for their welfare, and the advantage to themselves of continuing to cultivate that habitual respect for the Laws and constituted Authorities of the State, which characterize Men and Communities who respect their own rights, and who, appreciating the blessings which under Providence they have acquired, would transmit them unimpaired to their posterity.

**STEAMER ST. GEORGE.**—From private letters received from the Directors of this boat, we understand there is reason to expect that she will ply to this port the approaching season as she did during the latter part of the last—once a fortnight—and that she may be looked for on or about the 10th of May.

**EXPENSES OF LEGISLATION.**—The Loyalist says the *Contingent Expenses* of both houses of the Legislature, during the late Session, amounted to the large sum of over two thousand two hundred pounds. This is an immense sum, and we would very much like to see the bill of particulars. It was promised in the early part of the Session that the same should be published in detail. If it has been (which we doubt) we have not been favored with a sight of it.

**PUBLIC MEN VS. THE PEOPLE.**—The following remarks on the manner in which a certain class regulate and controul the voice of the much abused "People," are copied from the New York Sun:

"Office seeking has become, through the corrupt and slavish party organizations, which like so many plague spots deform the face of republicanism, a profession so above and independent of the people, that they are the very last thing thought of by the dispensers of official plunder. No one asks who is the best man for the office, or whether he will be acceptable to those for whose benefit the appointment is professedly made. Even in this age of novelties, no administration has ventured upon the eccentricity of consulting the wisest

of the people themselves, in the distribution of offices. A certain set of managers arrange who the people shall send to the Legislature or to Congress, and who shall be Mayor of the city or Governor of the State, and the people, joyous at being so well managed, rush to the ballot box and deposit their votes per order. In vain their reason and conscience whisper a hundred objections to the man whom they are assisting to elevate; they hush the voice of honest free judgement by the reflection that party thus ordains. How few in our approaching election, when called upon to exercise their high duty as free electors will ask which of the men before them as candidates will make the best public servants? Not one in a hundred. They have surrendered the noble prerogative of choosing their own rulers to a band of systematic office-seekers, who bargain, in almost so many words, that in return for nominating the favored candidates for the Mayorality and Common Council, the treasury of the city shall be placed at their disposal. The complaint of the disappointed applicant is not generally that his superior fitness for the office has been overlooked, but that he had done most to help those in power to their places, and now he is unjustly and ungratefully overlooked in the giving forth of the premiums for partizan services.

"The masses sometimes rise in defence of some great principle, and drive their party leaders into patriotic effort, but while in quiet obedience nothing is attempted, nothing done. The people are at chess men with which politicians play out their game of pride and power. This is very much the complexion of the coming Charter Election. It is a mere scramble for offices. Sift well the promises of all parties, and see what few grains of public good can be found in all this dust and ashes."

We would recommend the above remarks to the serious attention of our readers; and after they have carefully perused them, wish them to put the question to themselves—are not the affairs of this Province conducted by our public men, in a manner very similar? Party feeling, we are sorry to say, is too much mixed up with public matters, and principle too often sacrificed to gratify the cupidity of ambitious and designing men.

We would strenuously press upon the inhabitants of this part of the Province, in the maintenance of whose privileges we have a deep interest, to watch with solicitude the conduct of all such persons as they delegate with power. Judge them not by their words and professions, which are frequently as "sounding brass and tinkling silver," but by their acts. It is an easy matter to make professions, but it is a more difficult task to act consistently—to guard your interests and rights from the encroachments of officials on the one hand, and the designs of ambitious and crafty demagogues on the other, who are constantly crying aloud—"we seek only the good of the people," "the people are we."

Goldsmith remarks, "those who have most virtue in their mouths, generally have the least of it in their bosoms." This will apply with equal force and truth to the loud professors of honesty and patriotism: they are a class at all times to be looked upon with suspicion. Rest assured, that those who have the most respect for the rights of others, are the most likely to maintain their own, as well as of those who they are bound in honesty to serve.

We again urge the people to be more jealous and watchful of their rights and privileges. Let no man, even should you be placed under obligations to him, either of a personal or pecuniary nature, wrench any of them from you. On all matters of a public nature, in which you are called to take a part; and more particularly in the exercise of your *Elective Franchise*—that great and highly-important privilege, which your forefathers fought and bled to obtain, and which they transmitted to your safe-keeping, to be handed down unimpaired as a heir-loom to your children—consult your own judgments and feelings, and they will seldom lead you astray, in preference to that of any man, or body of individuals.

The remarks of the New York Editor are written to represent the state of affairs in the United States, but they are equally applicable to New Brunswick, a Province, where the people possess as large a share of liberty—civil and religious—as falls to the lot of man to enjoy, guaranteed to them by one of the most time-ho-

nored and powerful nations of the earth, which has protected them in infancy, and is still desirous to retain them as a part of her great family, the members of which are to be found in all parts of the habitable globe. Recent occurrences, however, not only in this Province, but in Canada and Nova Scotia, must tend to alienate the affections of the parent from her wayward children; and if persisted in, there is every danger to be feared, that the bonds which bind them together, will be rudely snapped asunder. Then will be seen the hollow professions of our Colonial Patriots, so strikingly portrayed in the late unnatural outbreak in Canada, and the evils resulting from blindly following their advice.

**DEATH OF YOUNG COLEMAN.**—Our readers will remember a paragraph inserted in the Gleaner some months ago, copied from an English paper, giving an account of a young American, who had made some important improvements in the Piano, which had met with the approbation of the musical world; and that he had disposed of the patent in London for a large amount. He had also the honor of being presented to the Queen, who spoke in very flattering terms of his new invention. He, it appears, has been summoned away from this earth, at an early age. A New York paper thus notices the event:—

"We regret to state that Mr. Coleman, the patentee of the *Æolian* attachment, died at Saratoga after a week's illness. After receiving all the honors for his ingenuity, and in possession of the enormous profits of his invention, death has summoned him away. We are pained to add, that an early day had been named for his marriage to an accomplished young lady who had won his affections several years ago."

**HALIFAX MAIL.**—A letter from Mr Lang to the Postmaster at Chatham, states as the reason why the Halifax mail was not forwarded to this quarter by the Fredericton Courier, "that in consequence of the bad state of the roads from Halifax to St. John, the mail from the latter place did not reach the St. John office until after the departure of the Fredericton Courier." A similar reason, we presume, will be assigned for its non-receipt this week, by the same route.

**FIRE.**—We are extremely sorry to have it to state, that the recently erected extensive Steam Saw Mill, situate in the village opposite to Bathurst, owned by Messrs. Ferguson, Rankin, & Co. was destroyed by fire on the night of Wednesday last. We have not been able to ascertain how the accident originated, or the probable amount of the loss sustained—but it must be very considerable.

**PROVINCIAL LEGISLATURE.**—Our Journals of the Legislature are to the 10th of the month, from which we have taken a few extracts, which will be found under the proper head.

**EUROPEAN NEWS.**—The arrival at Boston of the packet ship *Queen*, from Liverpool, furnishes London dates to the 6th, and Liverpool to the 7th of the Month, one day later than we were previously in possession of.

**NOVASCOTIA.**—The Legislature of this Province was prorogued on the 14th inst. The following sums have been voted for the encouragement of Steam. £500 for keeping up a communication between Quebec and Pictou; £340 to the Saint George between Pictou, Prince Edward Island, and Cape Breton; £500 for communication between Halifax and Yarmouth; and £500 to the North America, to keep up a communication with Newfoundland, touching at Cape Breton—making a total sum of £1,840.

**TO CORRESPONDENTS.**—The late hour at which the mail arrived, precludes the possibility of giving insertion to the communication of *Veritas* to-day.

**THE SEASON.**—The Weather of some days past has been very fine, and the