

red some instrument about them, for the purposes of observation, although it was acknowledged by all, that not the slightest hope remained. And now that everything in our power had been done, I called all hands aft, and to a merciful God offered prayers for our preservation. I thanked every one for their excellent conduct, and cautioned them, as we should, in all probability, soon appear before our Maker, to enter his presence as men resigned to their fate. We then all sat down in groups, and sheltered from the wash of the sea by whatever we could find, many of us endeavoured to obtain a little sleep. Never perhaps was witnessed a finer scene than on the deck of my little ship, when all hope of life had left us. Noble as the character of the British sailor is always allowed to be, in cases of danger, yet I did not believe it to be possible, that among forty-one persons not one repining word should have been uttered. The officers sat down wherever they could find shelter from the sea, and the men lay about conversing with each other with the most perfect calmness. Each was at peace with his neighbour and all the world; and I am firmly convinced that the resignation which was then shown to the will of that Almighty was the means of obtaining His mercy. God was merciful to us; and the tide almost miraculously fell no lower.—*Voyages of Arctic Discovery.*

## Communications.

### THE DYING CHRISTIAN.

You speak to me oft of the silent tomb  
Where the body, resigned to decay,  
Rests all alone in its last long home  
When the spirit has passed away;  
Speak to me rather of that happy land  
Where no tomb was ever seen;  
Where mansions owned by immortals stand,  
And where mortals have never been.  
You will lay my remains in the darksome grave,  
But the land of light is my home:  
O'er my body the dark spreading yew tree  
May wave,  
Adding depth to sepulchral gloom;  
But my spirit will roam where no yew tree's shade  
Ever darkened the fragrant air:  
Th' evergreen tree of life around it will shed  
Its enlivening virtues there.  
The low, moaning wind through the long,  
waving grass  
May seem to bewail my doom;  
But heavenly music and Love's sweetest voice  
Will gladden my bright, happy home.  
O happy! triumphant in glory, I'll join  
In the song that no angel can sing  
To Jesus, whom millions now own  
As their Saviour, their God, and their King.  
But my friends weep around me—O weep  
not for me;  
To see you in grief gives me pain:  
Be faithful to death—you too will be free,  
And in glory we'll soon meet again.  
Love Divine will sustain you in this dark  
path;  
The Lord will not leave you alone—  
The prospect is opening! I feel—'tis death—  
Hallelujah! the victory is won!

S.

Bathurst, 1846.

### To the Editor of the Gleaner.

Sir,—The appearance of a Letter in the *Loyalist* of the 16th April, bearing the signature of "Justitia," caused feelings of pain and surprise in the minds of many here, and doubtless elsewhere, where it was noticed, and the individual known to whom the ill-judged and unjust abuse it contains is evidently directed. Having been present at the time, or soon after, that individual received the paper referred to, I conceive it will at least be no harm to record in the columns of your journal, for the satisfaction of those who may feel an interest in the matter, the observations it elicited from him. They were briefly these:—That he had no knowledge whatever of the article attributed to him, or its author, never having heard or seen anything concerning it, until he met with it accidentally in the columns of the *Gleaner*. That having subsequently carefully examined it, he was forced into the conviction that none but a stranger would charge him with it, for it certainly bore no resemblance—no analogy—to his words, his manner, or his feeling. That so far from being likely to cast odium on the individual occupation of any class of men, he might safely challenge the testimony of the country to the proof, that the power and influence which his high office—the highest known in a county, conferred, were ever on any occasion exercised with tyranny or

partiality, and that suitable attention and respect had ever been accorded by him to the affairs and personal presence of the humblest and neediest, equally with the highest. That with regard to the allusions to his place of residence and poverty, although he was not disposed to shrink from them or pass them unnoticed, it afforded him some satisfaction that they did not emanate from himself, for he has hitherto avoided the allusion, in delicacy to the feelings of others, rather than his own. That if there be reproach in these circumstances, it cannot lie at his door; but should there however be a difference of opinion as to this view of the case, that at least it would be conceded on all hands, that these circumstances afforded palpable evidence of his not having used his office for the purpose of self-aggrandisement. That had it been stated that he lived in magnificence and luxury, upon the wages of extortion, wrang from the afflicted widow and orphan, or unfortunate and miserable creditors, then, indeed, might he justly shrink with shame from the exposure. That the expression regarding glass houses, and the implied threat in connection, he could not comprehend, but was partially willing to be enlightened: that if the writer meant that in private or social life, he shared in the errors and frailties of poor, weak humanity, 'twould be worse than vain to deny it; and if the threatener be perfect, let him chastise. But if he meant that in public life, he ever did aught that would not bear the light, then they were at once at issue, for he ever regarded his public career as the apple of his eye; and instead of fearing any enquiry into its most minute parts, he would say with sincerity, that whatever might be the enquirer's purpose, he would afford him every facility to its perfect examination; and so far as it did not compromise the interests of others or the public, the writer, if he was respectable, should have free access to all his correspondence, public, official, and private, every note and memorandum, and indeed to his very thoughts, if he could authenticate them to his satisfaction, for any individual who would make such an investigation, (being in doubt of the writer, and the more doubt the better) he would consider under any circumstances a benefactor rather than a foe. That lastly—the charge of neglect of more sacred things, whatever might have been the object of the writer in making it, availed nothing; it was perhaps the only one which was based in truth. He had never been so regardful as he ought to have been of God's merciful providence towards him; and he added, in the spirit if not in the words of Cardinal Wolsey—*"Had I served my God with half the fidelity that I served my country, I should not fear the effects of the most powerful efforts of calumniators and maligners at the bar of immutable justice."*

The above, spoken with such emphatic tokens of truth and feeling, impressed me at once with the conviction, [contrary to the opinions of others] that it would not do harm to publish them, provided they were first submitted to his inspection. They have been so, and I shall take the liberty of adding a few remarks of my own.

Those who know the individual alluded to, must be acquainted with the fact, that sensitive himself, he is ever naturally averse to hurting the feelings of others. In early life, priding himself upon the inheritance of a name and lineage that he considers but few of Britain's proudest nobles can compete with, and indulged and flattered, perhaps to excess, by eminent and exalted persons in various parts of the world, unaccustomed to restraint and contradiction, its the more to his credit that he controlled the natural effects of such habits and indulgence, and chose the consciousness of doing right under all circumstances; and the esteem and confidence of those around him, as the true standard of worth and distinction. It is also pretty well known that however he may have neglected his own private affairs, when the public interest, or that of the most humble inhabitant demanded his attention, he was ever ready and ever willing; and even when time passes away, there will yet remain many things connected with the improvement and advancement of this young country, with which his name and acts are so associated that they cannot be dissevered. The mere letter of *Justitia* would not have called out these remarks, but that it is believed that other misconceptions are abroad to the disadvantage, and of course annoyance, of one who invites inquiry and justice, rather than abuse; and who, not wishing himself to parade his claims upon the respect and affection of the community, seems yet

firmly convinced that he cannot suffer, but must benefit, by every attempt at raking up the acts of his life.

In conclusion, I would say, that the writer, of his own knowledge, is aware that the individual above alluded to, is, to this hour, profoundly ignorant of the author of the obnoxious communication, signed *Free*; and he has also great reason to believe that he is equally ignorant of any other newspaper article which may have caused personal offence in Gloucester, for very many years past.

There exists some strange and unaccountable error, and the sooner it is rectified the better.

I am, Sir,  
Your obedient servant,

H. M.

### Mr Pierce,

Sir,—On taking up your last *Gleaner*, I was rather surprised to find that your correspondent, "One of the People," instead of adopting the course which any person of respectability would have chosen—that of appealing to the authorities—or in some other way substantiating his charges; a course which the Young Gentlemen of Newcastle desire, in order to have the supposed grievances fully and impartially investigated; and if they in reality exist, a course which would have effectually remedied the evils complained of, still continues his anonymous and slanderous charges, [which I have publicly denied, with the single exception of imprudent driving, which I have admitted] and without the slightest shadow of *TRUTH*, he re-asserts the whole of his former charges, without daring to put his signature to them. This may be the method which *One of the People* is best used to, a method which he almost invariably adopts, but it is a system that savors too much of the attack of the bravo and the assassin, to be tamely tolerated in a British colony. This slanderer in his last communication, says—"I reiterate every statement, expression, and charge contained in my two former letters, &c. &c., and upon these points I rest my veracity with the people of Chatham, &c. &c. Now, Sir, in my former communication I denied each and every charge brought by *One of the People* against myself, and the other 'young gentlemen' alluded to, with a single exception, which leaves the affair in this position, viz:—That certain charges have been made against the Newcastle young Gentlemen by an anonymous writer, by one who dared not attach his name to his vilifying communications, knowing them to be untrue. That these charges have been publicly denied,—that instead of producing proof to refute the denial, and support the charges, which would have at once settled the matter, he, *One of the People*, renews his attack, makes fresh charges upon the young gentlemen without provocation, draws into the controversy an accident which is altogether foreign to the subject, and, in keeping with his usual system of chicanery and low cunning, [thereby thinking to blind and deceive the public] he indites another anonymous communication under the signature of 'Douglas-town,' and persuades one of his friends to write another anonymous article under the signature of 'N.' After these repeated attacks upon the characters and conduct of the Newcastle young Gentlemen, I, as one of the parties alluded to, on behalf of myself and the other slandered persons, by an article in your paper of the 4th instant, publicly denied the charges made by him, courted investigation, and pointed out the means which he should adopt if he felt aggrieved. Instead of adopting either of these courses, I find in your last paper, that he, under the signature of "One of the People," again "reiterates every sentiment, expression, and charge," and simultaneous therewith appears in your paper, three other communications, the whole of which the community of Newcastle believe to be the diction, if not penned by the same slanderer, under the respective signatures of 'Grumble Corner,' 'A Lady,' and 'an Old Inhabitant.' The first of these, *Grumble Corner*, is quite in keeping with the former productions of *One of the People*, under the signature of *Douglas-town*, which he tried to pawn off upon the public, as the production of an inhabitant of that quiet village. In *Grumble Corner* he says—"having previously verbally informed them, that they could not in Chatham sustain themselves in the position which they have assumed." Now, Sir, I never had any verbal communication with that person on the subject; therefore, as a natural consequence, what he has asserted in that article cannot be true. Under the signature of 'an Old Inhabitant,' he again attempts, by an anonymous production, to support his own unfounded statements. He there notices that he, *One of the People*, cast himself upon the community for support, &c. Did I not believe that *One of the People* was the author of the article in question, and written from his dictation, I would find it difficult to account how 'an Old Inhabitant' became aware of that fact, for I cannot perceive in any of *One of the People's* lampoons, anterior to your last paper, any wish of the kind expressed. The tribunal to whom *One of the People* has appealed, can judge of the similarity of ideas expressed in the four last communications on the subject, and their simultaneous appearance before the public,—it is for them to draw the conclusion. He also says 'I think him entitled to the support which he seeks.' Does any person think this but himself? Does the community think so? I think not. He again assumes another disguise, or induces another person to do so, and under the signature of 'a Lady,' endeavors to lead the public to believe that one of that sex, had so far

forgotten what is due to the sex, and to herself, as to espouse the cause of untruth, enter into an anonymous controversy, and endeavour to support charges which she could not possibly know anything about, viz: the cigar story, singing lewd and bawdy songs, spur in the head, &c. Does he think that shallow artifice will serve him? Is it possible that he even deceived himself? He surely could not suppose that the public would attribute the diction of that article to a Lady? Would any 'Lady' pronounce her own production to be a 'bawling.' The matter stands thus before the public:—serious charges made against private character, and private individuals wantonly assailed by an anonymous person, whom but few know, and nobody believes,—re-asserted in connexion with fresh charges, without any cause, and for the sake of giving the charges a semblance of truth, accompanied by other anonymous articles,—when denied by the parties assailed, and investigation courted,—again reiterated without any further proof than the endorsement of other anonymous articles, which I believe to have been dictated, if not written by the same individual, and which merely go to support the charge long since admitted by the persons accused, with a general indorsement of the good conduct of *One of the People*, during all this controversy. These, when added together, bring the assertions of *Nobody*, [for the public will consider him as such till he shakes off his cognomen] give the sum total of *Nothing*.

The man that would anonymously, without any provocation, commence, and persist in continuing a system of anonymous slander, and unfounded falsehoods against individuals, compelling them after repeated attacks to defend themselves with the weapons their assailant had chosen; his charges being denied, and dared to the proof, he retains his cognomen, reiterates his charges, and under the mask of friendship, professes a desire for peace, having, as he says, 'gained his end': the man that would do this, and then insult the community of Chatham, by an appeal to their 'discernment,' for an opinion of his conduct, I conceive to be void of all sense of shame—degrades below the common standard of humanity—and deficient in every principle of honor, and common honesty. The testimony of such a man, the community of Chatham, [to whom he has appealed] would be justified in rejecting, setting down the witness as INFAMOUS! Far rather would I, that *One of the People* would rob me of my purse, than of my character. *Shakespeare* says—"He that steals my purse steals trash; but he that robs me of my good name, takes from me that which does not him enrich, and which makes me poor indeed." *One of the People* says—"as regards the cigar story, how can the denial of that serve their purpose, when they know that there at least four persons in Chatham yet, who are thoroughly acquainted with the fact, &c. Now, Sir, here is a specific charge of which your correspondent says he has proof. I tell him that he states a falsehood; that he cannot prove the charge even in this instance, which he says he has from eye-witnesses. He, in a previous communication, refers to "Mr S. S.—on this point."—I have appealed to the gentleman whom the public believed was referred to, and that gentleman informed me, that such a scene as that described by *One of the People* never took place in his presence, although *One of the People* confidently asserts that but for his interposition, thereby would have hung a tale!" I again dare him to the proof, and court investigation. Again he says—"as to my assuming disguise, why does the Newcastle young Gentleman do the same?" I answer, for this reason:—that he is the aggressor—he commenced the attack—he had the choice of weapons, and he chose that of the assassin; whatever fault I find with his selection, he should not complain. The choice is his own, and although I dislike the mode, I am compelled to resist the attack. If he regrets his choice, let him select other means, either by information before a Magistrate, for the offences of which he complains, if he has any grounds for so doing; or attach his name to his communications, and he will find his antagonist. Considering the perceptive faculties of *One of the People*, it is singular that he could not perceive and appreciate the adage of the glass house. If he wishes to have any further information on the subject, he can get it by applying to either of the young gentlemen in question; and at the same time may have brought to his recollection the incident of the *White Horse!* which he seems to have entirely forgotten. Again he says—"a true with them, and with the whole story." Not yet my good man! He has administered the *bane*, I must supply the *antidote*. Did he really imagine that his offer would be accepted. Just fancy to yourself a highway-man knocking you down, depriving you of your cash, and then offering to allow you to go clear, provided you would not provoke him. No, Sir, I am not disposed to part with *One of the People* in that manner. I do not feel inclined to compromise my character, and those of the other young gentlemen alluded to; nor to sit down quietly under assertions, reiterated as truths to the public, which I know to be false. I now, in the most unequivocal manner, deny the whole of his charges, with the single exception before mentioned, and should be not support them by proof, I brand him as a LIAR and a SLANDERER, and hold him forth to the scorn of the community to whose judgment he has appealed.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

ONE OF THE NEWCASTLE

YOUNG GENTLEMEN.

Newcastle, 15th April, 1846.