

in prayer! What a picture! Twilight in a superb cathedral, and the only worshipper a child and a slave!

Communications.

COLONIAL POLITICS.

Mr Editor,

The result of the Election in the neighbouring Province of Nova Scotia, leading to a liberal majority, as conceded even by the Conservative papers, should naturally lead to a calm and candid inquiry as to its probable effect upon our colony. That a change will take place in the system of Nova Scotian administration, there can now remain not a doubt. The fiery conflict of strength has passed away; Nova Scotia has declared in what men and in what doctrines she has confidence; and the pledges of all, from the Imperial Minister to the veriest Colonial subordinate, remain as guarantees for the adoption of a new principle.

That such an event, acting powerfully as it does on the nature of man, with every scope here for its exercise and its influence, can leave our hearts unmoved, or our feelings unenlisted, is as contrary to the experience of history, as to the language of reason. The latter shows us that there is a contagious element in liberal principles, rapidly enkindling and encircling the affections as they spread; the former points to the historic page, and fearlessly offers its confirmation.

The emancipation of Ireland in '29 was followed by the emancipation of the three kingdoms in '33, in giving to the third estate a voice in the councils of its country; a voice no longer uttered in a whispered murmur, but sonorous, powerful, and vocal with joyousness. A few years passed away, the spirit of reform crossed the Atlantic, and Canadians demanded the privileges enjoyed by their fellow subjects. 'Tis true, reform degenerated into rebellion; but it is equally true and unanswerable, that the subsequent appointments to office by the British ministry, as well as the Conservative as the Whig, ratified and sanctified it. From Canada to Nova Scotia we trace its onward course, till after years of struggle, her public men have now an opportunity to carry out those principles, and model those institutions, for which they have so long and manfully fought.

And will New Brunswick remain insensible to what has so powerfully arrested and enchained the attention of other colonies? Will there be no responsive note within her, re-echoing to the past, and telling of the future? Does not every mist unwarped by the light of truth render her rays more piercing and more potent?

That a change has of late come over the spirit of her people, dare be denied by none. The stream of public affairs no longer glides along, unheeded where or how it flows. The noise of neighbouring agitation has awakened reflection, reflection has induced investigation, and investigation has fostered a vigilant watchfulness. Thus unconsciously we have been moulding our opinions by the standard of our neighbours. Unseen and silently have the operations around us been producing an operation within us. And now, when the principle so long contended for, and the struggle for which has induced such a lamentable sacrifice of time, of talent, and of wealth, have been recognized by a majority, who will question its effect upon our province?

Many of our sapient legislators triumphantly vindicate the action of our system; for, say they, "We are equally advanced in Responsible Government, and it has cost us no toil, no expense, no sacrifice. Look around, (they add) the father has arisen against the son, and the son against the father. The din of mental battle resounds in our ears, while the fever of excitement almost pervades our minds. Now look within; no agitation is here, everything is quiet; we are kindly and officially informed that New Brunswick has not, neither is to have, any politics;—in fact, we are as peaceful as the slumber of a stagnant pool."

Assuming all this to be correct, granting that many privileges have been more readily, and apparently more willingly vouchsafed; yet does the pioneer who divests the path of its difficulties and intricacies, or he who follows in the track thus explored, deserve the most credit? With one or two exceptions, what is there worth calling a struggle for principle?

And to what is this owing? Is it to the beauty of our system, or as the reward of our loyalty? To what cause (let me ask) is it due that American colonies are not now requested to contribute to the imperial revenue? Why do there not now exist Grenvilles and Norths?

The answer to the one is also a reply to the other; and will analogically prove, that our privileges are not so much the result of the virtue or the wisdom of our statesmen, or the theory of our administrations, as of the struggles and collisions manfully battled and triumphantly won in other colonies. As in science it is easier to apply a principle when known than to discover it amid the confusion of facts; so in politics it is much easier to apply it to an existing state of affairs, than to justify its recognition, or contend for its applicability.

But, Mr Editor, while engaged on this subject, will you permit me to offer a few remarks on the wearisome topic of Responsible Government.

[To be continued.]

AFFAIRS AT GASPE.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

Sir,—The best thanks of the public are due to your Carlisle correspondent for his expose of the Sam Slick dealers and strolling players;

but something of fellow feeling has possibly prevented him from going a step further. If such people are countenanced and supported by the Nobles of the land, is it surprising that the uneducated should be led away? Can your correspondent inform us who, among the notables of his town, condescended to become a door keeper and money-taker for the penny showman? Such a thing as a Show of any kind had, I presume, never before been seen along the shores of Gaspé, and all who could possibly afford it would naturally be attracted by the novelty for one evening. But what can be said of those who would take their families a second night, to hear the vulgar and obscene language of such itinerants; language scarcely to be excelled by those well educated and accomplished dames, the Poisardes of Paris, or the far-famed London Billingsgates. *Cæcus iter monstrare vult.* The bar of public opinion is said to be a somewhat severe one for some men to stand their trial by, but woe to a certain unfortunate wight should the bar of Quebec take him in hand. A tar and feathering verdict might be the result!

Now, as the question of public nuisances has been so ably exposed, allow me to mention one, which has doubtless escaped the attention of your Carlisle friend. The individuals he attacks are licensed public humbugs; but a very different class of gentlemen have located themselves on the opposite shore; men who do the thing on a large scale—engaging numbers of men to do all kinds of work for them—carry on a slashing business—talk big—show large balances at their bankers; but send an unfortunate man with a large family straight to hell, or mildly tell him to be d—d, should he presume to ask for the small amount of from £5 to £50, honestly and fairly earned by the sweat of his brow. This concern, Sir, is unfortunately amenable to no bar but that of public opinion. The law cannot reach the culprit; who, when appealed to, puts on a repudiating grin, and coolly tells you he is a mere agent, and you may go to Baltimore to find his principals! Query—principles.

Your readers, Mr Editor, have now a trio of humbugs before them. Sam Slick, who sells perpetual motion to one man for 10s., to another 26; the one cash, the other credit, mind you, a bargain which the purchaser enters into with his eyes open. The other, a man who professes to make you laugh to death for seven pence half penny. What is seven pence half penny after all! But the third, under the garb of a gentleman, lures the needy labourer or mechanic by specious promises, which he either fulfills or not, according to his sovereign dictum. And woe to the unfortunate father of six or eight children, who has to depend on Nero's tender mercy! Which think you most deserving of exposure?

Patience is said to be bitter, but the fruit of it sweet. It may be so; but to fill the mouths of hungry children, and pacify downing creditors with patience, may all very well in theory, but difficult in practice.

Should these remarks meet the eye of this American repudiator, he may probably be shamed into "doing unto others as he would wish to be done by."

ANTI-HUMBUG.

Bathurst, 8th September, 1847.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, TUESDAY, SEPT. 14, 1847.

The Subscriber having been compelled to consume a large amount of time, and incur considerable expense, in his too often fruitless endeavours to collect his far-spread Outstanding Debts, hereby notifies all persons to whom he is not indebted, and with whom he has not a running account, that orders for advertising in the Gleaner, and for printing, in future, must be accompanied with the CASH, otherwise they will not meet with attention.

JAMES A. PIERCE.

LORD MORPETH—This gentleman lately made a speech at the Yorkshire Agricultural Society, from which we take the following humorous remarks:—

The only matter which has brought me in contact with agricultural interests and pursuits is the circumstance that, by virtue of the office I hold, I have been placed at the head of a commission entrusted with sums of money granted by the liberality of the last parliament just defunct, for the encouragement of draining in England and Scotland. And I hope, by faithfully following out the liberal intentions of the legislature, and by providing judicious and trustworthy superintendents to superintend the expenditure of the sums granted and the works which are to be thus carried out, we shall be able to give a most considerable impetus to that most important of agricultural operations which it is intended to encourage. The sum at our command is a limited one, and therefore will chiefly be to enable persons to watch the proceedings of their neighbours and to test theory by practice, and to establish the expediency of draining by finding what returns they will obtain. I hope we shall be able to effect much good, and on a more extended area than is represented by the mere sums laid out by the legislature. It is true the sum provided for England and Scotland was but two millions, and already Scotland has proved itself farther north than even Yorkshire by being more forward in applying for the money granted; and it has already appropriated the

lion's share of the grant, having I think obtained three-fourths of the whole sum set apart. However, I hope the people of this country will keep their eyes wide awake to what is going on amongst their northern neighbours. There are parts of England and of Yorkshire itself, which will admit of great improvement. It is not for me, commissioner of drainings as I may be—to offer at such a meeting as the present, composed of scientific and practical men, any suggestion on draining. You have heard your president give, what is always satisfactory, the practical results of what he has undertaken. I have not been myself successful in the attempts I made last session to effect an improvement in the sewers of towns, and therefore I have still less right to talk of drains in the field. I may without much rashness observe, it may be said of draining as of learning—a little draining, or rather a shallow draining is "a dangerous thing"—drain deep or touch not. All I can say is, that the department with which I am connected has proved that it is its intention to practice what it preaches. They have already determined upon putting two considerable tracts of territory belonging to the crown under the superintendence of Mr. Josiah Parkes, to be drained by him, viz. the New Forest in the south of England, and the Phoenix Park in Ireland. Perhaps it will be thought that Ireland for some time past has been draining us; and that it is only fair that we should now try our hands at draining her.

He concluded his speech with the following admirable suggestions.

I wish that both in practice and theory everything in Yorkshire should be indeed 'first rate.' And thus, by combining theory with practice; by draining your fields of all their stagnant moisture, and draining your intellects of all their obsolete prejudices; by manuring your fields with fertilising substances, and manuring your understandings with useful knowledge; by storing up in your garner the rich produce of the year, and by storing up in your minds the goodly fruits of intelligence, inquiry, enterprise and science, the farmers of England and Yorkshire will assume that position in our social system to which they were so well entitled, and will be not only sharers in, but contributors to the general welfare of a thriving people.

QUEBEC.—A fire occurred in this place on the morning of the 3rd inst, which destroyed six houses, to each of which were attached stores and hangards. It was got under with much difficulty.

QUARANTINE, CANADA.—The Quebec Chronicle, of the 1st inst., furnishes the following news from Grosse Island.

Our accounts from Grosse Isle are up to yesterday morning. It will be seen, by the Hospital return for last week, that the number of deaths in Hospital is more than on the previous week, but much less at the sheds where the healthy passengers are placed.

Dr. Newton came up sick from the Station on Monday, and Drs. Estaff and D'Amour yesterday.

HOSPITAL RETURN

From the 21st to the 28th August, 1847.

Table with 2 columns: Category and Count. Remaining on the 21st... 2048, Admitted since... 466, Discharged... 284, Died... 236, Remaining... 1994.

Number of deaths at the Tents; where the healthy passengers are landed, during the same period... 20. Total deaths on the Island, from the 21st to the 28th... 238.

From the Gazette of the 3rd instant, we copy the following paragraphs.

Upper Canada papers of the 31st August shew that the sickness was diminishing there, and it appears that it has also diminished at Montreal. There were 13 deaths in the week ending the 30th August at Cornwall, 65 remaining in the Emigrant Hospital.

At Quebec and Grosse Isle things are not worse; but we hear of several cases of distress and exposure in town which may amount to cruelty in the authorities, or on the part of individuals. There is, as yet, no Fever Hospital for the resident inhabitants.

PROGRESS OF TEMPERANCE.—We have much satisfaction in publishing the annexed paragraphs from the Saint John Temperance Telegraph. The information it furnishes of the rapid spread of total abstinence principles in that city, will tend to cheer those who have embarked in this noble work in Miramichi; and we trust will encourage them to prosecute their labours with redoubled zeal.

"Sons of Temperance.—We are pleased to notice that 'Gurney Division,' proposes giving a Soiree before Mr Gough's departure from this city—Friday evening, the 17th instant, being fixed upon for the entertainment, which will come off in the basement of the Union street Chapel, which has been very kindly placed at their disposal; when we hope that the usual alacrity of our fair friends will be displayed in forwarding the great work which this institution purposes to accom-

plish, in common with other Temperance Associations, to which it has been found to be an important and highly effectual auxiliary.

Saint-Martin's Total Abstinence Soiree.—This festival was held at Saint Martin's on Thursday evening last, and reflected much credit on the society, for the brilliancy and style that characterized the whole proceedings. Much praise is due to the Ladies for the assistance they rendered in spreading the tables with that which nourishes, not that which poisoneth human life. Addresses were delivered suitable to the occasion, by the Rev. John Marsters, Revd. Mr McDonald, Revd. John Francis, and J. B. Currey, Esq. At the close an election took place, for a strong delegation to represent their society at the Convention to be held in Saint John on the 15th instant.

Mr Gough continues to draw full houses, and the best evidence of his ability is afforded by the deep attention that is given to his addresses, and in the desire of the many we have conversed with, to hear him, again and again. The accession to the pledge since his arrival, has not been very considerable, until Friday evening; but this must not be regarded as indicative of the impression made by his advocacy on the public mind, as a great part of his audience are already pledged to our principles, and we have reason to believe many others have conceived increased respect for them. About 24 joined the Young Men's Association on that occasion, including the members of the Mechanics' Band, who went to the platform in a body, and having signed the pledge, struck up 'We're a band united, much to the gratification of the audience.

We have room only briefly to notice the formation by Mr John B. Gough, assisted by some of the Officers of the Saint John Total Abstinence Society, of a Juvenile 'Cold Water Army,' on Saturday afternoon, in the Hall of the Mechanics' Institute, which was crowded with parents and children. Mr G. introduced the subject in a short, pleasing, and appropriate speech, at the close of which about Four Hundred little ones cheerfully consented to become members, signed the pledge, and received each a book, containing suitable hymns, and a card, inscribed with the pledge of the Cold Water Army. Altogether the scene is described as pleasing in the extreme.

NEW BRUNSWICK.—The St. John Observer of Tuesday last contains an account of another of those sanguinary acts which of late have become quite prevalent in that city and suburbs. That such a state of affairs exists, and, as yet, none of the guilty parties brought to justice, says but little in favor of the municipal institutions of the city, or the efficiency of its police. The frequent repetition of such acts of outrage and assassination, calls loudly for the interference of the strong arm of authority, and subjects us to the contempt and ridicule of all such as are opposed to British institutions and British laws. We copy below the account of the sad occurrence:

"Shocking Outrage.—Another Murder.—We learn that about half past ten o'clock last evening, as James Briggs, Jun., and William Briggs, brothers, sons of Mr James Briggs, ship builder, Portland, in company with some other persons, were quietly walking home through the main street of Portland, from attending a Temperance Meeting at the Portland hall, when opposite the head of the Long Wharf, they were fired upon by some dastardly assassin, and shocking to state, James Briggs was shot in the back of the head, and instantly killed; and his brother wounded in the arm! The murderer has not yet been discovered.—It is most disgraceful and humiliating to have to record so many street murders and assassinations in our community, and some strong and decisive measures must be adopted to remedy the great and growing evil. If an efficient Stipendiary Magistrate and Police is not at once established to preserve the public peace, and protect the lives of our citizens, a state of things we fear will speedily arise which the mind shudders to contemplate!

"We sincerely sympathize with the bereaved family and friends of the deceased, in the deep and overwhelming affliction which has so suddenly and so violently fallen upon them. The foregoing are all the particulars we could gather in the excited state of public feeling to-day—A Jury, before two Magistrates (in the absence of the Coroner) are now investigating this melancholy affair, and it is doubtful whether they will close to-day."

The Woodstock Telegraph adds another act of incendiarism to the many already recorded as having recently occurred in Carleton county. It is thus noticed in that paper:—

"Our duty as a public journalist compels us to notice another act of Incendiarism, which was committed on the night of Saturday last, or early on Sunday morning. A barn owned by Mr Thomas Burpe, Jacksonstown, and occupied by Mr Charles Estey, was destroyed by fire on the night above mentioned. It contained about a ton and a half of hay, a plough, harness, and other articles necessary for farming. There can be no doubt, we are informed, that it was wilfully destroyed. Threats to that effect had been previously made. We sincerely