

counteract them, without delay.' 'Well, how shall I do that?' sighed John. 'Aye,' said the Genius, gravely, 'it is so much easier to make errors than to remedy them, that it will require very serious reflection to answer that question; but no time must be lost in entering upon the consideration of it. Look,' said he, 'upon the state of your affairs in Canada,' and he whisked John's chair round so as to give him a full view of that country. 'Why who the plague,' said John, 'has got into that chair where my good friend M'Nab used to sit?'

'The man,' replied the Genius, 'who was strongly suspected of aiding in Lower the rebellion which M'Nab suppressed in Upper Canada, the man who visited Nova Scotia to see How—' 'To see who?' cried John, clenching his fist. 'Interrupt me not,' said the Genius, 'to see how the cause prospered there, but returned when he was assured by those on whom he felt he could rely; that seven-eighths of the people were inimical to it. Now, look you upon that province, and see who there occupies the chair, but hold,' said he, 'you will require glasses to discern the little object who sits in it, take these.' John placed a pair of magnifiers on his eyes, and after groping about for some time, exclaimed, 'Odd rat it, what's that! it looks like a weasel with a fox's head, dear me, no, it's got a wig on; oh, those wigs! but list, it speaks.' 'This province geographically belongs to the great free Republic in our neighbourhood.' 'The deuce it does,' cried John, 'I'll let you know Mr. Speaker—' but here he was interrupted by a growl from one of the opposite benches. 'Who says it is Mr. Bull's revenue? Mr. Bull has no more right to that revenue than he has to sell me, because I am called one of Mr. Bull's people.' 'Sell you,' quoth John, 'well I hope I shall always have something better to trade with than you, Mr. Bruin, though, perhaps the barbers might give a pretty fair price for so much grease; but as to my revenue.' 'Cease,' said the Genius, 'I have only presented these things to your view to convince you that you have adopted this mischievous measure of free trade, which annihilates all distinction between your own family and foreigners at a time when such men as these were in the ascendancy.' Poor John! how dumb foundered he looked. Well, Mr. Genius, what must I do? 'Do!' said the Genius, emphatically, 'you must retrace your steps, you must restore the distinction between your own flesh and blood and strangers, and spurn that sordid liberality which insidiously dictates treating your friends and foes alike.' 'Aye, but how can I do that?' moaned John. 'You know Madam Bull has become a sad termagant of late, and as she's got the key of the strong box, so rules the roast you know.' 'That is sad, very sad,' sighed the Genius. 'I have heard that since she took to low company, she has become very unmanageable.' 'Unmanageable, Mr. Genius, you may say that,' groaned John. 'I can't manage her, and what's more, she doesn't manage herself now. Formerly, before she proposed anything to me, she used to sit down by her fire-side like a discreet woman, and consider what was best to be done for the family, and she would look at it this way and that way, and t'other way, and generally came to a good, sound judicious decision, but now she sits by the window and listens to what every block-head who passes by says about the family concerns, and I grieve to say that she generally follows the advice of the fellows who roar loudest and make most noise.' 'Oh, oh,' exclaimed the Genius, 'has Madam Bull sunk so low as that, all then I fear, is lost, but no, we will not despair,' and he sank into a reverie, in which he continued for some time. John looked at him askance, and felt as if he'd like to sneak off without further notice, for he felt sadly afraid that Madam would haul him over the coals for letting the Genius into family secrets, but before he could muster courage to do so, the Genius turned to him with so much solemnity that John actually shook in his shoes. 'Unless you can make Mrs Bull listen to reason,' said he, in a voice which fell upon John's ear like distant thunder, 'Canada will not long be yours. You have swamped the loyalty of the Upper Province by the mongrel mixture of French and American demagogues in your ill-judged union and there is no tie but that of sordid interest which can now bind it to you. If you deprive the Canadians of the advantages they have hitherto enjoyed over those who are divided from them only by a narrow stream, that stream will soon cease to separate them, and they will become one people. The Canadian merchant will deal with his American neighbour on the opposite bank of the river. The Canadian Maiden will listen to the love tale poured in her ear by an American admirer, and Commerce and Love will combine to sever them from you.' 'Dear, dear,' said John 'I'm in a desperate case; if both matters of money and matrimony thus unite against me, what the devil shall I do?' 'Name not the foul fiend before me,' exclaimed the Genius, with an awful scowl. 'It is in consequence of listening to his suggestions that this ruin is now impending over your head. Had you been actuated by steady principle instead of crooked policy, and continued too fond of the right to pursue the expedient, you would still have had a noble band attached to you by the generous sentiments of loyal devotion. But your time-servers have advised a different course. Interest, sordid interest, has been your ruling motive, and you must not be surprised if your children follow your example. It is still in your power to make it their interest to adhere to you, but as I have already told you, if Madam Bull will not listen to reason Canada is lost!'

'And must I then lose all my property

in America?' cried John in agony. 'That may not follow,' said the Genius hesitatingly. 'Canada will be a loss, an immense loss to you. It is a noble country, but still half a loaf is better than no bread. Look at this map; trace this line due north from the St. Croix to the St. Lawrence; to the westward of it lies a noble country, containing magnificent rivers, fertile valleys, extensive forests, capacious harbours, a seacoast alive with fish, and a hardy population who resemble your family at home, in their feeling, their habits, their politics and their religion; there may be a few exceptions, but as whole such are they. The boundary line will be easily defended, and to a marabout power such a country will be invaluable.' John pricked up his ears and seemed to be a little comforted, though every now and then he whispered to himself and almost blubbered as he did so, 'Canada should neither be lost nor given away.' 'And now,' said the Genius, 'Mr Bull I am about to depart. Listen then to my parting advice. Should you soon find that the country I have described is all that remains to you in America, don't pay the fool with it. Cherish it. Place it under one government, with one Legislature; look again at the map, you will at once see that Sackville, in New Brunswick, just to the North of the isthmus which divides that province from Nova Scotia; should be the seat of government, easily accessible from every part of those provinces, from Prince Edward's Island and Cape Breton, and within a few hours' travel by railroad, from the harbour of Halifax, to which the steam packets resort. You will then have one governor to pay instead of three, but you must pay him; if the country is not worth that expense to you abandon it. The Governor must not be made dependant on those he is sent to govern. He should really be the Representative of the crown, and have no bargain to make for a salary. To such a governor all persons will look up with confidence; having established the independence of the Governor, take care to preserve that of the Judiciary; the administration of justice is not a mere local concern; all persons wherever they reside, who have dealings with the inhabitants of a province, are interested in preserving its purity, all really local matters leave to their own management; farewell.' John rubbed his eyes, found himself snugly seated in his arm chair, and after looking round the room to recall his scattered senses, exclaimed, well Canada is not gone yet, however, Mr Genius.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 1848.

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.

LECTURE IN NAPAN.

Last week we mentioned that Mr. Caie had been solicited by a number of the inhabitants of Napan, to deliver a Lecture in that settlement, and had cheerfully complied with the request. It having been announced that it would be delivered in the School House occupied by Mr. Howe, on the evening of Thursday, upwards of a hundred of the settlers, of both sexes, and a number of persons from Chatham, assembled on the occasion, and had it not been for the wretched state of the roads, we have no doubt a larger company would have been present.

Mr. GEORGE JOHNSTON having been called to the chair, briefly stated the object for which they had assembled, and introduced Mr. Caie to the Meeting.

The extreme length of the admirable Lecture delivered by Mr. Caie, prevents the possibility of our supplying any thing like, even an outline of the subject:—Mr. C. spoke uninterruptedly for upwards of an hour and a half, and during all that time was listened to with the closest attention. He began by saying, in language similar to the following:

That being intimately acquainted with most of you: and feeling, as I have done, during the long period of 25 years, the liveliest solicitude for your happiness and prosperity—being in a word almost a Napanite—you will not wonder when I tell you, that I esteem it alike a privilege and an honour, too be called upon to occupy my present position.

You are all aware of the circumstances, I presume, under which I have been induced to accept the invitation to appear before you this evening; and you are not altogether ignorant of the reasons which have led me to make choice of another subject, in preference to that of Agriculture. One of these reasons, and perhaps the weightiest of all, was an anxious wish on my part, that on this—my first appearance among you, in my present capacity, I might please the female portion of my

audience, and this I could not do, if I had chosen as my theme, the somewhat dry, and to them, is uninteresting subject of Agriculture.

Having got through his introductory remarks, which were chiefly of a local, but interesting kind, Mr. C. went on to say:—

Being a warm friend, and an Office Bearer of the *Miramichi Mechanics' Institute*—not a few of whose members, I am proud to see around me to night,—and being, I must confess, greatly astonished, that not one person belonging to this settlement—alho' quite contiguous to Chatham, has seen fit to countenance that deservedly popular Institution, I shall avail myself of the present occasion to call your attention 'to the claims which Mechanics' Institutes have to public countenance and support,' after which I shall speak of the past history and present aspect of knowledge.

Mr. Caie then described the singular circumstances which conspired about the end of the last century, to bring about the formation of Mechanics' Institutes, and pointed out their gradual extension to almost every civilized country in the world. He named the objects which have been urged against them, and the benefits they are calculated to bestow, clearly pointing out the unsoundness of the former; and on six different grounds proving the vast amount of the latter. He contrasted the exalted position of a well informed man—tho' covered with rags,—with the pitiable condition of an ignorant man, though rich as *Rothchild*, and then having directed the attention of his audience, most attractively, to the enviable position, to which Great Britain—the 'Workshop of the World'—has ascended, since the origin of Mechanics' Institutions,—he emphatically added—'I now, with some degree of confidence, venture to ask if you do not think that the *Miramichi Mechanics' Institute*, is well worthy of your most cordial countenance and support?'

When Mr. C. here paused, as if for a reply, we are quite certain that every one present responded their silent assent.—Mr. C. proceeded next to trace the history of Knowledge, and in arriving at the present period, he explained most interestingly, that although the advances made by science since the revival of Literature and the arts are confessedly very great, nevertheless, smuging up all that has been done, heaping together, if you will, 'all the profound learning of ancient and modern times, it is astonishing, after all, how little is actually known, and how much remains to be discovered.' This latter section of the Lecture was introduced by a beautiful illustration of the powers and faculties of the human mind as contrasted with the instincts of the mere animal—and was closed by his adducing numerous evidences of the truth of his assertion, that

'Creation's fuller grandeur mocks our dazzled sight,
Too great its swiftness, and too strong its light.'

He then alluded to various hindrances to the extension of Learning: referred to sundry institutions established for the purpose of extending knowledge to all classes of mankind, and having strongly censured, as demoralizing a majority of the sources from whence information is being derived and disseminated, he concluded in nearly the following words,—

'I however fondly hope that in after years—while fertile fields and yellow corn arrest the eye of the stranger, and tell him of the enterprise and industry of you—the Pioneers of this infantile, but interesting settlement—he may not fail to be equally captivated by the discovery, that while you have cared well for the cultivation of your soil, you have cared still more for the mental culture of your hardy sons, and rosy cheeked daughters; and what is still better, that you have never overlooked that—which in the estimation of all good men, is of far greater importance—I mean their MORAL CULTIVATION:—That while you have secured to them the means by which they may learn to scrutinize, with the keen eye of science, the works of their Creator, you have never failed to inculcate this greatest and most glorious of all lessons,

'Tho' Nature's works the ruling mind declare,
And well desire enquiries serious care;
What boots it thee, to fly from pole to pole,
Hang o'er the sun, and with the planets roll?
What boots, through spaces farthest bound to roam,
If thou, O man! a stranger art at home,
Then know thyself; the human mind survey
The use, the pleasure, will the toil repay.'

Moved by Mr. Davis P. Howe, and seconded by Mr. James Jardine.

Resolved, unanimously—That this Assembly, duly appreciating the kindness of James Caie, Esq., and fully sensible of the interest he has evinced in our welfare, by complying so generously and promptly with our requests, feel that he is entitled to our best thanks.

The President here rose and said—not being aware that his neighbors would choose him as their chairman, he had prepared a Resolution, which he wished to introduce to the meeting with some homely remarks; he would therefore, with their consent, request Mr. Francis McKnight to fill the chair for a short time, to enable him so to do. Permission being given, and Mr. McKnight accepting the invitation, Mr. Johnston spoke nearly as follows.—

Mr. Chairman, in rising to propose this resolution, I feel sensibly my inability to express

in words, the obligations we are under to you, Caie, and other gentlemen in the community, particularly those of them who have been so zealously laboured to promote the interests of our Agricultural Society.

I would beg leave to call the attention of the meeting to the latter part of our President's Speech, as reported by Mr. Johnston in his last Annual Report, which with permission, I will read.—

'On his assuming the duties of President of the Annual Meeting, the worthy Mr. Johnston took occasion to discant at some length on various topics of deepest interest to the being of the Society, and closed his remarks by enforcing the old but only doctrine, that they who expect to prosper must 'mind their own business,' and that the important part of a Farmer's business is never to be attended such meetings as these to countenance and support all such as have for their object the interest of the community.'

Now Mr. Chairman, it does appear to me, that we, practical Farmers, do neglect our business. To judge us by our actions, we would think that we are perfect in our way, and have nothing more to learn. We have every branch of the community after knowledge but ourselves. The Mechanics have their Institute, to which they vote both their money, and much of their time. They have likewise spared no pains in petitioning the Legislature for aid in their various callings; while we agriculturists feel so large in our own estimation that we want nothing—ask nothing—have been so undimindful of ourselves, that representatives have not altogether neglected they say if you will subscribe £50 for the benefit of your Society, we will add £10. I think we must be blind indeed to our interests, if we neglect to raise that sum, for if we do it not, we shall get nothing from Government, and other countries that subscribe that sum, will receive the benefit; while we, though indirectly, will have to pay our share of it, and reap none therefrom. Again Sir, I have frequently pondered at the comparative apathy that prevails among us Farmers. Now what can be the reason that so few of us come forward and contribute to the Society? It cannot be, surely, the general indifference required to constitute a public subscription. Why sir, in the purchase of a battery alone, at the Society's price, that sum can be saved to us. Now, Mr. Chairman, can be no better way of arousing us to apathy than the receiving occasional lectures by Mr. Caie, and other scientific gentlemen, connected with the Society, as we received to night, to arouse us to a proper sense of our duty to ourselves as Agriculturists, and to the community at large.

He then moved the following Resolution, which was seconded by Mr. Wilson. Resolved, unanimously,—That the Assembly, sensible of the good effect of the Lectures such as we have received, covering the evening, would have on any other day, beg leave to request that Mr. Caie, should visit us on a similar errand as a part of the circumstances would permit. Moved by Mr. David Steele, and seconded by Mr. Finlay McDermott. Resolved, unanimously,—That shown thanks of this Assembly be given to James A. Pierce, Esq., for the power he manifests in the welfare of Agriculture, and for allotting so much of his work, to Journal to extracts on agricultural subjects, that he be requested to continue pen, same.

Mr. Pierce replied to this resolution in length. He returned thanks for the notice of his labours in promoting the interests of the Agriculturalist, and was from the fact that his services were appreciated by the proper quarter, among the Farmers of the County. He alluded to the very excellent remarks that had fallen from their Chairman, Mr. Johnston, and was sorry to hear that him, that so little patronage and countenance was bestowed by the settlement on the Agricultural Society, an Institution which, by its operations, conferred incalculable benefits on the County, by advocating the advancement of Agriculture, and stimulated the Farmer to greater exertions by establishing Fairs, Matches, offering premiums for improved Stock, Domestic Manufactures, the production of the Dairy, and last not least, by enabling the Farmer to procure Seed at a much cheaper rate, than he could otherwise do. He congratulated the Chairman on the honourable position he occupied in that Society, being one of its Presidents, which was not only a high and state of distinction conferred on him personally, but on the inhabitants of the settlement in general. He then occupied the rest of the meeting some time, while he alluded to the rapid improvements that had taken place in Napan during the course of the last fifteen years, and said, that for extent of cleared red land, and scientific farming, it was no other district in this or the neighbouring province of Nova Scotia. He then alluded to the want of taste and absence of snugness at the homesteads, and recommended that the dwellings and outhouses be painted and washed; that trees be planted for ornament and shelter; that kitchen gardens be attached to each farm, in which fruit and vegetables could be placed as well as currant and berry bushes, at a trifling expense, would add materially to the beauty of the landscape.

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