

surely enlarge with every moment, and your influence will have constant increase—

"In the world's broad field of battle,
In the bivouac of life,
Be not like dumb, driven cattle—
Be a hero in the strife."

Work on, for surely you will be wanted, and then comes your reward. Lean upon the sacred verity, "I have never seen the righteous forsaken or his seed begging bread." Never despair, for the lives of good men abundantly testify that often when the clouds are blackest, and the tempest is fiercest, and hope is faintest, a "still small voice" will be heard saying, "Come hither, you are wanted," and all your powers will find employment. Therefore, take heart young man, for ere long you will be wanted.

The Politician.

The Colonial Press.

Quebec Chronicle, May 7.

CAUSES OF THE STORM.

Matters, in Montreal, have at length taken a more favorable turn. A calm, we are rejoiced to say, has succeeded the storm. The fury of the past has settled down into the quiet determination of the present; and it is a subject for consideration, how much the stagnation of business has had to do with the recent expression of public feeling. It is a well known truth that people, having little to do for themselves, are generally ready to meddle with others' business. We pretend not to assert that the people of Montreal had no interest in what was being transacted by the rulers of the Province: far from it. Yet we cannot help thinking that the dearth of employment has conducted much to direct men's minds to politics.—That which, in some circumstances would scarcely merit notice, does in others receive serious consideration. Indeed, the free trade agitation of the mother country was the result of bad times, and the results of free trade have produced bad times and excitement here. Seriously affected as the people of Canada have been by a particular course of legislation in Great Britain, it is not to be wondered at that some attention has been given to provincial law making. The trader ruined, can scarcely be blamed for directing his thoughts to that which has ruined him; the mechanic ruined by the insolvent trader can hardly be considered culpable for a desire to ascertain the cause of his altered circumstances; nor can the unemployed laborer be blamed for enquiring about the cause of his idleness. When it is clear that a people are suffering from mal-administration, it is impolitic, indeed, to give them additional cause for complaint. It is wise rather to take advantage of circumstances, and a refusal so to do, the height of folly. Apart from the morality of the question, it shows a want of acumen in the ministers of Lord Elgin to agitate the payment of Rebellion Losses, when the very classes who would have had to pay them were writhing under losses of their own; it was a want, in short, of ordinary prudence. Indirectly, it is the abandonment by the mother country of Colonial interests, which is the cause of clamor. Nor will prosperity, and with it, peace and quiet, return until protection being extended to the colonies, business is considerably improved. "Let us consider only," says Lord Brougham, in his work on Political Philosophy, "how many measures every government is compelled to postpone, contrary to its fixed and clear opinions, merely because the public mind will not bear them in its present state of information. Men may differ, for example, as to the propriety of retaining certain colonial possessions at a vast expense, with great loss to our trade, and with considerable risk of hostile operations becoming necessary. But even if all statesmen of any note were agreed that those distant possessions should be abandoned, what minister would venture to give up the country where Wolfe gained his victory and met his end?" Yet, although we readily admit that circumstances foreign to the matter itself, have tended to bring about a most lamentable state of things, we cannot remove from ourselves an impression that party and power have had much to do with it. To be plain, we believe that the payment of the Rebellion claims has been a *sine qua non* for the amalgamation of the present ministry, who, sooner than give up their places, have persisted in a course of wrong, which has brought down upon them, and upon their master, so much fearful indignation.

Quebec Gazette, May 7.

CANADA AFFAIRS.

The momentary excitement created by the late outbreak in Montreal has now subsided: Canada will probably remain perfectly quiet until the answer from the home government be known. In the meantime the leaders of both parties are actively engaged in striving to effect a regular organization of the forces under their control. We have already expressed our sentiments upon their attempt to fan the spark into a flame, and with the flame to consume the whole country. It is, we conceive, the most suicidal scheme that the greatest enemy to the welfare of the Province could have suggested. We are at present in a very critical position: the trade of the West is but just beginning to acquire that immense importance which must one day render it a source of incalculable wealth; and the contest and rivalry between the two main outlets for its produce, the Yankee Canals, and the St. Lawrence, has been seriously entered into on both sides. A few years will decide the question: is Quebec

to become the commercial depot of the finest agricultural country in the world, or are we to linger on, for ever, clinging to the remains of a timber trade which may dwindle down to a very small value? Again, there is no one, either in this Province or in Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, who is not fully apprised of the advantages to be derived from the Halifax railroad. It is equally well known that if, left to our own resources, with our impoverished exchequer, and small circulating capital, it would be utterly impossible to undertake any thing of the kind. We surmount the difficulty, thanks to the enterprise of British capitalists, who consent to a less safe investment, in the hopes of a higher rate of interest than they could expect at home. Thus, for the two great undertakings on which the future prosperity of the Province will mainly depend, we have to look to foreign countries.

Let us examine at present what will be the effect of the agitation, which now counts among its mooters many of the most respectable men in the Province. It is madness to expect the same intelligence and moderation from a mob that you may find in an assembly of elders. If you continue to tell the mob that their liberties are being trampled under foot, that the government is exercising an atrocious tyranny, that they are being subjected to the rule of a people, who, you tell them, are not their countrymen, if you repeat this on every ear, on every note of the gamut; you must necessarily expect that the mob will show its feelings in the only manner in which it can—not by constitutional remonstrances or honey-tongued petitions—but by brute force, and it may be that Parliament Houses may be burnt and Governors insulted in the explosion. Continue the scheme of agitation—instead of throwing these firebrands into the midst of a disorderly and dispirited crowd, administer them carefully to regular bodies of men whom you have organized for the purpose, whose interests you have bound into one, and among whom there is no fear of disaffection or desertion—you have thoroughly convinced them of the rectitude of their course, and they themselves know well their strength.

Is there a man insane enough to expect that if the day does come on which these citizens have been told the outrage will be consummated, any moral force existing will suffice to restrain them?

On the other hand, ring in the ears of the other party that the time is come when they must positively submit to the destruction of their institutions, their laws, and their language, to which they have clung so tenaciously for centuries, or rise to defend them—advise them deliberately to take every means to render this defence efficacious—enroll them in companies—teach them that the same fowling piece which has defeated their flocks from the Canadian bear, could be equally murderous if presented to the breast of their foreign fellow-countrymen—and, as in the other case, let the Queen then disallow the Bill: some of your prophecies will perhaps be realized; will you then hang back? Impossible. The signal for the execution of the projects of violence you have planned so deeply, and urged on with such incoherent language, must then be given.

It will be too late, then, to talk of composition, or arrangement, or reconciliatory measures: the parties to whom you have confided the arbitration of the difficulty know no other than that of the sword. Ten times the eloquence, ten times the exertions, ten times the influence, which have excited the storm, would not then suffice to allay it for an hour. At home, you will experience all the horrors of a civil war—the only authority whose sway will be felt, will be one whose souvenir is not yet effaced from your minds, martial law—the tales of horror and desolation which you have read with a thrill in the history of Europe during the two last years, will then be faithfully renewed at your own doors, and you will be the chief actors. Abroad, all confidence will instantly vanish: no English merchant will advance capital: no American broker will confide produce—you will be left to recover from the paralysis, solely to your own exertions. And this will be your doing.

From the Montreal Transcript.

POPULAR WILL.

The British people and the politicians of that country will, we say, be startled. It involves, or seems to involve, a confession on the part of the Colony of their unfitness for self-government, and a rashness of legislation in the Imperial legislature, which the ultra-Tory party will not fail to turn to account. And yet, if the honest truth were told, it proves neither of these things. It shows, indeed, that parties have much to learn in this Colony before the system of government we possess can be worked to a profitable account. It exhibits a great want of tact, and a great want of good sense, and a great want of moderation on the part of our public men: it shows that we have much to create and much to undo; but we should be sorry to suppose, as some seem to suppose, that it goes any further than this, and leaves us without rudder, compass, or means of guidance on the broad sea of anarchy and confusion.

The condition into which the Colony is now plunged, has arisen simply from the refusal of the party possessing power to listen to the very proper and moderate remonstrance of the party who were out. This was the grave error. Macaulay, and, since Macaulay, Mons. Guizot, have forcibly shown that all Government is and must be a system of compromise, and that where the wishes and feelings of the minority are totally unheeded, there the result must either be anarchy or despotism. Now, the party in power in Canada, have committed this terrible mistake. Relying on their strength

in the legislature, they seem entirely to have forgotten that there was a party opposed to them out of doors,—a party not merely political but national, and in defiance of the wishes and feelings of which, no Government in this country can be sustained.

It has been the terrible insult offered to this British party, which has led to the unfortunate scenes which have occurred. For our own parts, we confess that we see nothing in those scenes, beyond the mere fact of indignant dissent to an unpopular measure, of which we can cordially approve. It is not a pleasing sight to us to have seen a British Governor pelted through the streets of the capital, nor can we see anything to congratulate ourselves on, in the present state of the country. On the contrary, we see much to deplore and much to alarm. The manner in which the men now in office have managed to compromise themselves, is calculated to destroy all confidence in them; they have acted indeed, as a correspondent observes, like men who are bereft of their reason: but then, on the other hand, where are we to look for their successors? Had it not been for the unfortunate measure which has caused all this uproar, they and the country might have gone on in peace for many years. As it is, they have plunged everything for the moment into uproar and confusion.

Everything now depends on the moderation of the leaders. If, instead of seeking to pour oil on the flames, those who have influence set themselves to fan it and feed it, this Colony may and will soon cease to be British. But if those who have influence only use it as they should, we do not despair. Good will come out of even this. It will show the dominant party that to carry on the Government of the country they must consult the feelings of their opponents, and that although the British may be a minority, they are a minority that will not be slighted.—Though numerically weak, be it remembered, that party has all the elements of strength on its side, and woe to that Government and woe to that Legislature, and woe to that man who shall deride and insult them.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, TUESDAY, MAY 15, 1849.

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.

CANADA.—The following Petition to Parliament from the people of Lower Canada, pointing out the evils which have resulted from the recent changes in the Commercial policy of Britain, is in course of signature in Quebec. As the inhabitants of this Province are suffering from the same causes, we think they would act wisely in following the example set them by the inhabitants of Quebec. Some good may grow out of the effort—at least it will cause an enquiry to be made in Parliament into our present prospects, which, it must be admitted, are gloomy enough, with no ray of hope for the future.

To the Right Honorable, the Lords, Spiritual and Temporal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, in Parliament assembled. The petition of the undersigned merchants, ship-builders, deal-manufacturers, and inhabitants, generally, of Quebec and its neighborhood:

HUMBLY SHEWETH,

That Your Lordship's Petitioners view with apprehension and alarm the departure of the Imperial Councils of Great Britain, from a line of policy which has raised that country to her present exalted position in the scale of nations—a policy by which the productions of her colonies were up till within a few years back, protected to an extent sufficient to enable the colonist to compete with the foreigner in her markets, and which while it raised the Colonial possessions of Her Majesty to importance, gradually increased the power, and extended the influence of the Mother Country.

That the interests of this Province have been so seriously affected by the changes, yet only partial in their nature, which have recently taken place in the commercial policy of Great Britain, that it is perfectly evident to your petitioners, that should such changes be continued they must result in the entire ruin of the colony.

Your petitioners, under these circumstances, humbly approach your Lordships, firmly, but respectfully, to remonstrate against a line of policy, in itself so disastrous, in the full belief that your Lordships may pause before assenting to a free trade system, tending to the ruin, not of the colonies alone, but of the empire at large.

That your petitioners fully concur in the views of the council of the Quebec Board of Trade, so ably expressed in a petition to your Honorable House, dated April ultimo; and they earnestly beg that the protection which their Staple exports, Timber and Deals enjoy, instead of being diminished, may be aug-

mented; for under no circumstances are your Petitioners able to compete on equal terms with the foreigner of northern Europe; the length of the Atlantic voyage, the difficulties of the St. Lawrence navigation, and the consequent high cost of freight being insuperable obstacles; and should this trade be ruined, your Petitioners are ruined also, for, Lower Canada, suffering from a peculiarly severe climate, cannot become a great Corn-producing country.

Wherefore, your Petitioners humbly pray, that your Lordships considering that Canada cannot compete successfully in Corn with the United States, possessing a fine land and superior geographical position, nor in her timber trade with foreigners adjacent to Great Britain your Lordships will be pleased to take the premises into consideration, and refuse your concurrence so any measure for the repeal of the navigation laws or the removal of protection.

The Montreal Courier contains a letter addressed by Mr Sydney Billingham, to the Hon. Geo. Moffat, concerning dissatisfaction with what is called 'Responsible Government.' Mr Billingham begins with: 'At the present moment our laborers are idle, and in want; of our mechanics, some have been compelled to betake themselves to the adjoining republic, there to find support for themselves and families, while others who are constrained to remain, can with difficulty secure an honorable subsistence; our merchants are embarrassed—our banks crippled—property descending in value with frightful strides—and the entire population discontented.' We must shake ourselves free, says Mr Billingham, in another place, from that bastard nationality, the fungus of the Colonial Office, by which we are Elginized.

YANKEE CHARACTER.—The Tuscaloosa Monitor, gives the following humorous and inimitable sketch of Brother Jonathan's character and enterprise:—

A mountain of granite appears rather a tough subject to deal with, yet a Yankee will borrow into its bowels, and lo! the granite becomes gold in the vaults of the commonwealth bank in Boston. A pond of ice presents a cheerless and chilly prospect to the eye, but the Yankee, nothing daunted, will heave up its crystal masses, and straightway the ice glitters in diamonds upon the bosom of his racy-cheeked spouse. Wherever the Yankee layeth down his hand, gold springeth. Into what soil soever he thrusteth his spade, gold spouteth therefrom. In the dim twilight by his chimney corner, he sitteth meditating, and thoughts chase one another through his brain, which thoughts are gold. Various they are, it may be, in form and seeming. One is but a gridiron, another a baby-jumper, and a third a steam engine, but he writeth them all down in the patent office at Washington, and then putteth them in his pocket in golden eagles from the mint at Philadelphia. But your genuine Yankee conneth not merely his own sagacious conceits; the follies, the fears, the errors of others, are, moreover, all gold to him. He fabricateth 'mermaids' and 'sea-serpents,' and locketh up in his iron chest heaps of gilded credulity. He maketh a pill of chalk and wheat bread, which he warranteth to cure asthma, hydrocephalus, epilepsy, and yellow fever, and presently buildeth him a great house on the banks of the Hudson. When a sudden delirium seizeth all the world, prompting them to emigrate in floods to nowhere, he quietly mustereth his fleet of transports for that destination, or buildeth a railroad in that direction, regardless of what is at the other end, and putteth the passage money in his pocket. He erecteth to himself no castles in the air, but he diligently aideth his neighbor to build the same, and out of the proceeds grow up to him presently castles upon the earth. Such is the modern Midas—the Midas without the long ears—the cool, acute, sagacious, calculating Yankee.

THE POSTAL ARRANGEMENTS.—The Head Quarters of Wednesday has a very pungent article on the tardy manner in which the British Mails for Fredericton are now conveyed through this Province. We annex an extract:—

On Friday evening last we were in possession of an extra from the office of the New-Brunswick, containing a reprint of the English news received by the America, which arrived at Halifax on Thursday last, at ten o'clock, a. m., in 11½ days from Liverpool. Yesterday morning the letters and papers for this city by the same vessel, were received at the post office here, thus taking more than half the time between Halifax and Fredericton that is occupied in transporting them across the Atlantic. This is the first fruits of the ill-advised scheme of withdrawing the English Express mail, and this state of things, will, we suppose, continue until it shall please the local government to take measures for having the mail for this province despatched by an express courier. We are not sufficiently versed in post office matters to form an estimate of the receipts and expenditures of that department within the province; but this much we feel warranted in saying, that there are expenses connected with the post office in New Brunswick which are certainly not so necessary as the speedy transmission of the most important mails which reach this country. If,