

objections with which our recommendations will be met.

It will be said that we have recommended a course which will involve the Province in debt and embarrass our finances; but in answer thereto, we would express our opinion, which has been formed after the most mature consideration, that under prudent management, the very expenditure will beget the means for its ultimate liquidation.

It will also be said, that Legislative aid should not be exclusively applied to one Line, but so distributed as to give encouragement to similar works in other parts of the Province. In answer thereto, we say, that unless we bend our energies to the completion of one Line, we shall fail altogether, and consequently be discouraged for years to come, from undertaking any similar enterprise.

If the House can select any other Line which presents greater facilities, and a better prospect of success than the one which we have recommended, we shall cheerfully adopt it; but if no better can be found, we fervently hope that we shall combine our energies in this great cause, and then there must be a Railway in New Brunswick.

We have had under our consideration the Bill now before the House to authorize the issue of Scrip, on the faith and credit of the Province, to be employed for the building and completing of the Railroad from St. Andrews to Woodstock.

The Legislature has already granted six per centum per annum, for twenty five years, on one-half the estimated cost of this Line; and we regret that the company have not been able, with this guarantee, to prosecute their operations with success.

If we were satisfied that the assistance now asked for would insure the completion of this Line, we would cheerfully recommend the passage of the Bill under consideration; but, under all circumstances, we submit the matter for the consideration of the House.

L. A. WILMOT, J. R. PARTELOW,
WILLIAM END, D. HANINGTON,
W. J. RITCHIE, S. Z. EARLE,
GEO. HAYWARD, J. MONTGOMERY.

Communications.

COUNTY GASPE.

Mr Editor,

The misapplication of truth, which occasionally finds its way into the columns of the *Gaspé Gazette*, seems to have for its object a species of bribery, which, however nerveless where the matter of fact is known, may be a powerful instrument of evil to the District, by displaying false colours, where the enquiring mind has nothing to do, but to assent. When I read statements which appear to be engendered by the spurious offspring of the times, calculated not only to injure, but to reflect disgrace upon the community of which I am a member, I lament that a scion, so little promising, should ever have germinated within our borders; notwithstanding I am of opinion, that a newspaper establishment in the county might be attended with some beneficial results, if its manager was a person of staunch and liberal views; not partial in forming acquaintance, where the truth may be come at, and steel-proof against the tongue and pen of seduction. A few days ago I laid my hand upon No. 49. It commenced with an article entitled Free Trade; and having read a few brief remarks relative to the Canadas in general on the subject, the writer boldly dashed into the Bay and Harbour of Gaspé, where I propose to pay my respects to him, a few moments, with such brief remarks as may appear suited to the subject which he, the Free Trade writer, has unscrupulously assumed.

The mammoth ship I shall pass by, although it is an affair of interest, and the line of steamers also. He says—"The Bay of Gaspé is navigable at least four or five weeks before and after the navigation of Quebec." If this was the production of the night-mare, I might pass it by also; but he is positive. However, it would require cruel beating to beat it into the heads of the natives of Gaspé. Our harbours are not to be depended upon after the 20th of November; and often spring arrivals have to remain in the offing, exposed to storm and hazard, past the 20th of May. He says—"There is no fog to prevent the seaman from entering, or when entered, there is no danger of shoals or sunken rocks." Had he, the Free Trade writer, when recording these words, possessed half the knowledge of that arctic voyager called the wild goose, he would have felt the conviction of an untruth. I would advise him to ship for cork on board one of the Gaspé whalers, were, if I am not mistaken, he would think a tarpaulin too flimsy a covering to protect him from the humid atmosphere. As to shoals and sunken rocks, it would be well to consult the seaman's chart, and not depend upon our fashionable blab. Again—"We saw some flour manufactured by Mr. Jos. Eden, which certainly was not inferior to any of the more celebrated Upper Canada brands." If he had called it dust, which the great folks, in by-gone days, wore upon the capes of their coats, as a badge of gravity, any old woman with propriety might have said, "Mr. Patterson & Co.'s mill is not so bad, after all." "Salmon is also abundant, and if the regulations of the Municipal Council were strictly enforced, would become very valuable. Also the shores of Gaspé teem with Cod and other fish." Now the question arises, What are all the lazy fishermen about, that they don't catch them? Why, surely, they are gazing at the *A line scenery.* I would wish to know who

told the writer that the Agricultural Society of Gaspé "has introduced by importation a superior breed of cattle, so important to farmers." He might have said with equal verity, a superior breed of buxom lasses, so desirable to the sturdy sons of the soil. And when, pray, was J. Perchard, Esq. President of our Agricultural Society?

The next in order is the precious Municipal Council, which the writer says "proceeds with great unanimity, and although composed of strangers, have done more good for the few years they have been in the country, than all the grumblers, or their ancestors, have done for generations back." (Oh Israel, how thou art fallen! Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon!) The Free Trade writer must have a strange idea of unanimity, if he is eligible to write on the subject. Can there be unanimity, where the people oppose the rash and unlawful proceedings of these "uncircumscribed Philistines"? If their hearts were not barred against the admission of justice and humanity, they would blush to see their names before the public; they would blush at the recital of their acts, which have betrayed them into follies, and their follies into something worse. The good they have done is as yet unknown; their follies I will not pretend to measure. But I will, however, make one appeal, and that is to Old England's Oak, emblem of her glory, which the winds have wafted hither to return no more, or to the fragments of her shattered hulks, which like Moslems have been piled upon our shores. I would gladly have spared these remarks, had the Free Trade writer refrained his foot from the ashes of our fathers. But when we see a hungry hawk pounce upon his innocent prey, we feel a restless desire to rescue the victim. Our fathers were the pioneers of this country. They pierced through the trackless gloom, and according to their means and strength, removed many an obstacle which otherwise would have impeded our footsteps. Now comes the Testimonial, the last blot I propose to point my pen at. This Testimonial, the writer says, is "in favour of a gentleman connected with our District, and to have been forwarded to His Excellency, recommending him for the vacant Judgeship of Gaspé, and wherein such unanimity of feeling amongst all classes of people was manifested." Now the people (to speak generally) in this part of the District, knew nothing of this Testimonial before they saw the affair mentioned in the *Gaspé Gazette*. This circumstance does not, however, imply that our names are not borrowed, for how can it otherwise appear to represent a unanimity of feeling amongst all classes of people? Trickery is a kind of foster-child in the place, which had its introduction amongst us some twenty or twenty-five years since, and from the manner of its education, has combined with its strength a natural bias; it now aims at the overthrow of all rule and all authority among the honest and industrious portion of the community, and it may emphatically be styled the burden of Gaspé. Now, whoever this John Barleycorn may be, it is my honest wish, should he be clothed with judicial authority, that he may not only be a Judge, but a judicious Judge, and (without the least allusion to his predecessor) able to open the mouth of the law, without the assistance of Flelo's knife.

A NATIVE.

Gaspé Bay, 1849.

TO THE HON. L. A. WILMOT,

HER MAJESTY'S ATTORNEY GENERAL.

Sir,—In accordance with the intimation contained in the conclusion of the communication I had the honor of addressing to you last week, I proceed to offer some remarks upon the qualifications of the parties recommended in the Petition referred to, as Magistrates for this County; and also to make a few comments upon other circumstances in connexion therewith. Before, however, doing so, I will premise that in bringing this matter under your notice thus publicly, I am actuated only by a desire to serve the people, obtain those constitutional rights which they are justly entitled to, and which a large portion of the inhabitants this County do not enjoy. I am therefore influenced by neither personal nor political feeling; and if my remarks appear to exhibit, even in the most remote degree, a wish to give personal offence, I beg of those aggrieved to impute it to accident, not design.

In the appointment of Magistrates, the intention of the Government should be, as I believe it always is, to select such persons as will faithfully and impartially execute the duties appertaining to the office; and will be governed in their discharge only by a desire to secure public and private rights, and to ensure the due administration of justice. In order to the due fulfilment of these obligations, it is necessary to appoint men independent in their vocation, upright in their actions, and possessing sufficient mental capacity to properly interpret the spirit and meaning of the Laws. It is, however, the duty of the Government (a duty which I am sorry to say is often overlooked in the breach than the observance) to avoid in both original and subsequent appointments, selecting those who are too closely connected by either private, commercial or political interests, and so creating an undue personal or party influence, no matter how eminently such persons may possess the qualifications above specified. A liability to any of these objections should be an utter disqualification for the holding of such an office.

The evil result of the neglect of this duty was so plainly shown in an adjoining County, a few years ago, by appointments obtained upon a personally interested recommendation, that the Executive had to rectify its error by the

addition of an equal number nominated by those opposed to the interests of the party before alluded to; and had equal justice been extended to this County on a recent occasion, a similar result would have followed. The attainment of this justice, and a fair division of Magisterial representation, were the essential objects which the "Petitioners" sought. To whose recommendation the new dignitaries in this County owe their seats, is as yet a mystery which the inhabitants generally, of Restigouche, would have much satisfaction in receiving a definite and authentic solution of; and one which fully plainly showed to the inhabitants of Campbellton, and the upper portion of the County, how much their interests were attended to by their (Dalhousie) Members. So much for ledger influence and local partiality.

Having adverted to the original composition of our Bench, and pointed out the effect of subsequent elevations, I will proceed to the consideration of the qualifications of the parties recommended by the Petitioners, and the anticipated result of their appointment; thus presenting an epitome of what the Restigouche Bench was, is, and ought to be. It is unnecessary to enumerate the whole number of Magistrates created with the County, some having since left it, and one, than whom none was more generally beloved and respected, having since died; he was every man's friend, and to each a brother. Suffice it therefore to name only those remaining, who enjoyed the honor at the time of the last appointments, viz: Robert Ferguson, John Montgomery, Dugald Stewart, Adam Ferguson, Arthur Ritchie, Peter Stewart, and Archibald Ramsay. The efficiency of the then Bench, and the possession by its members generally of the requisite qualifications, I most heartily acknowledge, subject to the objection, however, of too small a number, the result of which was from the practice of the "claw me claw thee" system, occasional exhibitions of personal and party influence, an objection which it was by many fondly hoped would be removed by a speedy increase in the Commission. This followed. Messrs. Hamilton, Smith, Campbell, Utigau, Cook, and McMillan were the favored ones, and the objection which was before only a matter of reciprocal favor, became one of notorious and personal reality. The first is brother-in-law of Mr. Montgomery; the second a partner in business of the same gentleman; the third father-in-law of the second, and a relative of Mr. Dugald Stewart, who is also a relative of the brother-in-law of Mr. Smith, and by marriage of Mr. Ritchie; the fourth is a personal friend of Mr. M's. The connexion, if any, of the two last I know not. Now it occurs to me, this is about as strong a case of undue partiality and Executive abuse as any County in this or the adjoining Provinces can boast of; and with your permission, Sir, I will now publicly ask our Members, in the name of the inhabitants of this County, which of these gentlemen they each and both recommended, and who nominated our present Deputy Crown Land officer, a nephew of Mr. Montgomery! our late Warehouse Keeper, also a nephew of Mr. M!! and his successor, the brother-in-law of Mr. Smith!!! the son of Mr. Campbell!!!! and a relative of Mr. Dugald Stewart!!!! After the enumeration of the above facts, I think I am justified in stating, that the late appointments have created a dangerous personal and party influence, and although these gentlemen personally enjoy the favor of the public, and are well qualified to fulfil the various duties of the magisterial office with credit to themselves, and benefit to the people, it is universally allowed the nomination was both injudicious and improper, and is a subject of general and just complaint; and I have no hesitation in asserting that the Bench of Restigouche, as it is now composed, does not possess the confidence of the people. The remedy is plain—a similar course to that pursued in Northumberland. This is the only way in which the evil can now be rectified; but in adopting it the Government must be careful to select those who are free from objection. The parties recommended in the Petition were Messrs. John Duncan, C. Murray, McNutt, Robert Ferguson, Mair, G. Litz, and T. Murray. Death has since taken Mr. Mair from among us. He was a man triendly upright and conscientious in his principles, and was well qualified to fulfil the duties of this or any other office of trust in the County. This passing tribute to his worth, I offer without fear of contradiction. The first on the list—a most respectable farmer—is in every way fully qualified; the second, I believe, possesses all the requisite qualifications, and would be an efficient officer; the third, owing to recent reverses in business, is at present, I am sorry to say, minus the first qualification, in addition to which he is liable to the objection of being a nephew of Mr. Dugald Stewart, and consequently related to some of the others; the fourth is also competent, and although his brother already occupies a seat, no objection applies, as the personal influence of the latter on the Bench is very limited; the two last, notwithstanding they are respectable and intelligent men, are, from the nature of their business (being lumberers,) wanting, to a certain extent, in independence in their vocation, otherwise they are both eligible. It is an invidious task, in cases such as this, to make personal allusions, except for the purpose of recommendation; but circumstances requiring it, a strong sense of duty compels me to do so. There are three gentlemen in Campbellton not named in the Petition, who undoubtedly possess all the requisites; and if report speaks truly, two of them, Mr. Robert H. Montgomery, and Mr. John McMillan, have been already recommended; but as the former is a brother of Mr. John Montgomery, and the latter a partner in business of Mr. Hamilton, these recommendations cannot be sustained. The third, Dr. Taylor, would be a valuable

acquisition, but I have reason to believe his ambition does not tend that way, and that if the honor were offered to him it would be declined. Probably, Sir, my statements may have little weight with the Government in this matter, but if it really wishes to correct abuse, place the Executive of this County in an efficient condition, and in its future appointments give general satisfaction, it must make choice of the persons herein preferred. Every statement here made I assert as a fact, and challenge retutation. Taking all these circumstances into consideration, I deem it not intrusive to again ask you, "what has become of our Petition?" As this communication already exceeds the length I intended, I will reserve the conclusion for my next.

With all due respect, Sir,

I am who I am,

A LIBERAL.

Campbellton, 30th March, 1849.

MR. JOHNSON'S LECTURE

AT NEWCASTLE.

Last evening Mr. Barrister Johnson lectured before the Newcastle Lyceum. Winter and Spring seem to be contending just now for the mastery—stirring up the elements in their conflict: they have quite covered our highways into high seas, causing us, neutrals, contrary to the laws of war, material damage and inconvenience. Many of the more timid craft, were thus deterred from "putting out," fearful that they might never reach the desired haven. The audience was, nevertheless, highly respectable, in both quantity and quality. And here we will take occasion to express our high gratification at the energy and resolution evinced by our wives and daughters, exemplifying, in a striking manner, the pursuit of Knowledge under difficulties.

In speaking of the performing of the learned gentleman, we are not unmindful of the severe obprobrium lately administered to a certain "Member," the bare thought of which, terrifies us from making any eulogistic remarks; indeed, especial commendation, in so far as the Lyceum is concerned, were needless—yet where all have acquitted themselves so well, to use a military phrase, it would be a matter of no small difficulty to designate the lecturer to whom the palm of pre-eminence belongs, or to whose performance the high title of "the masterpiece of the season" rightly applies. Fortunately, Mr. Johnson's reputation as a Lecturer, stands so high, and his devotion to science is so well known, that he needs nothing in the shape of panegyric, and if he did, all we could say would not "add one cubit to his stature;" but this we will say, that the Newcastle public is under a lasting obligation to the gentleman for his rich intellectual entertainment.

His subject was, "The Excellence of Knowledge"—the high expediency of improving the mind, enlightening the understanding, and enlarging our acquaintance with every department of science and art, whereby we are made better friends to ourselves, better subjects and citizens, better and more rational christians, and brought into closer communion with the Great Author of all things. The subject is, indeed, inexhaustible, of boundless extent. The learned gentleman was consequently obliged to pass rapidly from one branch of knowledge to another, pointing out to the auditory, ever and anon, some peg, whereon to hang a practical idea. The lecture was conceived in a true utilitarian spirit, enriched with many practical illustrations, and embellished with sundry facetious anecdotes, forming a *tout ensemble* equally pleasing and instructive. "Nihil tetigit quod non ornavit." And we doubt whether there was one in that numerous assembly, who did not either receive some new impression, or had an old one retouched and deepened. For ourselves, we are free to confess, we did both, and came home with several new wrinkles. After an eloquent peroration, the learned gentleman sat down amidst rapturous applause.

The Rev. Mr. Henderson then rose, and in a brief but most pleasing and touching valedictory, announced to the audience that the lectures were closed for the season; consoling them at the same time, with the promise and assurance that they shall be renewed next season, *Deo volente*, with increased facilities and under still happier auspices.

IOTA.

Newcastle, March 31, 1849.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, TUESDAY, APRIL 3, 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.

NEWCASTLE BAND.—A Correspondent at Newcastle has furnished us with the following notice of the Concert given by the members of the Band in that place. We are glad to hear that their performance gave such satisfaction, and we hope that when they again favor the public, with a similar exhibition, the