

would be quite incapable of proposing any available substitute. It happens, too, that opposition to a measure may be felt on many different grounds, some of them destructive of each other; but that avails nothing in the strife of debate, where numbers are weighed and not opinions. This was strikingly exemplified in the closing years of the Melbourne ministry, where Sir Robert Peel led on, certainly with unrivalled tact, a band of opposition-members more numerous than perhaps any ministry ever encountered before without succumbing; and though during the long years of struggle this band remained firm, compact, and so disciplined that they appeared to have no will but that of their leader, yet no sooner was opposition exchanged for power, and criticism of other's measures superseded by preparation of his own, that this phalanx, before so compact, began to show the rents in its composition, which every year widened, till at last their leader was compelled to recede from office with little more than a fourth part of that numerous band which had borne him so triumphantly into power.

There are also two galleries running down the length of the hall, which are appropriated for the accommodation of members. When the house is filled in expectation of an important division, these galleries contain a considerable sprinkling of members, the overflowings of the crowded area below. At other times they are only resorted to by members for the purpose of undisturbed conversation, or more often still by individuals who take the opportunity of their unoccupied benches to stretch their backs, and sleep off the effects of the morning's labor, or it may be of the previous night's debauch.

The strangers' gallery runs across the breadth of the hall at the bottom. It is divided into two compartments by a slight division—admission into the front one being reserved for those who obtain the favor of a speaker's order; to the other an order from any member admits at once. As every member is allowed to give an order every evening the house sits, and as the gallery would not contain a fourth part of the members, it may be supposed that often, especially on important nights, the pressure there is overwhelming, while many more go away than those that are favored with admission. The regulations are, however, perfect. Bribery is not allowed; the principle of 'first come first served' is in all respects strictly adhered to. Hence the initiated make a point of being early in the lobby when they wish to be present at a debate, that they may be ready to take their places by the time the doors are first opened, and instances have been known of persons taking up their position in the lobby by one or two o'clock, that they may secure admission when the doors are opened at four. It should be added, that immediately under this gallery there are one or two other seats, on a level with those for the members, and yet not included as within the precincts of the same. These seats are reserved for distinguished strangers who wish to be present at the debates—for officers of the House of Lords, who come up with messages, and who usually wait till the member who may be addressing the house on their arrival has finished—and for official persons, not members of the house, the business of whose department may be under discussion, and who are then required to be present to furnish explanations and details to their chiefs, who in return retail their information to the house.

Below these seats, and immediately in front of the speaker, though of course at a considerable distance from him, is the bar. This is in ordinary cases a merely imaginary line of demarcation between the house and the entrance to it; but on occasions of ceremony, when a message is to be received from the Lords, or a criminal or a witness to be examined, the bar is then constituted by an iron rod, which passes across the space in front of the door. Reports of committees, bills, and papers are also brought up from the 'bar of the house'; but these being matters of daily occurrence, the existence of the bar is taken for granted, though honorable members, whose duty it is to bring up the documents in question, must still take up their position in the neighborhood of the spot where the bar is supposed to be.

TRIFLES TO SMILE AT.

An ingenious machinist in Lowell has just invented a machine for the making of real Bona and Souchong Tea. The machine looks very like a straw cutter, a bundle of hay is thrown in and comes out first chop Tea! By throwing in a few slices of Tobacco, a little sage and a few garden weeds, well dried, you have genuine Black Tea. This machine will turn out from fifty to one hundred boxes of Tea per day, every man may now have plenty of Tea in his pot, and keepers of boarding houses may afford six cups each to the old lady boarders.

Why is a tailor who is a bad workman, like a drain? Because he is a common sewer.

Precept vs. Practice.—Dr. Channing had a brother a physician, and at one time they both lived in Boston. A countryman in search of the divine, knocked at the doctor's door. The following dialogue ensued:

'Does Dr. Channing live here?'  
'Yes, sir.'  
'Can I see him?'  
'I am he.'  
'Who? you?'  
'Yes, sir.'  
'You must have altered considerable since I heard you preach.'  
'Hear! me preach?'  
'Certainly. You are the Dr. Channing that preaches, ain't you?'

'Oh, I see you are mistaken now. It is my brother who preaches, I'm the doctor who preaches.'

A point of Law.—In New York, a roller-boy of a printing office summoned his employers for five dollars, which he claimed to be due him for labor. The Judge decided for plaintiff on authority older than anything to be found in Coke or Blackstone—on the well recognized maxim, 'the Devil should have his due.'

'I think,' said an old toper, commenting upon the habits of a young man, who was fast making a beast of himself, 'when a man reaches a certain pint in drinkin' he ort to stop.'

'Well, I think,' said old Beeswax dryly, he ought to stop before he reaches a PINT.'

The Railroads will add greatly to the prosperity of Boston in one respect—the number of Surgeons it will allure to that city.

'There are two things,' says Mrs Partington, 'that should be at home every evening at dark—cows and women—especially if there are nursing babies in the house.'

The women ought to make a pledge not to kiss a man who uses tobacco, and it would soon break up the practice; and a friend of ours says they ought also to pledge themselves to kiss every man that don't use it—and we go for that too.

'Are these rooms to let?' said a polite gentleman to a handsome young lady as he placed his foot across the threshold. 'Yes, sir,' and are you to be let with them?' 'No, sir! I'm to be let alone!'

Retort Courteous.—One of our young bloods dining at a fashionable hotel a few weeks since, was requested by a gentleman to pass some article of food, which was near him.

'Do you mistake me for a waiter?' said the exquisite.

'No, sir, I mistook you for a gentleman,' was the prompt reply.

From the Halifax Guardian.

FLOWERS.

FLOWERS! what a host of bright thoughts rise even in the very name, The thousand sympathies of life, they gently seem to claim,

Familiar faces sweetly shine in every dewy cup, All seem as altars where the hearts' best wealth is offer'd up.

They grew with us in childhood's hours when we were pure as they,

When our young spirits mirror'd back their beauty-breathing ray,

Companions, dear as kindred hearts, we held the peerless flowers,

Meet types of our own innocence, when joy and truth were ours.

We love them in our after years as similes of hope,

Of truth, affection, earnestness! they sway a boundless scope,

We link them with each sunny thought to which the heart gives birth,

And oft we find their withered leaves strange chroniclers of earth.

They serve as ministers to us in hours of mirth and joy,

The only bright things in our world which have no base alloy;

They come as angels breathing peace, when sorrow bows the soul,

And by a mystic influence its bursting waves control.

They are the poet's only types—the enemies of pride,

They bind the brow of infancy, they deck the blushing bride,

They cling to us when other friends by time grow strange and cold,

And smile as sweetly though our hearts be altered, dim, and old.

They shine beside our couch of pain, they heal with loving breath,

And even their gentle beauty beams beside the bed of death;

They bloom upon the lonely grave, they watch and weep for us,

No kindred soul of kindred men could guard our relics thus.

They seem as woven with our life, they bring back other days,

When we had altars of our own which shrin'd life's peerless rays;

They whisper of the early dead, whom we shall see no more,

And bring again with magic power, the loving smiles of yore.

Each tiny plant a legend bears—the blossoms in the wood

And garden bloom—have spells alike to haunt life's solitude;

And holier still they speak to us of One who cares for man,

And hath bestowed the lovely flowers to bless life's troubled

Making a Mark.—A captain of a sloop hired a Yankee, 'a green hand,' to assist in loading his sloop with corn. Just as the vessel was about to set sail, the Yankee who was jingling the price of his day's work in his pantaloon, cried out from the wharf—

'Say, yeon capting! I lost your shovel overboard, but I cut a big notch on the rail fence around the starn, right over the spot where it went down, so't you'll find yeour shovel when yeon come back!'

The Politician.

The Colonial Press.

ADDRESS

Of the 'British American League' to the inhabitants of Canada—adopted 31st July, 1849, in General Convention at Kingston.

FELLOW COUNTRYMEN:

Events so momentous as those which have given birth to this great Provincial Association, have been hitherto unparalleled in the history of this colony.

From the early settlement of the United Empire Loyalists in this Province until a recent period, its people have evinced an attachment to the Parent State unsurpassed by that of any other colony of ancient or modern times. During a long period, chequered by adversity and prosperity, the people of this colony have in war rallied around the flag of their forefathers, and in peace have endeavored to cement the union with their father-land by the strongest ties of amity and interest. In return for this devotion the British Government has long extended to the colony a commercial preference in her markets.

The harmony which so long existed—interrupted by an abortive rebellion—was again restored at its close, and the progress of the Colony became almost unexampled under the fostering influence of a wise Imperial legislation. But, unhappily for Great Britain—an Empire whose colonies are the strong arm of her power—she has recently opened her ports to foreign nations upon equal terms with her colonies, thus virtually excluding us from her markets, by throwing us into a ruinous competition with those to whom her ports are more immediately and cheaply accessible. In her promulgation of free trade principles, she has lost sight of the interests of her colonies with the view of obtaining from all nations reciprocal free trade, and thereby inundating the world with her manufactures.

This new policy of the empire has recently produced in Canada its inevitable results. Unprotected by an adequate tariff, we have continued to consume a vast amount of British manufactures, whilst our produce, the principal source upon which we rely for their payment, has rarely entered the British markets except at a sacrifice. The result has been a monetary pressure, extensive bankruptcy, and general distress.

Coincident with these disastrous circumstances, a storm arose in our political horizon, which has threatened and still threatens to shake the foundation of our social fabric. The Legislature, ruled by a faction (which, for the retention of place and power, has kindled afresh the animosity of rival races,) has legalized the principle of rebellion, and has prepared to increase the public debt at a moment of great financial embarrassment, by a provision for the payment of the traitors of 1837 and 1838.

These grievances roused thousands from a state of torpor and inaction. Your fellow subjects, convinced that a crisis had arrived, when it behoved every inhabitant of Canada to exert himself for the regeneration of his country, and rescue it from commercial and political thralldom, met, and by combined action established the 'BRITISH AMERICAN LEAGUE.' This body extended its ramifications throughout every part of the Province. It established a system of representation by which delegates were to be sent to a general Convention at Kingston. That Convention, assembled by the free election of the Leaguers, according to its established constitution, after this exposition of its origin, now appeal to you to co-operate with the league in the great objects it has in view for the welfare of our country.

INHABITANTS OF CANADA:

You are nominally enjoying the privileges of a free constitution—you are in reality chained down by circumstances which wrest from you the exercise of those privileges. You are told that you are fostered by a liberal and prudent government—in reality your efforts for the encouragement of home industry have been checked in so many instances by hasty and inconsiderate legislation.

The true elements of your country's wealth—the certain indices of her prosperity—can only be developed by the adopting of measures which will fill her cities with the busy hum of industry—make her streams the outlet of that wealth, which will be poured forth from the loom and the foundry, the teeming harvests of her soil, and the produce of her primeval forests.

For the attainment of these results it is essential that a tariff carefully and considerably adopted should be so proportioned and levied as to afford just and adequate protection to every industrial class—the agriculturist, the manufacturer, the mechanic—so as to build up the prosperity of the farmer and the artisan side by side with the growing wealth of the manufacturer—so as to create a Home Market for Home industry, and enrich together consumer and producer. The present Tariff is utterly inadequate to produce results so manifest-

ly essential to the interests of our country. THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT IS PLEDGED TO FREE TRADE PRINCIPLES.

The public expenditure is conducted with a reckless disregard of economy. The excessive salaries of public officers, now increased in number, together with the lavish expenditure of the legislature, are entirely disproportioned to the financial resources of a young and overburdened country, and unnecessary to the efficiency of public service. The authorized publications of this convention, when laid before you, will disclose the facts on which we found this assertion.

The fostering protection of a good government, to which you all have an inalienable right—which should be the guardian of public peace, the bulwark of social order—has been daringly exchanged for the dominion of race and faction, introducing the elements of civil discord.

A law has been passed by the present ministry so monstrous in principle that it has excited strong abhorrence and disgust in the minds of the loyal people of this colony. That measure, in its naked deformity, has met with no approval. It has been carried merely because the British members of the government dared not to oppose the determined will of the French leader. By sanctioning that measure his Excellency the Earl of Egin has brought the royal authority into contempt—has disturbed public tranquillity, and it is our firm opinion that his continuance in his high position cannot conduce to public peace or prosperity.

An insidious attempt made by the present ministers to increase the French Canadian representation in Parliament, by so arranging the electoral districts of Lower Canada as to distribute the British inhabitants in small numbers among overwhelming bodies of the French, we regard with the most profound apprehension, as calculated to perpetuate that civil discord which has tended so much to the ruin of this great province.

A gross violation of constitutional usages has been perpetrated, and a precedent sought to be established which, if it be made a precedent, will have forever destroyed the independence and utility of the Legislative Council. That body according to the true constitutional law, has distinct legislative functions. It is not intended as the mere register of the decrees of the Legislative Assembly. But the government now in power, in order to carry a particular measure, and in open violation of this principle, suddenly elevated to that House persons of doubtful merit, and previously unknown in public life. By our constitutional law her most gracious Majesty is alone vested with the authority to make appointments to the Legislative Council—a law which, if carried out, would effect a salutary check over the unscrupulous use of power in the colony—notwithstanding which, her Majesty's principal Secretary of state for the colonies transmitted to the Colonial government blank writs of mandamus, thereby surrendering up into improper hands his sovereign's high prerogative.

The present ministry have also attempted to force upon the country a measure by which numbers of influential men would be deprived of the elective franchise, while the same franchise in Lower Canada was by law extended to a particular class, to whom in the western province the like privilege was denied.

INHABITANTS OF CANADA.

Fearlessly asserting the truth of our statements, and appealing to heaven for the justice of our cause, we lay before you these statements on subjects which have engaged our attention. For the most part new to the discussion of public affairs, and not invested with legislative powers, this assembly can only deliberate upon such things as seem to be for your welfare. The attainment of that welfare must be confided to the individual energies, exertions and enthusiasm of every man among you who would rather behold his country flourishing under paternal than droop under the withering influence of facieious legislation.

Before recommending you to the great questions you should adopt as your watchwords, we earnestly exhort you to shake off now and forever that apathy and indifference which at several momentous crises in public affairs have paralyzed your energies, and which it would seem that moments like these when all minds are unsettled, can alone arouse to exertion. Perfect in every part of the country a complete and permanent colonization. Let every Branch Society of this League become a deliberative body, so as to prepare its future delegates for the deliberations of this Convention. Endeavor to soften down political asperities and sectional animosities, and to unite all men for the welfare of this our common country.

Three subjects among those which have engaged our deliberations stand prominently forth—demanding your earnest attention.

By the first of these—a union of all the British American provinces—it has been proposed in this Convention to lay the foundations for making this country a great nation upon a solid and enduring basis.

Impressed with the weight of such a proposal, but uncertain as to the sentiments of the sister colonies, this convention has proposed a conference with those provinces by a delegation of some of its members; meantime it commends this great question to your mature deliberation.

The second great movement in which we invite your co-operation is that for freer enrichment and economy in the public expenditure.

The third is that still more great and vital movement we are prepared to make in favor of protection to home industry.

Inscribe these glorious rallying cries upon your banners—glorious because they will elevate your country from failure to success, from ruin to prosperity. This will unite with you