

THE GLEANER:

AND NORTHUMBERLAND, KENT, GLOUCESTER AND RESTIGOUCHE
COMMERCIAL AND AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL.

OLD SERIES]

Nec aranearum sane textus ideo melior, quia ex se fila gignunt, nec noster vilior quia ex alienis libamus ut apes.

[COMPRISED 13 VOLUMES

NEW SERIES, VOL. VIII.]

MIRAMICHI, MONDAY, JUNE 17, 1850.

[NUMBER 34.

Fashionable Summer Goods, 1850.

THE SUBSCRIBER respectfully tenders his warmest thanks to his many personal friends, and his customers generally, for the very liberal countenance with which they have hitherto favored him; and humbly solicits the continuance of their kindness.

The Subscriber begs to announce that he has just received an AMPLE and MOST AD- MIRABLE ASSORTMENT of all kinds of

British Merchandise,

Comprising the most NOVEL and most FASHIONABLE articles suited to the Season, such as Ladies' DRESSES, Bonnets, Ribbons, SHAWLS, Neck Ties, Chemizettes, French Flowers, Gloves, Parasols, Genoa and Chinelle Trimmings, Fancy Reticules, Shawl Pins, Bracelets, Ladies' Companions, Ladies' Pages, Cinderella Dress Fasteners, &c. &c. &c., purchased at the CHEAPEST MARKETS, and selected of the choicest descriptions, and with the greatest care, by himself, during his late visit to the mother countries.

The Subscriber has also received by late arrivals a large and well chosen supply of

WEST INDIA GOODS:

FLOUR, Earthenware and Glassware, Stationery, BOOKS, &c. &c.; all of which are now offered for sale, WHOLESALE AND RETAIL, at unusually low prices, at his STORES in CHATHAM and at RICHIBUCTO.

JOHN MACDOUGALL,

Chatham, May 28, 1850.

Victoria House, May 25, 1850.

EDWARD DALEY & SON

Return their sincere thanks to the public for the liberal support they have received during the time they have been in business, and beg to intimate that they have just received from St. John, their monthly supply of well selected

DRY GOODS,

Among which may be found—Grey and White COTTONS, printed do., black and colored Orleans and Coburg CLOTHS, California Stripes, and Chameleon Cloths, Mohair Dress Materials, Delaines and Oregon Checks, Russell Cord, and fancy embroidered Dresses, Scotch Homespun, Gingham, printed Muslin Dresses; SHAWLS, in Satin, Décape, Indiana, and Cashmere; Handkerchiefs and Neck Ties, Gloves, Hosiery, Muslins, Laces, Ribbons, Parasols, and Bonnets; white and brown Table Cloths, and oil cloth Covers; Pranela Boots and Shoes; fancy Kid Walking Shoes, children's red Morocco do. A Variety of

READY MADE CLOTHING:

consisting of Coats, Pants, and Vests; cloth and glazed Caps; Regatta Shirts; palm leaf and glazed Hats; Braces; Small Wares, &c. Which, together with their former Stock, will be sold low for Cash.

Chatham, May 25, 1850.

LOCKHART & CO.,

WHOLESALE AND RETAIL CHEAP Hat, Cap, and Fur Store.

Now opening by the Lisbon, Fuside, Olive, and Maid of Erin, and from Manufactory:

- 40 dozen Mens' Paris and Plate HATS,
- 60 do. Mens' and Youths' Drab, Brown, and Green Sporting HATS,
- 40 do. Mens' and Youths' Pearl Tampico HATS,
- 40 do. Mens' and Youths' Cloth CAPS, every style,
- 20 do. GLAZED HATS,
- 10 do. BRUSSELS CARPET BAGS,
- Glazed Hats in variety; Table Oil Cloth, Gent's FURNISHING GOODS.

Orders received for rich heavy CURTAIN FRINGE, newest patterns, on sight. Cash and the highest price paid for FURS.

LOCKHART & CO.,

No. 1, Prince William Street,
St. John, N. B., May 16, 1850.

NOTICE.

All persons having any just claims against the Estate of the late HUGH HAMILL, of Newegale, saddler, deceased, are required to render the same duly attested to the subscriber within three months; and all persons indebted to the said Estate, are required to make immediate payment to

ALLAN A. DAVIDSON, Administrator.
Newcastle, 4th June, 1850.

Communications.

PUNCH'S REPLY TO "C."

"Let a bear robbed of her whelps meet
A man, rather than a fool in his folly."

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

The silly and ill-written communication of C., published in the last Gleaner, calls for a reply at my hands, and I rely upon that impartiality which has ever characterized your conduct as a public journalist for its insertion.

The right to canvass the acts and deeds of public men, through the columns of the public journals, is a right which is acknowledged in all countries where the liberty of the press is properly understood and appreciated; and can only be questioned by such men as C., who are more fitted to live under the despotic sway of the Autocrat of Russia than in a country where the fullest liberty of conscience and speech is allowed; and no right-thinking man will for a moment confound the opinions of a correspondent of a public journal with the principles of the Editor. The public press, to a very great extent, is public property, and while a correspondent confines himself strictly to the public character of a public man, an Editor would not be justified in refusing him publicity.

C. states that "a considerable portion of the press of the Province has made itself notorious for its attacks on the members of the House of Assembly." C. is quite correct; only two journals in the Province having said one word in favor of the late House, and those two notoriously in the interest of certain members of the Government. Surely the "degraded press of St. John" would not stigmatize the members of the late House as "vagabonds and highwaymen," if their refusal to sanction the Railroad from St. John to Shediac were the only political sin of which they were guilty.

I was not aware until the appearance of C.'s communication, that the columns of the Gleaner had been thrown open to more than one "worthless and unprincipled correspondent," and that one is not a "personal enemy" of the members of the County, does not "belong to your sanctum," neither has he an "itching for public writing." It would be well for C. to have an itching for Lindley Murray before he comes forth as the champion of the old members. "Worthless and unprincipled" he no doubt is in the opinion of C., but he is one who WILL exert whatever abilities God has given him, in such a manner as will be most conducive to the good of his country; and in no way can that be done more effectually than in aiding the return of men to the next House of Assembly, who will use their best exertions to bring about those many salutary measures which our exhausted revenue and the pressure of circumstances, imperatively demand.

C. calls upon Punch to show where the members of the late House have been guilty of gross and extravagant expenditure. A reference to the Journals of the last Session furnishes ample proof, but at present I will merely call attention to a few items. The postage bill of the Session amounted to £533 1 9; paid for Express to St. John £10; Sleigh hire £124; grant to Alfred L. Street, Esq., for work performed for certain gentlemen of St. John, in connection with the Shediac Railway, £150, (delicacy should have prevented Mr Street voting on that question); coals for Government House £100; drawback to Colonel Brown, of the 1st Royals, for wines consumed by the officers of that Regiment in one year £198 9 3; (if the officers of one Regiment can consume nearly £1,000 worth of wine in a year they can pay the duty; all the members for Northumberland voted for this grant); sundry expenditures on Government House for the past year £557 15 10, (Mr Rankin voted for this grant, and Mr Cranney against it; Messrs. Street and Carman's names do not appear on the division); stationary £308 0 4; Clerks, for extra work, besides salaries, £530. Had I time to wade through all the Journals of the Session, many such items as the above might be adduced, but enough has been shown to support the general charge.

C. goes on to say that more work was done during the last Session than "in any year during the last ten." No doubt of it. They well knew that they were drawing near the last moment of their existence, and that they would soon be called upon to render an account of their stewardship. They passed a large number of Bills it is true, but they were all of an unimportant and local nature. They brought forward no broad and comprehensive scheme, calculated to raise the trade of the Province from its present deplorable state; no measure, that would at once stamp them as true patriots, and as men having the good of their country at heart.

I still assert that the wealth of one of the

old members for this County gives him an undue influence in the Council and Assembly. Think you that his influence was not exerted to defeat the grant to Messrs. Williston and Letson, to reimburse them for losses sustained in the performance of their duty, as a Committee of Sessions, "connected with diseased Emigrants from the ship Looshtauk," thereby perpetrating a gross piece of injustice. Messrs. Carman and Street supported the grant, but Mr Cranney was absent, as the Journals show he was on many other ticklish questions which came up during the Session. Will C. attempt to deny that that gentleman's influence did not defeat the Bill for the erection of a Lock-up-House in the town of Chatham, some twelve or fourteen years ago, although that measure was strenuously supported by his then only colleague, Mr Street? Did he not, by his wealth, exert a powerful influence over Sir John Harvey, although he was not a member of his Government?

When the second penned his Address to the Freeholders of Northumberland, he no doubt pointed to the strongest recommendations he possessed, and that was the state of the Roads and Bridges. He might have pointed to the condition of those "vast public services" on the North side of the River with some justice. It is true, he could have alluded to the cumbrous and unwieldy law for the "relief of insolvent debtors in certain cases." Did he not vote against a Bill for settling certain doubts respecting the Will of a person deceased in St. John, merely because that Will contained a bequest to the Wesleyan Methodists? C. asks, "is it right or honorable to find fault with the absent?" I reply, that he must take the consequences of his absence. That, certainly, is a powerful argument, and worthy of the mighty mind of C.

I made no assertion respecting the third which the whole tenor of his life does not bear me out in. I respect him as a member of the community, and give him credit for a fair share of natural abilities, but he has disappointed the high expectations formed of him by his friends, and is the last man in this county that I should vote for at this crisis. I know nothing of the "private communication sent to him from certain parts of the Province." Sure I am that no private communication of mine ever assisted to swell his postage bill to the shameful amount of £17 5 2. If that document came from a Bye Road Commissioner, who had been in a manner superseded to make room for a favorite of a certain member of the government, and the father of the partner of one of our late members, the least said about it the better will it be for the gentleman's reputation as an independent member of the Legislature.

I repeat that it has always been a mystery to me how the fourth obtained a seat in the House. It is passing strange that the intelligent Freeholders of Northumberland should have chosen a person of his intellectual acquirements as a representative. Surely it must have been, as I have often heard it said, that he was not elected, but merely ALLOWED to be returned, to prevent difficulty. It is true he did make a speech on the Orange Bill, and what a speech that was—a speech so very weak that the Editor of the Fredericton Amaranth, in his review of the debate on that question, passed it over as unworthy of comment. Why, a person of his profession DARED not have remained silent when that Bill was before the Legislature. The time wasted in the discussion of that measure, gave Orangemen and Orangemen a notoriety which they did not deserve, and which might have been much better employed; and if any credit is due for its defeat, it is due to the Protestant members of the Assembly. Did he not by his vote attempt to deprive ten thousand of the inhabitants of this Province of one of their most cherished privileges—the Right of Petition—by refusing to receive the Orange petitions? I detest Orangeism and Ribbonism, or any other ism which can in the remotest degree disturb the peace of the country; but I contend that every man, or any body of men, have a right to make their wants and wishes known to their representatives, provided the same be clothed in proper and respectful language, and when the question comes up for discussion, then let it be judged by its merits. Did he not vote against the resolution allowing the Master of the Rolls to appear at the bar of the House, and plead against the reduction of his salary, and did he not afterwards vote against the reduction of that salary? "O Consistency!" And did he not vote against the Initiation of Money Grants being vested in the hands of the Executive, thereby assisting to perpetuate one of the prime sources of all the corruption existing in the Legislature? Should he be again "triumphantly returned," it may well be said that his "shadow" will be "reflected in the Legislature of the Province."

By a reference to the Journals, I find that Messrs. Rankin, Street and Carman voted

against the Bill allowing the Rev. Wm. Thos. Wishart, Minister of the congregation of "Modern Calvinists," at St. John, to solemnize Marriage. Religious bigotry had nothing to do with that question; oh no, of course not. Candour impels me to state that Mr Cranney voted in favor of that measure. Messrs. Rankin, Carman and Cranney voted in favor of the iniquitous Newspaper Tax. Mr Street's name does not appear on the division. That vote alone is sufficient to condemn them in the eyes of any intelligent constituency. Had these men the power, they would not hesitate for a moment to destroy the independence of the Press, and render it subservient to their own base purposes. I speak in general terms. Messrs. Rankin, Street and Cranney voted for the resolution allowing the Royal Gazette to be sent to Magistrates and Sheriffs at the public expense, but fortunately it was not carried. The same gentlemen voted against the most important measure which came up during the Session—the resolution making the Legislative Council elective. The minority on that question numbered five, of which Northumberland furnished three. I am well aware that members must be governed by the majority in all cases, but it will now be seen that the members for this County voted against nearly every beneficial measure which came before them, and for nearly every measure calculated to plunge the Province deeper in debt.

It is very singular, that if the old members are so popular in the County as C. would have us believe, that none but one of themselves has stepped forth in their defence. I am sure they must feel ashamed at the very lame case this modern "Hector" has made out for them; and am very much afraid that if they do not succeed better on the hustings, they will make but a sorry figure before their constituents.

I would seriously advise C., before he again attempts to write for a newspaper, to pay a little more attention to the rules of composition, and the plainest principles of the English language, and not put his late constituents to the blush by publishing to the world such wretched trash as appears over his signature in last week's Gleaner. An expert accountant he may be, but in all the qualifications requisite for a legislator, or a writer for a public journal, he is lamentably deficient. Nature never intended that the man should dabble in politics; his proper sphere is the counting-room, and beyond that he should never step.

I know you too well, Mr Editor, to suppose for a moment that you will swerve from the path of duty, so plainly set before you, by the threats or sneers of such small correspondents as C. What amount of support, I would ask, have you ever received from him? In opening your columns to the free discussion of public affairs, you are not "running down" (as C. elegantly expresses it) the political existence of the present members; but merely giving expression to a feeling which is universal throughout the Province, and which will, ere long, if I mistake not, speak in tones which must be understood. Pursue your present course—continue to make your paper what it always has been, "the very age and body of the time, its form and pressure,"—still hold up to public scorn the acts and deeds of public men, whenever they deserve it, (and no one will deny that it is not merited in this case), and you will enjoy the approbation of your own conscience, and the respect and esteem of all good men.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
PUNCH.

Chatham, June 13, 1850.

THE LATE FIRE.

To the Editor of the Gleaner.

Sir,—I, in common with the community, most deeply and sincerely regret the ravages by that useful servant, but cruel master, which has devastated a portion of our town, and particularly useful establishments where a great number of our fellow men could earn a living by their industry. The object of this letter is to point out what, in my humble opinion, is a very great hindrance in the extinguishing of fires, and which I wish to draw attention to, that the difficulty may not occur again. Every body very properly runs to the fire, but we find those possessing a large stake in the country, many of whom must directly or indirectly suffer by any fire that happens; and still you too often find the wealthy men stand with folded arms, at the time of the greatest emergency, as if they had nothing to do but to look on. But what effect has this on the great bulk of the people. They naturally say if persons of property will not exert themselves to arrest the progress of the fire, why should we do so, to save that which belongs to those who, I think from false pride, remain lookers on. The effect would not be half as bad if those self-constituted privileged persons would stay at home. Old England, under the famous