

form militia duty without remuneration, to pay for their commissions, in almost every case appointed to the office without their knowledge and consent, and that a united effort might be made to bring the question before the Legislature or those in authority, and that a remedy might be applied. I was not then, nor am I still, ashamed to own my humble yet honorable avocation, and cannot for a moment imagine that that circumstance will detract from the importance of the subject, or lessen the grievance admitted by all to exist. I have no reason to anticipate that the truthfulness of my observations can be sneered down or turned into ridicule; neither could I imagine that my remarks would be palatable to the office holders in Fredericton, who have so long bated upon the public bounty, and who are so tenacious of losing even the small pickings from the militia commissions. I had no reason to consult their feelings and wishes on the subject, but to perform a duty alike pleasing to myself, and which may yet accrue to the benefit of myself and brother officers, by the abrogation of fees which I conceive to be improperly exacted. Whoever your correspondent may be, whether a participator of the good old pickings about Head Quarters, or only an expectant of office, or one of our own community, who has taken Fredericton as a locality for his retreat, and borrowed his plumage from that den of demi-official arrogance and aristocratic pride (see the remarks from the Woodstock Sentinel herewith, which please publish as a postscript), and fancies that that circumstance will give weight to his pointless ribaldry, is a matter of perfect indifference, and quite foreign to the subject; but according to my humble notions, were he unable to gain say my position, shew the fallacy of my reasoning, or were he able to prove that well paid salaried officials should receive an additional sum for the performance of this service, then his time would have been profitably employed, and the public edified; but neither insinuations nor attempted ridicule can take the place of argument, and be received with complacency by a discerning public, or place its author beyond the reach of merited contempt. Your correspondent says he "has been accustomed to associate a certain nobleness of soul (in his assumed retreat, I presume) with a true soldier, and is disgusted when he meets with a man like 'Subaltern' (if man he can be called), protesting publicly against forking over a trifle for making out his commission, an honorable commission, conferred upon him at his own instance, through his own importunity." Your correspondent, then, is the recipient of a commission which he obtained at his own instance, and through his own importunity. This part of his communication can only refer to himself, as he cannot possibly answer by what means others have obtained theirs; and as such his nobleness of soul consists in paying for that which, through his own importunity, he sought and obtained; and I am accused of the want of that principle because I refuse to pay for a commission which I never sought for, and which will be swept away from me for non payment of fees, and I reduced again to the ranks, and degraded in the eyes of my neighbours. If this is the nobleness of soul which your correspondent would seem to possess, although he may be encased in broad cloth, while I am content to wear the produce of my farm, I shall be very happy that our relative worth may be tried in the crucible of public opinion, or weighed in the balances of right and justice, and shall wait the result with perfect composure. It is not the adventitious circumstances in which we are placed, or the station in life we occupy, that make the man, or exhibit his principles; neither is it the texture of his garment that gives dignity and weight to his character; and if your correspondent has compared our relative positions in this scale, he will readily perceive the fallacy of his calculations, and come down from his towering "nobleness of soul," and meet his fellow man as such, divested of his lofty pretensions and assumed plumage. I still adhere, Mr Pierce, to my former observations in reference to the exaction of fees at the present time for militia commissions, notwithstanding the sapient remarks of your correspondent P. to the contrary; and it will take more of argument and less of ribaldry to convince the officers of this Battalion, at least, that the orders lately issued on the subject are judicious and well-timed, or such as commend themselves to the good sense of any man. On first reading your correspondent's communication, I did not intend to touch upon the late,

part of it, considering it not worth a moment's consideration; but on reflection, and fearing lest my silence as to your correspondent's questions "as to the absence of commanding officers of companies at general muster, and also that such absence had been caused by the fear of some little expence in the way of providing refreshment for their men," might be construed into an acquiescence of their applicability to this Battalion, has induced me to give them a passing notice. In this Battalion, Mr Pierce, I can inform your correspondent P., all the officers feel a great pleasure in attending to their duties, and vie with each other in their performance; and none, I am happy to say, are found absenting themselves from general inspection. There is a unanimity of feeling, from the commanding officer to the youngest subaltern, and mutual confidence and forbearance exist between them, which is the life and soul of the militia service; the consequence is, that all work harmoniously together. The commanding officer, by a course of honorable dealing, inspires confidence in his officers, and they, in return, confide in his acts and doings, satisfied that what he promises arises from pure motives, and will be performed without any duplicity. As this is a well attested fact, which every officer in the Battalion can vouch for, your correspondent's insinuations cannot and do not apply to the 3rd Battalion; but as his intercourse is more with the acts and doings of a Battalion not fifty miles from hence, he may be aware that some officers have absented themselves from general inspection, and the reason of their absence, not as I am led to believe, from the "fear of incurring expence in the way of providing refreshment for their men," but from the uniform unfortunate conduct of the commanding officer, in his official situation. * * * I shall forbear going more fully into this part of the subject. Your correspondent will understand me; and I would give him this friendly hint in parting, lest he should, by casting blame on one set of officers, bring about a retribution on those really culpable, which they deserve, and from which all the sophistry and special pleading of your correspondent cannot shield them.

I am, your obedient servant,

A SUBALTERN.

3d Battalion Northumberland Militia.

"Having devoted more time to secondary places than we at first intended, we come to the consideration of the political capital of the Province. This city in its location at the head of the tide, and of sloop navigation on the river, as well as in the estimation of its occupants bears a remarkable resemblance to London.—Like the latter city it is the location of a parliament which acknowledges no superior on this earth—it is the centre of forms and fashion—is inhabited by several classes of citizens who are all apparently satisfied with their superiority to men of equal standing elsewhere—is surrounded with most splendid country seats, most of which have glass windows, and bear names which indicate the importance of their owners—contain some public edifices, which have the style and appearance of the middle ages—and finally, though in a slightly less degree, this city contains all the traces of royalty which the larger one can boast of. Fredericton contains forty lawyers, a great many provincial and municipal officers, a number of other professional men, any amount of what are called gentlemen and several private citizens. Perhaps there is no city in the world, (there certainly is none in North America) where the higher classes of the community are more authentically descended from somebody, than they are in this. Some are of direct Saxon origin and might be supposed by their digestive powers to have blood of Gorth in their veins; while others have intellectual faculties similar to those of Wampa.—Some have the manners of the Normans, are more slightly built than the Saxons, have more elasticity in their limbs, and while walking exhibit movements like those of "turkeys stepping over hot embers." A third class can only boast the parentage of Noah; but they hold the Saxons and Normans in high veneration, watch their movements and try to imitate them listen to their conversation when they get a chance, and often succeed in catching their expressions which they make use of in their own circle."—Woodstock Sentinel.

THE GREAT QUESTION.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

A number of Mercantile Establishments at present exist on both sides of the River Restigouche and the Bay de Chaleur; one portion of which are engaged in the manufacture and exportation of Lumber, both squared and sawed; and in one or two instances they are connected with Shipbuilding. The firms engaged in this trade are limited entirely to the British market for consumption of their goods; a few derive some profit, but in the aggregate, there is more money lost than gained by it at present, and the great losses these par-

ties are subject to, render it in a measure imperative on them to pursue the most grinding system in their dealings with the country, and the very nature of the trade, apart from its unprofitableness, operates as a bar to all but a few to engage in it; and the prospects for the future are worse in consequence of the probable abolition of the remaining protection against Baltic Lumber, now afforded by the British Tariff.

Another portion is engaged in the Fisheries, and I believe that trade is in an almost equally discouraging state, at least in so far as regards the interest of the country. The principal and almost the only market for dried Codfish, is Spain and the Mediterranean, and in order to its prosecution, requires intimate knowledge of, and connection with, these distant and foreign countries. For barrel fish there is no market for us to any considerable extent, except where they are met by duties in all cases high, and in some, equal to the cost of production. Another, and the only remaining branch of trade, is that usually designated "Cash Stores," in which the parties keeping them have for their only object the picking up of all the "smoothers" that may happen by any chance to get afloat in the country, and they do not get many.

Now suppose we formed one of the Sovereign States of the American Union, how would we stand, and what would be our prospects? In the first place, we would lose none of the advantages we at present possess, and all the markets in the whole Union would be free to us from which we are now precluded by heavy duties. There would be our readiest and best markets, for ships, lumber, and fish of every kind, encouragement would be given to all who could trade in either or all of these branches; and every man who could get a boat or schooner, or could keep a shop, might participate in its advantages, and a brisk and sure as well as remunerative market would be created at home for agricultural produce, thus at once developing our resources in every feature; and instead of a few monopolist merchants destroying the vitals of the country, without affording to its inhabitants any adequate return, or without even themselves deriving much benefit from the sacrifice, we would find an extensive and general trade opened up, giving new life and vigor to every branch of industry, while the increase of competition would insure a fair division of profits, and all kinds and classes would be in a position to engage in the trade.

And now, what about that glorious flag, so constantly in the mouths of some? What do they mean by it? Is it the mere piece of worsted of certain colours, which could as easily be made at Lowell as at Manchester? or is the allusion symbolical? I am afraid the sign is often mistaken for the thing signified. Do we as a COLONY, contribute to England, wealth, or grandeur? quite the contrary: we are a ceaseless drain upon her resources, and drag upon her greatness; while on the other hand, it is equally evident that our own insignificance compared with surrounding countries, will run parallel with our Colonial existence.

Great Britain is beloved, honored, and admired for many things: for her greatness and power, and also for her magnanimity and many virtues, but we honor her especially because she is our Parent, and her greatness is exhibited in nothing more than in her noble progeny. We are proud to consider ourselves her children, and we are also proud, or ought to be, of our elder brethren the United States. Who says THEY do not reflect as much honor on our common parent as we do? and who says that they do not glory in her, as well as she in them, and as we should in both? True there may be occasional bickerings, and in olden times there have been some hard fights between them, which are now, I trust, mutually forgiven; but let there be no more causes of strife among the mighty family; let us as the younger sons, petition our honored parent to allow us to set up for ourselves, and join in partnership with our elder brethren, who are also our neighbours, and let our whole family, both on this continent and elsewhere, remember that we are indeed brethren; and if in the wars and turmoil of the old world, the barbarous Cossacks or any other should unfortunately become too strong for our noble parent, and dare to trample on the ashes of our fathers—

America will make the foeman feel That her sons are 'chips of the old block' still. The British Lion and the American Eagle will go hand in hand when either is attacked, and

with God's blessing, defy a hostile world, if nothing is done now to renew or create bitter feelings among themselves, which may God in his infinite mercy avert, as the greatest of all worldly calamities. Let us use every means in our power to promote that great desideratum 'unity of feeling among the Saxon race throughout the world,' among which stands forth in bold relief, chief among all, peaceable Annexation of these Provinces to the United States, infusing into the councils new elements of friendliness, and annihilating the last embers of asperity.

Talk not to me of Flags and of Queens, the days of Don Quixotte are past—but tell me of that bloodless struggle, of that glorious race, in which England and America have long been engaged, whose end is the civilization of the world; and whoever does ought to prevent their amalgamation—to stop that struggle—to retard that race—whoever refuses to lend his utmost aid to remove every apple of discord, all sources of future irritation from between these two great nations of one people—is no friend to Great Britain, but a ruthless foe to mankind.

And let the illustrious Lady who now shines so bright on the British throne—let her Ministers, who are accustomed to investigate the relation between causes and effects—pause and consider, ere it be too late—the momentous question—shall we waive the useless homage of a few poor Colonists, who seek as a boon what they should have as a right; and receive in exchange the nobler, the more enduring tribute of honour and respect, from twenty millions of Freemen, wafted in breezes across the Atlantic.

A VOICE.

SONS OF TEMPERANCE

COUNTY KENT.

MR. PIERCE,

Knowing that you take an interest in the progress of the cause of Temperance, I trust you will not consider the following account of the recent visit of Mr. TILLEY, G. W. P. of the Order of the Sons of Temperance, to this County, as unworthy a space in the columns of your valuable Journal.

According to Mr Tilley's arrangements, he expected to have been in Richibucto on Wednesday evening last, but in consequence of the heavy fall of snow on Tuesday night, rendering the roads almost impassable, his arrival was delayed till Thursday afternoon. In pursuance of previous arrangements, the Kent and Kingston Divisions of the Sons of Temperance assembled in the Kent Division hall, at 6 o'clock, p. m., where they were met by their G. W. P. Mr. Tilley, who addressed them in a brief but appropriate and impressive speech on their privileges and duties as Sons of Temperance; encouraging them to continue steadfast and faithful to their principles and pledge, and assured them that success would crown their labours. At 7 o'clock both Divisions clothed in their Regalia, left the division hall, formed into a procession, and walked in order, accompanied by the G. W. P., to the Court House, where a large and highly respectable audience had assembled to hear the Lecture, announced to be delivered by Mr. Tilley, on the subject of Temperance. The Revd. Mr. PRINCE, D. G. W. P. of Kent Division, and Chairman of the Meeting, then introduced Mr. Tilley as G. W. P. of the Order of the Sons of Temperance in New Brunswick, when a Member of the Kent Division on behalf of both Kent and Kingston Divisions, presented Mr. Tilley with the following Address:

To S. Tilley, Esq. Grand Worthy Patriarch of the Order of the Sons of Temperance in New Brunswick:

Most Worthy and Esteemed Brother,

We, the Officers and Brethren of the Kent and Kingston Divisions of the Sons of Temperance, hail this your first visit among us with the most unfeigned satisfaction and delight. Occupying as you do, the exalted, honorable, and distinguished position of Grand Worthy Patriarch of the illustrious Order of the Sons of Temperance in New Brunswick, we feel an unexpressible pride and gratification at your presence among us, and in being privileged to address you as the legally constituted representative of the Order in this Province. The office you at present fill in the ranks of the Sons of Temperance, affords the most unquestionable proof of your personal and moral worth, of your zeal, and devotedness to the great and sacred cause of Temperance; and what must be particularly gratifying to yourself, of the unlimited confidence reposed in you by the suffrages of your fellow labourers in the important work of moral reformation, which the institution of the Sons of Temperance is destined, under Providence, to accomplish. We do not wish to address you in the language of adulation, but we can assure you, that we are but giving expression to our real sentiments, when we state that your arrival among us will form an interesting era in the history of the progress of the Order of the Sons of Temperance in this County, and will be the harbinger of better and more prosperous days to the Kent and Kingston Divisions. A year has nearly completed its cycle since the Kent Division was organized, during which