

When not actively engaged in bodily labor, let the mind take its alternate turn at some laudable object or useful purpose; even then, when the muscles are in action, the higher organisation of thought and mental application may not remain idle; mind may, and should, predominate over matter; therefore let the faculties of the soul expand and mount upward on the rapid wings of improvement, and a legitimate and rational system of employment.

The Politician.

The Colonial Press.

Saint John Morning News, Feb 6.

MEETING OF THE LEGISLATURE.

The first day of the Session commences tomorrow; and perhaps there never was an assembling together of a Legislative body, under more peculiar circumstances, than those that pertain to New Brunswick at the present period. There is a grave responsibility resting upon the joint "wisdom" of the country, that has no precedent in our history—and it remains to be shown in what manner our representatives will acquit themselves through the trying ordeal. The chief duty of the Session will be to meet the disaffected spirit that has sprung up in all parts of the land during the last twelve months; and this can only be done properly, by going back to first causes, and finding out the real secret of the discontentment. This accomplished, the remedy must be suitable to the emergency; and both in no wise distasteful to the demands of the people. They will find, we think, among first causes, that our prostration is directly attributable to the "commercial changes of the mother country," and indirectly to the bad legislation with which this fine Province has been cursed during a long series of years. If our representatives have wisdom enough to learn those things in the course of their inquiries, we trust they will have honesty enough to avow them; and if they feel themselves inadequate to the task of restoring business, and thereby satisfying a dissatisfied people, let them call upon Hercules at once, and not wait for the country to do what is now being done in Canada, by the people themselves. The very first duty of the Session ought to be to draw up a PETITION (concurrent in both branches) to be sent to the British Government, representing to Her Majesty and advisers, the true condition of New Brunswick, and the discontentment that prevails; and ask Her Majesty whether we are to be retained as a possession, under such adverse circumstances? The people will then learn through the proper channel, what they have a right to know. If the Legislature move in the matter, and settle this one question, which is paramount to all others, they will have done the state some service—nay, their conduct will atone for many of their past errors. As to our Government taking the initiative in anything calculated to revive our drooping spirits, it is futile to expect—for two reasons. In the first place we have no confidence in such a heterogeneous bundle of sticks. They call themselves a *Responsible Government*,—and yet have not the patriotism or manliness to risk a *Responsible* measure. Mr Partelow cannot afford to risk his office in the House; and Mr Attorney General Wilmot would like to continue as he is. But stop! A cotemporary tells us that the Government intend to introduce a measure (which they will stand or fall by) in order that the Initiation of the Money Grants may be placed in the hands of the Executive. Well, this is one step forward. They will "give way to others" if they do not succeed, we are told. Worthy patriots! Now what is the fact of the case. The Government know full well that they risk nothing by introducing this as a measure. They know that every newspaper in the country is in favor of it. They know that the people are unanimous for the change. They are moved by the pressure from without. The last year's agitation is a thunderbolt to them. Hence the sudden conversion and bold enunciation of the Government—"we will stand or fall by the issue." Will the Government introduce an Agricultural scheme? Will they introduce a scheme for the prosecution of the Fisheries? Will they introduce a Railway measure? These are the sort of measures that the country most requires. Such measures as these ought to emanate from the Government, and the Government ought to "stand or fall by them." Mark us, reader! They'll attempt nothing of the sort.

But, in the second place, however desirable, and obviously good, any of these measures might be, for the temporary relief which they would produce—still they would not give us commercial prosperity, unless we have a more extended intercourse with the rest of the world—and this remark brings us back to the Petition part of our subject. If we expect to have a change for the better, or an idea of our future destiny, our Legislature must begin the Session by petitioning the Imperial Government; and then they will have an answer to work upon during their sittings—and the people will know what and how to think.

On Friday we shall lay before the members and the country, an excellent document, entitled—"An Address to the Inhabitants of New Brunswick," upon the past and present state of the Colony; and signed "A Colonist." We hope that each member of the House will get every line of the document by heart, and act upon it.

In the meanwhile we recommend to their attention the following extract which we take from a long and very able letter (relative to Railroads) in the last Halifax Chronicle, writ-

ten by the Hon. G. R. Young (one of the Executive Councillors of Nova Scotia). Mr Y. says truly:

"What in these colonies we want is (if we keep aloof here from all discussions as to systems of government—we will not pronounce whether we think Mr Roebuck or Mr Godley push the responsible principle too far—these political discussions belong to a different arena) what we want are physical developments, and increase of population, better markets, a colonial tariff, or a great commercial *Zollverein*, freedom of trade between ourselves, and reciprocity with the United States; and if true to ourselves, they are all within our grasp.

"Let our soil be fruitful, our trade flourish, our ships beat their pathway rejoicingly over the ocean, our products find a profitable market abroad—the old English feeling may be revived, and be cherished, aye, for ages to come.

"The people yet desire to be loyal—but they will not be kept idle—they will not be starved down,—they will not see their property deteriorated in value, till it becomes unmarketable; they will not be expatriated from their homes. They prefer to be up and doing, and to play the part of brave men struggling against temporary and adverse circumstances.

"Be the issue what it may, it would not be now a separation of fiery and excited resentments. We do not believe, come when it may, it will be one of bloodshed. The public mind has been inflamed and propelled by circumstances—by an apparent destiny over which we have no control. If the tie is to be broken, it will create mutual regrets—but although annexed to-morrow, there would still flourish here a deep-rooted, filial, lingering attachment to all that is British—to her past and her present history—a history shaded by error, but still pre-eminent and glorious errors."

Members of the House, read this again and again; pause, reflect, and act. These are not the times for trimming, for backing and filling. New Brunswick cannot remain in her present position. Capital must be introduced into the country by some means. Otherwise it is folly to think of developing resources, catching fish, or laying down Railroads. Let this session, being the last, be the most useful. We want no common-place measures, such as we have been in the habit of receiving; but some gigantic scheme, that will at once kindle new life and hope in the hearts of a despairing people. If, however, the House feel themselves powerless to effect anything of this sort, then we say again, let them petition Her Majesty's Government and lay before them the true state of the Province. The House of Assembly have the power of checking the tide of popular feeling that runs in favor of Annexation; or they have the power of encouraging it, as they surely will, if they remain listless, and indifferent to what is passing around them.

Communications.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

Sir,—In looking over the contents of the *Gleaner* of the 11th instant, I perceive a communication from Newcastle, signed "One of the People," requesting to be informed why the Overseers of that Parish did not put up the supplying of the Poor with the necessaries required, to public competition, as the Overseers of Chatham do, knowing it to be a great grievance not to do so. "One of the People" also directs attention to a Memorandum or Presentation from the Grand Jury to the Sessions, three years ago, and calls upon the Ex-Overseers, or Overseers now in office, to state why the spirit of that Presentation was not since acted upon. As an Ex-Overseer, and as I am called upon as one of the Committee who drew up that Presentation, I will briefly state, for the information of "One of the People," the course pursued by myself while I had the honor to hold the responsible and lucrative appointment of Overseer for 1847-8; which was (with the concurrence of my brethren in office at that time) to advertise through the medium of your Journal (surely the most legitimate course) for Tenders for supplying the Poor of the District of Newcastle, for a period of not less than six months, at 11 o'clock, A. M., in that town, the precise day in February I cannot name, without reference to the *Gleaner* of date; and at Douglstown at 4 o'clock, P. M., same day. After attending at Newcastle from 11 until 3 o'clock, no Tender was offered. At Douglstown we were enabled to effect a Contract, I trust at once satisfactory to the Parish and to the Paupers served under it. Instead of advertising again at the end of six months, I addressed a note to the contractor, requesting him to state in writing what rate he would supply the Poor at for the next six months. His answer I considered so favorable, that I deemed it my duty to close with it, rather than put it up to public competition in the face of a then rising market. The next year the same course was pursued, but I may here state that no Tender was then offered at Newcastle.

I trust that this part of the Presentation has been carried out not only in spirit, but to the letter, so far as was practicable, either for the

benefit of the Paupers or the people. With reference to that part of the Presentation which speaks of publishing the names of those receiving Parochial relief, I have yet to learn that the Magistrates, as a body, took any action upon it; and as individuals I am well aware some of them are decidedly opposed to it. Will "One of the People," (whose memory, by the bye, seems only to serve him efficiently on particular occasions) inform us how often those gentlemen whose practice he has set before us as a model have advertised the names of the Paupers under their charge for the last three years, or will he define more minutely that part of their practice, so laudable, we have failed to imitate. Yours, &c., C. M., Ex-Overseer of Poor, Douglstown, 15th January, 1850.

Mr Editor,

Not long since I happened by the merest accident, to get possession of the following poetical effusion. I have endeavored most industriously to discover the author of such an honest avowal, but so far I have been unsuccessful. I think the verses should be published to the world, in order that a certain department of creation should have their due.

P. M.

Newcastle, February 7, 1850.

"THE LORDS OF CREATION."

How pleasing the thought! when fond hearts are joined

By love's silken tie, ne'er to sever;
Then happiness chases all gloom from the mind,

And sorrow ne'er enters—no never.

We girls often think that we only can love,
With the soul's pure and deep adoration;
But that which resembles the angels above
Is the love of the "Lords of Creation."

We love, it is true, just as well as we can,

But at best it is only emotion;

While the love that encircles the heart of a man

Is the soul's pure, undying devotion.

'Tis true in adversity, sickness and health—

Unchanging in every relation;

Never moved by ambition, nor purchased by wealth,

Is the love of the "Lords of Creation."

We love for a while, 'till we happen to find

Some other a little shade better;

Then we think for the present "he's just to our mind,"

And sigh as we answer his letter.

But Man, when he loves, can love only one,

Never changes, what'er be her station;

There is nothing so noble now under the sun
As the love of the "Lords of Creation."

Their love is as deep as the blue rolling wave,
Or the waters which gush from the fountain;
As true as the gem in the ocean's dark cave,
And as pure as the snow on the mountain.
"They love on through all ills, and love on till they die."

Always faithful, in every vocation:

Oh! who would not love them—Ah! dear me

I sigh,

For I love a "Lord of Creation."

COUNTY OF RESTIGOUCHE.

CAMPBELLTON, February 12, 1850.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

A great meeting was called here for the purpose of giving the great "Liberal" an opportunity to make a speech, and also for testing the feelings of the people in view of a coming election, with regard to his obtaining a seat in the Legislature, as well as to discuss several other matters of minor importance; such as the appointment of Magistrates, and the conduct of our Representatives and the Executive Council, and every body else, with reference to a celebrated Petition sent on from this place to somebody on that and every other subject.

The meeting soon gave internal evidence that the people either felt little interest in the question, or had some queer notions about it; and few even of those in attendance seemed to understand the object for which they were assembled; but such as it was it came off according to appointment on yesterday afternoon, and two gentlemen came prepared with strings of Resolutions, each offering his own to the meeting; and after the exhibition of several brilliant flashes of eloquence, a division took place, fourteen being on one side and thirteen on the other, including boys of all colours. Several persons being too indolent to leave their seats for a change of sides, suffered themselves to be counted on the side they happened to sit on, relying on the chapter of accidents.

One resolution, however, from the string belonging to the minority, passed, in consequence of the noise of some boys trying to make speeches, and the confusion that took place by running to and fro, and no person present feeling sufficient interest in the proceedings to demand a fair division and count.

There came up a resolution on the main question, introduced in a beautiful description of grievances, rights, interests, and all manner of things; but it did not seem to take well, and the subject was abandoned, and here closed the meeting.

Really, Mr Editor, joking apart, I wish they would give us a Magistrate, for we want such an "article" very much. The size had better be five feet seven inches and three quarters,

and the color either Black or Grey, but it would not do at all to be the color of anything else of the same genus.

Yours very affectionately,

PEEL'S ONE.

Mr Editor,

Sir,—In accordance with a notice previously given, a Public Meeting was held in this place on Monday, the 11th instant, to take into consideration the nomination of persons eligible to act as Magistrates, and other matters connected with this Town and Parish. I was amused to see the party feeling displayed, and the anxiety shewn by each party to pass the Resolutions prepared by their leaders. One individual, more particularly, attracted my notice. He was a tall gentleman, who occasionally took a quizzical glance of those surrounding him, apparently anxious to know if the people had all been previously canvassed, showing the "why and wherefore" he so often took the floor and addressed the chair. Knowing that this gentleman is much respected and esteemed by the people in this part of the County, I considered he would be actuated altogether by disinterested motives, consequently I paid more than usual attention to what he said and done; but to my astonishment and disappointment, I found he was greatly actuated by family interest and connection. I reflected for a little, and thought to myself, "had you not better have a care, old chap, or you may one day sacrifice your own interest by struggling too much too further that of another, who is less generous." In his address to the meeting, he took particular pains, by repeatedly stating, in fact he appeared determined to impress it on the minds of the people, "that Mr Barberie (one of our representatives) had done all in his power to get Magistrates appointed for this Town and Parish." If Mr Barberie's *all* must be very little or none—we are still without Magistrates. It was further stated "that Mr B. had no party on the Bench; consequently in the recommendation he made, or agreed to make, he must have been actuated solely by pure and disinterested motives." But admitting that that gentleman had no influence on the Bench, has he not another object in view? and which in my opinion controls and governs all his movements, more than Bench or party interest does our other representative. This will be the last session of our present Assembly, we will therefore shortly have a general election. You, Mr Editor, will understand the rest.

I would beg to ask the people of this Town and Parish, who were the individuals Mr Barberie so strongly recommended to be Magistrates? were they not persons who gave him plumpers at his last election, or otherwise his supporters, and upon whose support he calculates at the next election. This, Mr Editor, is the way in which some people would consider as acting consistently, disinterestedly and independently, having always in view the general welfare of the Province, but more particularly that County he has the honor to represent. Had one of the individuals Mr Barberie named been appointed, notwithstanding he is a Lumberer, his appointment would have given satisfaction to the whole parish.

I do not know where the blame lies, whether it is with our Members or the Executive, but there is one thing I know, that this part of the County has been sadly overlooked, and only in the want of Magistrates, but we have not been allowed a Warehouse, while they have four in Dalhousie; and yet the impositions to Campbellton during the year is equal, if not more, than that of the former place.

I am, &c.,

ONE OF THE PEOPLE.

Campbellton, Restigouche, Feb. 15, 1850.

PARISH OF NELSON.

Mr Editor,

Sir,—Observing in the last number of the *Gleaner*, a communication signed "One of the People," from the Parish of Newcastle, inquiring why the Overseers of that Parish did not put up the supplying of the Poor with the necessaries required to public competition, now, Sir, with your permission, I would enquire through the columns of your useful paper, why the Overseers of this Parish do not do so; and likewise why they do not, at least once a quarter during the year, publish a list of the Paupers, or persons receiving Parish support. Their giving a satisfactory answer through the medium of the *Gleaner*, will, I am certain, confer a favor on the parishioners generally.

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,

A TAX PAYER.

Nelson, February 15, 1850.

PARISH OF NEWCASTLE.

Mr Editor,

Sir,—On perusing the *Gleaner* of the 11th instant, I observed a communication bearing the signature of "One of the People," addressed to the Ex-Overseers, and the Overseers now in office, enquiring why the Overseers of this Parish do not advertise and take in Tenders for supplying the Poor, as the Overseers of Chatham do. Your correspondent enquires why those receiving parochial relief are not advertised every six months, and concludes by observing that he trusts Mr C. M., Mr R. T. M., will give the public such information as will be honorable to themselves and satisfactory to the public. Mr Pierce, who is knowing how unfit I am to appear before the public as a Newspaper correspondent, and at all times studiously wishing to avoid public controversy, it was some time before I could determine whether I would reply to the above or not. Having concluded to do so, I will confine myself to facts; and as facts are