

## The Politician.

THE COLONIAL PRESS.

From the St. John Freeman.

### THE ATTORNEY GENERAL AND HIS CONSTITUENTS.

The Attorney General can no longer pretend that he retains the confidence of his constituency, or that he represents the County of Northumberland. Over twelve hundred of the electors of the county, many of them the men on whose support he depended, declare that he has forfeited their confidence, that they believe his feelings to be adverse, and his acts most prejudicial to the interests of the county and request him to resign.

Few men who pretended to the high character as men and as consistent, honorable politicians, to which the Attorney General is so fond of laying claim, and which his friends and those who court his favor are so fond of giving him credit for, would hesitate to comply with such a requisition and resign the trust of which they were thus deliberately declared unworthy. But the Attorney General is a man of that peculiar frame of mind, who not only can do what his constituents conceive to be prejudicial to their interests, but who can also disregard their requisition and hold his seat whatever they may think of it. If it were for a moment possible to convince him that he was wrong—that A. Street could be wrong, or that to retain his seat in spite of his constituents was dishonorable, there may be some probability of his resigning. But no matter what he does he believes he is right, and is astonished at the blindness of those who cannot see he is; and no matter how strangely he may act, how often he may veer and turn, he never fails to claim the credit of consistency. Lately he has fallen into the way of broaching theories and "enunciating" them, and has startled the House, more than once, by his strange views of the principles of Responsible Government, on which he undertook to lecture them. He, no doubt, will find in these principles most satisfactory reasons why he should do as he pleases and retain his seat whatever his constituents may think of his conduct. One thing is certain—he won't resign, and he won't see any reason why he should.

## Communications.

### THE REQUISITION.

To the Editor of the Gleaner,

Last week's Gleaner contained the reply of the Hon. John A. Street, to the second requisition from Northumberland, requiring him to resign his seat in the House of Assembly, and we shall now proceed to make some remarks upon this "extraordinary and unjustifiable document." We use his own language, conceiving it more applicable to the reply than to the requisition, in which opinion the odds are 1,155 to one against the Attorney General. He conceives it "extraordinary" that his constituents should lose confidence in him. May not the wonder be that such confidence ever existed? He calls it "unjustifiable" in them to pursue the constitutional course in telling him; but is it not rather "unjustifiable" in one man to tell 1,155, or six-sevenths of the Freeholders of the County, that they have been duped, and are not competent to judge of their own rights, or his conduct. Had he confined this imputation to the number who voted for him, he might indeed offer a living proof of its truth. The insinuation that undue means were used to get up this requisition, we unhesitatingly pronounce to be unfounded; more worthy of a representative who clings to office, than applicable to the constituency deceived by him.

Mr Street expresses his regret that "the Committee should have put themselves to so much trouble and expense in getting up this second requisition," as his former reply would show that it was useless. But we assure him that the trouble or expense was not great, merely requiring it to be made known that the document was ready for signature in the different Parishes.

Many of those who moved in the matter had before gone to more trouble and expense for him, and been as ill requited. They did not, in this instance at least, expect him to regard the trouble or repay the cost, and have consequently been less disappointed.

In the former reply, Mr Street complained of the requisitionists being few; and lest it might be thought in other parts of the Province that the feelings of the County were not represented, it was due to Northumberland that the second requisition should furnish the all but unanimous voice of the County.

We do not think it material to prove that the political course of Mr Street has been wrong; nor that trimming speeches or mock heroics at the close of the poll, when the seat has been secured, are any answer to pledges made at its opening, and considered necessary to obtain that seat. But we declare our deliberate opinion that this question can only be determined by the

constituency; and when they, by requisition or otherwise, declare that he no longer represents the views, or retains the confidence of those who elected him, in justice to himself, and in duty to them, he is bound to resign.

It is true a partial clamour may be raised against a representative, while he retains the confidence of a majority; but the unmistakable and deliberate opinion of 1,155 out of 1,332 freeholders, expressed by their signatures to a requisition, and treated with contempt by a representative, is to us a novelty not met with in experience, or found in history.

We had always understood that a representative took his seat on the presumption at least that he had the suffrages and confidence of a majority, and that he could only retain that seat upon the like presumption; and considered that when positive evidence destroyed that presumption, a refusal to resign would amount to an admission that he accepted the seat, as he retains it, for his own purposes, and not for the public weal.

As the *Leader* of what he terms a Responsible Government, the Attorney General has denied the very essence of responsibility; and as a Representative, has assumed the power and office of a dictator. For the next two years he will represent no place or people, and we envy not the Government which calls him *Leader*.

THE 1,155.

## Editor's Department.

### MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, MONDAY, APRIL 26, 1852

### IMPROVED BUTTER MACHINE.

We have often impressed upon the community the necessity which exists for keeping up with the age in economizing labour, by the introduction of machinery, for the purpose of assisting those branches of industry to which its use can properly be applied. Without such, it is evident we cannot compete with the productions of those countries which avail themselves of such powerful aids to human industry; and if we continue to neglect the important advantages to be derived from such an application of machinery—if we fail to seize upon and apply the tendency to progressive improvement displayed by our neighbours, we may abandon the idea of competing with foreign productions in our own country, even with the advantages of a proximity to markets, and a protective duty.

We believe that the benefits to be derived from this source are not sufficiently appreciated; that the novelty of the invention is often held to be good ground of suspicion against it; and that from want of public encouragement, the ingenuity and industry of our mechanics are depressed, and their utility consequently much lessened. The prejudices of our people in favor of existing practices or systems, are very strong, and improvements are often resisted through ignorance of their merits, and a determination to make no enquiry or gain information on the subject.

We find this feeling exists to a considerable degree amongst our agriculturists, and regret that they are so slow to adopt and apply many valuable improvements in labour-saving machines, in use in other places. We must endeavor to shake off this lethargic influence, which depresses our energies, and encourage inventive talent in our mechanics; and by our willingness to adopt them, induce them to construct those valuable machines, which, by facilitating the performance of labour, must tend to ameliorate the condition of our race.

Our people lack nothing of that inventive genius which characterises the Americans as a nation, yet we have neglected to apply it generally, and we believe the great cause may be traced to the disfavor with which innovations on good old practices have been looked upon by some of our leading men, and a disposition evinced on their part to underrate native ingenuity and industry.

We have been led into this train of thought by a conversation with a friend on the merits of a labour-saving machine, invented by Mr ASA WILLARD, formerly of this place, for the manufacture of Butter, which, by the aid of machinery alone, performs all the labour (hitherto done by hand) of churning the butter, separating and gathering it from the milk, washing and salting it, ready either for the table or for exportation, all which is performed in an incredibly short space of time, with less than one-fourth the labour of the old-fashioned process.

We understand that a few days ago, Mr Willard exhibited to a number of ladies and gentlemen in Newcastle the process of manufacturing the cream into butter. The utility of his invention was universally ad-

mitted, and allowed to be of great importance to our dairy-men; admired as much for its simplicity as for the effective manner in which it produced a good article of butter, with but little labour, and in a short space of time.

The advantages claimed for the invention are—a great saving of labour over the old plan, the work being much easier and much more speedily performed; producing more butter from any given quantity of cream; separating the butter from the butter-milk by machinery, not requiring the butter to be touched by the hand at all, and performing this part of the operation with less than one-fourth the time and labour usually consumed, and at the same time saving the butter fit either for domestic use or for exportation. In the latter case it may be produced in lumps of any weight, printed and stamped ready for market.

Mr Willard has patented his machine in the United States, Canada, and this Province; and although there were over one hundred patents for Churns in the former country when he obtained his, not one of them could accomplish more than simply producing the butter, while Mr W.'s saves all the subsequent manipulations necessary to render the article fit for use.

Would not the introduction of such an article into the dairies of our Napan friends, save an immense amount of labor, and at the same time enable them to make a little more money? We believe it would, and therefore recommend them to inspect Mr Willard's invention, and judge for themselves. We understand that that gentleman is making arrangements to have a number of them made in Newcastle for our market. If so, and the article is what it is represented to be, we trust our farmers generally will extend to it that patronage which its merits deserve.

### THE REPORTER.

The Editor of the *Fredericton Reporter*, in his paper of the 9th instant, complains of our Correspondent "Northumberland," accusing him of acting under government influence in attacking Mr J. M. Johnson. This question we leave him to settle with "Northumberland," but we would remark that while the Editor was engaged in the Council Chamber, and could not see what was doing in the Assembly, he would have acted a more consistent part as a Liberal, towards a gentleman, who by his own admission, has been consistent in his political course, to have taken the opinion of one of the Reporters who saw and heard all, and who we believe to be quite as consistent a Liberal, and as competent a judge as the Editor of the Reporter. We refer to Mr Anglin, of the *Freeman*. It is not a little remarkable that the cry against Mr Johnson was raised by the Government party in the House and the paid Government organ, at the same time; and the Reporter should have remembered that a general report of this nature is more easily raised than proved, and that the more vague and general the accusation, the greater is the difficulty in rebutting or counteracting its effects.

The Editor of the Reporter himself has been accused of attacking friend and foe, from a peculiar acidity of disposition. Would it be fair in us to join in the cry without producing some proof of the accusation? We are aware, moreover, that independent of the desire on the part of the Government to misrepresent Mr Johnson, there are now in the County of York some pretended Liberals, who do not desire any member of the present House should take a stand in public affairs, as it might interfere with themselves at a future day. Verily, it is a poor way of proving his sincerity in the cause, to join in a frivolous attack upon the men who, though in the minority, have manfully resisted temptations and threats, held out to divert or impede their energies.

In speaking of the time wasted, the Reporter might remember that nearly a month of the Session had elapsed before the Government were prepared with any measure to bring before the House, the Attorney General and another member of the Executive being absent on professional business for nearly three weeks, while the Legislature were bound to wait their return.

**WONDERS OF THE ELECTRIC TELEGRAPH.**—The French and English Journals are speculating more or less upon the practicability of turning the Electric Telegraph that connects England and France via the Channel, into a medium of conversational intercourse. The *modus operandi* is this:—A plate of silver and one of zinc are taken into the mouth, one above and the other below the tongue. They are then placed in contact with the wire, and words issuing from the mouth so prepared are conveyed across the Channel by the wire—in a whisper we suppose, though the account does not say. It has been tried, it is said with successful results.

### CALIFORNIA.

The following is an extract of a letter written by a Mr Hooper, of New Albany, Indiana, now in San Francisco, to Isaac S. Hooper of Cambridge, Maine, in answer to one enquiring his opinion of the prospect of his son if he should go to San Francisco as a blacksmith. Let all who are in any way afflicted with the California fever, read this and ponder well upon the statement, before they leave anything like decent prospects here for the uncertainties of that distant region.

"Of 150 men that came from the same place at the same time I did, six hired money to go home the same fall. One left in five months with four thousand dollars. About twenty four have gone home with barely enough to get there—about the same number have gone with about as much as will pay what it cost them coming and going, only losing their time away from home. Eight have made from ten to fourteen hundred dollars each. One left last spring with three thousand dollars—ten have died, and but three of them left enough to bury them—one left last spring with two thousand dollars made by trading—some have hired money the last season to come with; a few are making from four to six dollars a day. I happened to fall in with some acquaintances on arriving here and got employment from them immediately, and cleared one thousand one hundred dollars the first eleven months; but during the last seven months I have cleared only about seven hundred dollars. The varied success of one hundred and fifty named, I think is about a general average of all that come here. The expense of returning and coming is about five hundred dollars, and a mechanic at home ought to make four hundred dollars per year; and as those named as returned were most of them about eighteen months from home, the result is as follows:—One in fifty make more than a fair rate of compensation—one in fifteen hire money to go home—one in six get back with loss of time and outfit here—one in six only lose their time—one in eighteen have returned with over a trifle more than fair wages at home and their expenses—one in fifteen have died—and of those that remain the prospect is no better. I state the facts, you can draw the inferences."

**STEAM BETWEEN BOSTON AND HALIFAX.**—Late Boston papers furnish the following piece of news. It has surprised us that a steamer has not long since been put on this route.

"Mr J. D. Curtis launched, at Medford, on Friday, a finely modelled propeller, which when fitted up with her machinery &c., is to ply between Boston and Halifax, in Messrs. Clarke, Jones & Co's line of packets. The vessel is 175 feet long, 28 feet wide, and 18½ feet deep, and measures 700 tons. Her cabin which is to be finished in an elegant style, will accommodate one hundred and twenty five persons, beside which she has large accommodation for steerage passengers. Her machinery is now being constructed by Mr Otis Tufts, East Boston, and will be completed and put in working order previous to the middle of June. It is calculated that she will make one trip a week between the two ports."

**NEWFOUNDLAND.**—A late exchange paper contains the following paragraph:

"The authorities of Newfoundland have granted to Mr H. B. Tibbatts and associates of New York, the exclusive right to construct and use the magnetic telegraph across that island for the period of thirty years. The grant is designed to facilitate Mr Tibbatts in his scheme for the establishment of steam and telegraphic communication between New York and Liverpool or London in five days. The telegraph is to extend from New York to Saint Johns, from whence a line of steamers is to run to Galway, where another line of telegraph is to commence, extending to London. This latter line will, it is said be completed during the current year. The distance from Saint Johns to Galway, is 1,647 miles, or about five days' sail."

**IRELAND.**—The Limerick Chronicle gives the following gratifying news from this country:

"There is not a laboring man or woman who is able to work unemployed this month, so general and forward are spring operations in every part of the country. Emigration nevertheless proceeds at as great a rate as ever, and the price of berths in emigrant ships has been considerably raised in all the Irish ports. The shortest and the lightest assizes known in the county of Tipperary for a long series of years, closed on Saturday without a conviction for murder, or indeed for any serious crime."

**NOVA SCOTIA EXPORTS TO THE UNITED STATES.**—According to the Halifax Sun, there were shipped at the port of Halifax, within nine days previous to March 27, to ports in the United States, 6000 barrels mackerel, 1000 barrels herring, and 1000 firkins butter.