

Communications.

FROM HEAD QUARTERS.

The following exposition from the HONORABLES, were the reasons that induced the Honorable Mr. MONTGOMERY, to join a Government, who treated the wishes of his Constituents with contempt, and in so doing, acted in direct opposition to the welfare of his county.

As the writer is not at liberty to divulge his correspondent, from whom he got his information, it is possible that some nice readers may object in these objectionable times, to the genuineness of the Honorables' explanation, to which he would reply—that acts speak louder than words, and it upon the whole, their acts corroborate his remarks, or correspond with the following exposition, he presumes it is *prima facie* evidence, if not proof positive, of its authenticity. Further comment is unnecessary.

Hon. Mr. MONTGOMERY, sworn a Member of the Government. Hon. Mr. PARTELOW spoke as follows:—Members of Parliament had to consider a great many things besides the interests of their constituents, of which he and the greater number of the Cabinet were an example. Every member had to mind his P's and Q's, i.e. pocket and quackery; also, self and family aggrandisement, rewarding political friends, and punishing political opponents; a man that neglected these things was a poor politician.

Now, Mr. M., by being a Member of the Executive, you will have a great deal more power in your own county; there are many that will court your favour, that would not otherwise; in fact you can do as you please, by studying Proteus, to whom, he Mr. P. was indebted for his political success. You will have some political opponents, but what of that, he Hon. Mr. P. treated the constituency of St. John as he pleased for four successive years; it was true he lost his election, but what then, he Hon. Mr. P. got his seat secured at Victoria by the interest of certain parties, who were far easier canvassed than a whole county, and much cheaper, and more easily retained by executive sops; and as to your previous opposition, we do not mind that.—Witness Messrs. Wilmot and Gray; they were sent here to oppose the Government, but in turning renegades to their constituency, they proved themselves the very men to be our colleagues, whilst the facility with which the latter enunciate principles one day, and wholly repudiate them the next, marks him the most efficient member of our board.

The Hon. Gentleman made some remarks touching their power over Sheriffs, which were inaudible.

Honorable Mr. STREET said, it would be unnecessary for him Mr. S., to make any lengthy remarks, as his Hon. Colleague had went so fully into the policy of the members of Government, but would make a few observations touching his own views, which he never changed since first elected for Northumberland. He, Mr. S. always opposed the Government, and said they were 'politically dishonest,' previous to getting into office; and so did Gray and Wilmot, but Hon. Gentlemen will recollect it was a different Government after he, Hon. Mr. S. joined it! there was every effort made by him, Hon. Mr. S. and some of his colleagues, to remodel the Council. Hon. gentlemen would recollect when the Departmental Bill was introduced, there were many that were any thing but satisfied with it: they said it would not work well, but it was forced on the people, therefore they had to make the best of it. After a fair trial it was found impossible for a member to justify the acts of all his colleagues; the idea was preposterous. He would be an honest politician indeed, that could justify his own acts. Now, the policy the Government intended to pursue, (which his hon. and new colleague approved of in every particular) was, each member to mind his own department; which was more reasonable than the new theory, and the work would be better done. Now, he hon. Mr. S. did not ask hon. gentlemen to adopt that principle, unless he could show a British precedent. During the reign of Charles the Second, and even James the Second, that was the system. Halifax and Rochester sat together at the same Council Board, yet one of them did not approve of an act the other did, and neither would resign. Now, he would like to see the lawyer that could show any law to the contrary. He hon. Mr. S. freely admitted that the new theory was in use for some time back, but that was merely a custom, 'not from time immemorial,' which would not be good or valid in law. Now, he hon. Mr. S. did not see anything to impede their works; they dismissed one hon. gentleman from the Council Board that was troublesome, with the honors of war; death has favored the work by removing another, that was so fortified with Notes and Ledgers, and such heavy ordinance, that it would be madness to attempt his removal, not having a battle line at their command at the time; but thanks to death, he made room for a more suitable member. There was only two hon. gentlemen at the Council Board, that would oppose any measure that would be submitted; and as the country gave them great credit for integrity, it would not be politic to remove either of them, particularly as they got the most dangerous one shelved in the upper Branch out of their way for life. There might be a minute of Council such as appeared after the appointment of Judge Wilmot (called a *Remonstrance*) merely a dissent of opinion, as six would be considered a strong

majority out of eight at all times. Now, by adopting the good old way, there would be no necessity for any member resigning, so long as he could justify his own acts, which an honest man could do at any time when it would be impossible for him to do that of his Colleague. Witness the Honourable Mr. Chandler's Railway Delegation at Toronto and Great Britain, now there's not the smallest doubt but that the hon. Mr. C. would justify his own conduct, altho' there was not another man in the world that could do so but himself. It was so with himself respecting his Railway policy. He hon. Mr. S. opposed the Southern route at the Council Board, as long as he could, but seeing his Colleagues could not carry their point without his assistance, he hon. Mr. S. at once gave his aid publicly and fearlessly, and took credit to himself for it. Their railway policy was well managed, and although, nature put impediments in the way, that were insurmountable, that was not their fault, as they have done all in their power to deprive the Northern Counties of all benefit that would be derived therefrom. He hon. Mr. S. did not lose hope of that scheme yet, as they were in concert with Mr. Hicks to try if possible, to get the line across to the St. John, at any sacrifice. Northumberland was all right now. He hon. Mr. S. did not apprehend any formidable opposition, there are 'always parasites to support any Government,' and on a recent Circuit the hon. Mr. S. found them of iron, truly a most lasting support. There was nothing to fear from Gloucester; and at the most Restigouche would be a dead lock. He hon. Mr. S. knew he was right, and although, nine tenths of his Constituents called on him to resign, knowing he could justify his conduct, he did not comply.

Now hon. Mr. M. was the first man from the North, and he approved of their Railway policy by joining the Government, so far as his County is or was concerned.

Should anything occur tending to the dismissal of his Hon. friend, Mr. M. as heretofore, (which the Hon. Mr. S. did not anticipate,) whilst Mr. Gladstone would be kept in power by the help of the Puseyites, the Hon. Mr. M. would be sure of a Colonial peerage for life, with a notice in the Royal Gazette, such as appeared in the London Royal Gazette of October, 1855, 'solemnly notifying that this honor was the reward of the many eminent services which he had rendered to the crown.' He hon. Mr. S. freely concurred in the Poet's language—

'With hands less mighty but with hearts as black,
With voice as willing to decree the rack,' &c.

He hon. Mr. S. was beyond the reach of the people; any one doubting his high standing, let them read the Judges' letters to Earl Grey—who would ask better reference? He Hon. Mr. S. did not fear his election, and after his return, the people of Northumberland would in Oriental language, pray that 'he might live for ever.'

Honorable Mr. MONTGOMERY responded. The Hon. Mr. M. approved of the policy to be pursued by the Government, as detailed by his Hon. Colleagues. He, Hon. Mr. M. never liked the new theory. It was perfectly ridiculous that eight men, with conflicting interests, would agree in every particular. By adopting his Hon. friend the Attorney General's discovery of the British Constitution, the greater difficulty would be obviated that of resigning when differing in opinion at the Council Board. He Hon. Mr. M. did not approve of such a practice in Hon. Gentlemen. He Hon. Mr. M. had never done so himself, when his services were not required: when the Government split on the appointment of Mr. Read, he, Hon. Mr. M. supported the prerogative of the Crown, and was rewarded by his Sovereign, who conferred on him the title of Hon. for life, through Mr. Gladstone then Colonial Minister; although the appointment was declared wrong, unconstitutional, and was reversed; yet it does not appear that her Majesty took any notice of those high principled Gentlemen who resigned for the rights of their Country. He Hon. Mr. M. need not ask who pursued the most prudent course. He Hon. Mr. M. always supported the Government for the time being. It was true, he opposed their Railway policy, but that did not signify, they were strong enough on that Bill without him; besides, that was the time to oppose a friendly Government, when his opposition would do no harm, and he would get credit from the people, for opposing such a strong majority with such force. It would be remembered when the St. Andrew's railway question was before the House, he, Hon. Mr. M. voted against it first, but finding it would be defeated, he, Hon. Mr. M. went out of the way, and so by the casting vote of the Speaker, it was passed and became a Law.

And as for popularity—that was easily managed. All a man had to do was to please a few leading men in a small County. It was perfect nonsense to quarrel with the people. Last January, he, Hon. Mr. M. saw there was something wrong, therefore in charging the Grand Jury, he told them, that the whole business of County was in their hands; they were so delighted, that they called him Hon. Mr. M. to their room, consulted him touching every thing before them, respecting claims, got through smoothly, they made their presentments; he Hon. Mr. M. condescended to step down and receive the papers out of the Foreman's hand at the Box without troubling the Clerk; but took good care not to comply with their requests; as some of their presentments passed, were unnoticed; and some accounts passed, that they, the Grand Jury, never saw; but he, Hon. Mr. M. was not without brains like a Goose.

He Hon. Mr. M. called his last ship the Joseph Howe, although six months previous, he, Hon. Mr. M. would let him have as much rope as would have hung him. He, Hon. Mr. M. never liked him or his politics, but at that time Mr. Howe was very popular in his Hon. Mr. M's County. As to his Hon. Colleagues remarks respecting self and family aggrandisement, the Government left him little of that to do. * * *

[Here the Reporter was ordered to withdraw, but it is hoped that a continuation will be got at some future time.]

SCRUTATOR.

March 7th, 1853

BE CALM.

Be calm, be still my troubled heart
Nor thus so madly, throb and start,
Sure thou art used to pains,
Thy buds of Friendship, nipt e'er blown,
Are forth upon the cold world thrown,
Nor does one gem remain.
Thy fond and early dreams of bliss,
Unconscious of an hour like this,
O'erburthened by the gloom
Of hollow friendship's broken faith
Are sunk as mortals sink in death,
And buried in the tomb.
But one, fond hope to thee is left,
And should'st thou be of that bereft,
Though vacant and alone
May'st wander through this world of care,
Subsisting on thy mute despair,
Unpitied and unknown.
And tho' that hope may not be breathed,
Nor thy uncertainty relieved,
Nor yet thy fate be known,
Still be thou calm as rising day,
And be the issue what it may,
Put trust in Heaven alone.

AFLEX.

Chatham, 30th March, 1853.

PUBLIC MATTERS.

To the Editor of the Gleaner.

Sir,—In this letter I shall notice more particularly the actions, features, and composition, of our present Government, or more particularly its leading characters; and in doing so, I shall endeavour to present a true picture, free from favour, affection, or prejudice; and allow them to be tried at the tribunal of public opinion, by extracts taken from their own public speeches, coupled and contrasted with their several public movements; and draw such conclusions as I think any candid reasoner will admit they should bear. It is a known fact in the present day, that a Government is apt to fall to pieces when it possesses too much talent, principle, or honour, and the only dread of a portion of the British Press is, that the present ministry cannot exist long, from its being composed of so many talented men of honor, principle and integrity, to be swayed or swerved from what they would consider a straight-forward course; and rather than sacrifice a principle or measure, if once convinced of its beneficial effects to their country or cause, would toss situation and emoluments to the winds. But, Sir, our New Brunswick Government, is not chargeable with this fault of *too much talent or principle*, and would long remain in power, if not brought to judgment by the People, to receive their reward. And sooner than lose the government flesh pots, they would make a willing sacrifice *not alone the Province, but of all British America*. It is but justice to each and all here to observe, there are but two or three characters worthy of notice in the composition of our present Government, and might be known under the title, style, and firm of Messrs. Street, Chandler, Partelow & Co., with the addition, occasionally of a cat's paw called Wilkinson, each of which I shall notice in their place; the rest being composed of all the passiveness required to carry on a Government, that some of them might all but be honoured with the title of cipher. The first to be noticed is JOHN A. STREET, Attorney General, and the reputed Leader of the Government, a man of strange compound. He believes all mankind wrong, but himself; tenacious in his opinions, and stubborn in his views, to a fault; and there is but one of two ways of doing anything with him, that is, to shampoo him, by calling him leader, a man of principle, honor, and such-like, and then point out the course you wish him to pursue, or the object of attack, and forthwith he moves with the same blindness, or heedlessness, as that of a battering ram. And I have often thought how fortunate it was for him, that he did not exist in those days when battering rams were used, or he might have been taken for one, and applied for the purpose of battering down a stone wall, or the upsetting of a castle. The other mode of treating him is, to act out the Irishman in driving his pigs to Cork, yet swearing all the time he was going to Dublin; his constituents proved this, in the Railway matter. They, together with all the Northern Counties, wished the Government to keep the Railway free from local or sectional feeling, and at all their meetings, and through their Press, they set forth their views, requesting the Government to pass a measure for the Maine Trunk Line, defining a particular route, leaving that to practical and unprejudiced Engineers, to decide. But herein they failed, and should have insisted on its being made a local affair, when no doubt it would have been made Provincial. So to carry out the bent of his mind, to act in contrariety, it must be defined, and the Railway placed by the valley of the St. John; and when his constituents murmured at his conduct and called on him to resign, his reply was characteristic of the man. First the requisition was too small, and should not be listened to; on that account; and next

that in all local matters he should be guided by his Constituents, but in Provincial or National matters, he should be guided by his own good judgment—and such he considered the Railway to be. So it can be seen at a glance, that in the Attorney General's opinion, to have taken his constituents plan, to leave it to disinterested Commissioners to decide, the most proper and practicable route would be making it local, but to place it by the valley of the St. John, would be Provincial, believing, no doubt with many others, that any thing connected with that noble river, embraced the whole Province. But the most mysterious, and which I have never been able to comprehend, was his reply to the second requisition, bearing the number of 1,155 signatures, where he relieved them to his first reply. But whether he considered the requisition still too small, and the river St. John, the Province, remains a doubt to the present day. There is one thing certain, as already observed by a former Correspondent, that all his boasted courage, principle, and honour, did not like that of the celebrated Bob Acres, ooze out of his finger ends, but found its way to his breeches pocket. One thing, however, has been discovered, and that is, did Solomon exist at the present day, he would have found a man wiser in his own conceit than 1,155 that might render a contrary reason.

Next comes Mr. CHANDLER, a gentleman of noble parts, and friendly feelings, but troubled with extreme bashfulness, with a desire to please everybody, who cannot say no to anybody. He shines most in diplomacy, or in delegations, and is always used for that purpose, there being no danger of his disagreeing with those he may come in contact with; always ready to mould himself to their views, and never in danger of picking a quarrel. He might be called Diplomatic General. The last, though not least, is the Honorable JOHN R. PARTELOW, who may be justly, and with propriety, styled Master General or Generalissimo, being able to out general all the Generals effecting all his desires by silent moves, and cunning craft. Seldom speaking, although an orator; preferring silence, and the feeling of pulses, in carrying out his deep designs, to plain reasoning or honest dealing, and always managing to drive all before him. This being the case, it is little wonder our government should present so disreputable a picture to the world. I shall close the present letter, and in my next present such extracts, and notice such moves, as may to any unprejudiced mind, shew those characters out in their true colours. Meantime, I am yours,

OBSERVE!

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, MONDAY, APRIL 11, 18.

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BRITISH AND FOREIGN BIBLE SOCIETY.

The annexed statistics of the aye Society, given on the 20th ult., by Rev. J. McCurdy, at the close of a Jubilee Sermon, has been kindly furnished us for publication:

The British and Foreign Bible Society has Auxiliary and Branch Societies 3,749. Foreign Societies, 11, viz.: I. in France, at Paris. II. In Belgium, at Brussels. III. In Holland, at Amsterdam and Breda. IV. In Germany, at Frankfurt and Jodene. V. In Austria, at Vienna. VI. Sweden, at Stockholm. VII. In Norway, at Christiania, Drøninghem. &c. II. In Russia, at St. Petersburg. X. In Switzerland and Northern Italy, at Geneva. XI. In Malta, at Valetta. XII. In Turkey in Asia, at Smyrna.

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During the past year it has made free grants to different objects, as Bible Societies, Missionary Societies, Sabbath Schools, &c., to the amount of £31,970.