

test the Tarke? Will not other nations be apt to conclude that it was there purposely to deceive them?

To be continued.

From Willmer & Smith's European Times, February 4.

PRINCE ALBERT.

The opening of Parliament has scattered to the winds the calumnies of which Prince Albert has been the victim. The first night of the session was not suffered to pass without these calumnies being thoroughly sifted; and certainly the explanation of Lord John Russell places the conduct of the Prince in a much higher point of view than it ever stood before. Not merely have the slanders levelled at Prince Albert been untrue, but, now that his domestic life has been laid bare to the world,—now that certain conversations and arrangements have been made public in which he was vitally interested, the result shows that the Prince has borne himself from the first with great discretion, and that the grasping and meddling spirit which has been attributed to him is not only contrary to fact but the very reverse of the charges which have been so very deliberately and acrimoniously heaped upon him.

The slanders alluded to compelled Lord John Russell to enter into a kind of chronological record of Prince Albert's career since he first came to this country; and delicate tracing necessarily drew aside the curtain for a time, and gave the public an insight into the inner life of Royalty. This sketch certainly justified the summary of Lord John Russell at the close,—namely, that "Her Majesty is married to a Prince of singular attainments, and their domestic life is as good an example to all the Queen's subjects as her constitutional conduct is a model for all Sovereigns." It may be painful for people in high places to be subject to a kind of imputations which have drawn from the leader of the House of Commons the historical picture to which we have referred; but there are occasions in life when the most exalted and the most humble appear to be separated by a very slight distinction, and that is when both have been assailed by evil tongues. We learn from this explanation, presented now for the first time to the British public, that Lord Melbourne, who was at the head of the Administration when the Prince was married, found that the Royal Consort's mental powers were such that the Queen could repose with safety on his judgment, and the Minister advised the most unlimited communication and confidence between them on all matters appertaining to the State. This was the view of an experienced and cautious man who had seen much of the world, and possessed peculiar aptitude for reading character. But any other advice under the circumstances would have been disregarded, for nothing can be more natural than that husband and wife should converse freely on all points in which they are mutually interested—a phase of the question which Lord John Russell brought out with remarkable force and clearness.

No circumstance connected with these explanations is more creditable to the Prince than his refusal to the post of Commander-in-Chief of the Army when it was pressed upon his consideration by the late Duke of Wellington. The veteran, it appears, went purposely to Windsor, to urge upon Prince Albert the desirability of succeeding him to the Horse Guards; and it was upon this occasion that the Prince, having given due attention to the proposal, determined to decline it, and for reasons which do his Royal Highness infinite honour. In narrating this delicate incident Lord John Russell said:—Immediately after having given that answer I had the honour of an interview with his Royal Highness, when he read the letter he had written to the Duke, and it appeared to me, and I immediately expressed my opinion, that his Royal Highness had judged most rightly, and that he had exactly viewed his own position. I think there were other reasons why his Royal Highness should not take the office of Commander-in-Chief; it is unnecessary to state these reasons; those which his Royal Highness himself stated were quite sufficient, and they showed that, while he considered that he ought not to be Commander-in-Chief, he likewise considered that, whenever he could be of any aid or assistance to the Queen—whatever difficulty she might feel—whatever decision she might have come to—he was bound to give the whole of his intelligence, and zeal, and wisdom to the consideration of the question.

We must confess that we are highly pleased at the ample, the complete, the triumphant refutation which the slanders against Prince Albert have received this week.—Nothing could be more satisfactory than his defence; nothing more humiliating than the position of his assailants. In this unsightly affair the Conservative press is seen to very little advantage, and the illusions which were made to it by its own friends in Parliament must add to the bitterness of the mortification. All the statements about the Prince's interference with the despatches of the Foreign office, and with the patronage of the

Horse Guards; all the falsehood about his communicating with ambassadors at foreign courts, and his secret coquetting with continental despots, disappear like mist before the sun. Never, as it now appears, were attacks so systematically and continuously persevered in, based on more groundless suppositions; and the Earl of Harrowby might naturally feel indignant that newspapers which were supposed to represent the gentlemen of England,—papers in their confidence and supported by their patronage,—should take the lead in these venomous assaults on the Consort of the Queen.

The affair from first to last is a melancholy proof of the fact, that the most stainless reputation in the highest position in the land is not free from the shafts of calumny, and that a popularity, which one month seems as firm as the pyramids, as unassailable as the evening star, can be so shattered by a series of falsehoods, industriously persevered in, that a gullible world, without asking for a particle of proof, will depose the idol it has worshipped, and set up in its stead something of odious mien and disreputable character which neither men nor gods can countenance.

Communications.

COUNTY KENT.

RICHIBUCTO, February 20, 1854.

Mr Pierce,

Dear Sir,—Knowing you to be a staunch advocate of reform, I take the liberty of sending you the following, being the proceedings of a meeting of the inhabitants of this place, held in the Temperance Hall, on the evening of Friday, the 17th instant, with a request that you will give them insertion in your highly valuable and interesting Journal.

The Meeting was organised by appointing Mr T. W. Wood, Chairman, and D. Main, Secretary.

The Chairman having explained the object of the Meeting, on motion, it was

Resolved, That the meeting form itself into an organisation to be called the "Kent Temperance Convention," whose object shall be to advocate the legal prohibition of the traffic in Intoxicating Drinks, and to prepare the minds of the people for such prohibition, by shewing its expediency and necessity. On motion,

Resolved, That the Officers of the Convention consist of a President, four Vice Presidents, two Secretaries, a Treasurer, and Executive Committee of twelve persons. The following persons are duly elected officers:—

President—John Main.
Vice Presidents—Wm. S. Caie, Wm. Wathen, J. A. Chipman, and John Robinson.
Secretaries—George Powell, David Main.
Treasurer—Zaccheus Phinney.
Executive Committee—James Phail, James Fraser, Robert Powell, Wm. Brown, John Leishman, Robert Lawson, John Potts, N. Beckwith, Joseph Doherty, James Johnson, John Brait, and John Johnson.

Moved by Mr Wm. Brait, seconded by Mr Zaccheus Phinney, and carried unanimously, **Whereas**, The Son of God has made an unparalleled sacrifice to remove human misery, and promote human happiness, and **Whereas**, the use of Intoxicating Drinks, as a common beverage, has in all ages greatly tended to dishonour God, and so spread to a most lamentable extent, the glare of the glorious Gospel. Therefore

Resolved, That it is the bounden duty of all His followers, to make any and every sacrifice required of them, in order to remove the incalculable misery which the drinking habits are entailing on the bodies and souls of their fellow-men.

Moved by Mr George Powell, seconded by the Hon. D. Wark, and carried unanimously,

Whereas, The traffic in strong drink is a great national evil, (the history thereof being written in poverty, crime, disease and death,) therefore

Resolved, That it is incumbent on every true philanthropist, to adopt such legitimate means as will remove that evil, without regard to private interest or selfish opposition.

On motion of Dr. W. G. Sutherland, seconded by Mr Edmund Powell.

Resolved, As the opinion of this Convention, that beneficial results would be obtained by having regular Temperance Meetings in remote districts in this County, promulgating their opinions, and explaining the nature and resources of the great moral reform so necessary of being brought about, as also to explain the many false and ludicrous objects attributed to Temperance men in so strenuously advocating their principles. On motion—

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed to carry out the purport of this resolution.

Ordered, That the Rev. James Law, Z. Phinney, and Dr. Sutherland compose such Committee.

On motion of Mr T. W. Wood, seconded by Mr James Johnson, and supported by Mr John M'Lean, senr.

Resolved, That in the progress hitherto of the Temperance reform, despite the prejudice and selfishness with which it has had to contend, and in the prospect of signal triumph at no distant day, the Convention devoutly recognises the fostering care of an over-ruling Providence.

Moved by Mr Louis Carvell, seconded by Mr John Brait, supported by Hon. D. Wark, and carried unanimously;

Whereas, Certain erroneous and malicious reports have been assiduously circulated in this County, as well as in the Province at large, calculated to injure the Temperance reform by attributing to its advocates motives altogether at variance with their true principles, and **whereas** this meeting is desirous of refuting such mis-statements. Therefore

Resolved, That the object which this Convention—the Sons of Temperance—and the Temperance community have in view, is the well-being of their fellowmen and that alone. They seek not place, nor power, nor pecuniary reward, but the redemption of their country from a desolating scourge—the traffic of Intoxicating drinks—"a business which is peopling our poor houses with inmates—our prisons with criminals—our lunatic asylum with maniacs—our grave-yards with victims, and Hell with ruined souls." On motion—

Resolved, That a Committee of Five Members be appointed to prepare a Circular addressed to the Inhabitants of Kent, on the subject of the prohibitory law. And further **Resolved**, that Hon. D. Wark, Messrs. T. W. Wood, John Main, John Brait, and Dr. Sutherland, compose such Committee.

DAVID MAIN, Secretary.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHAM, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1854.

TERMS.—New subscribers Twelve Shillings and Six Pence, per annum, in all cases in advance. Old subscribers 12s 6d. in advance, or 17s 6d. at the end of the year. We prefer the advance price, and as it effects a large saving, we hope soon to see all our subscribers avail themselves of it.

COUNTY OF KENT.

We have been forwarded the following Resolutions passed at a Public Meeting, held in Cocaigne, for publication. This is the proper way to proceed. If the people feel themselves aggrieved, let them give expression to their sentiments, and appeal to the proper quarter for redress. This is the mode to bring about wholesome reforms.

"At a Meeting held at Mr Dysart's Inn, Cocaigne, at the instigation of the Assessors, the following Resolutions were adopted:—

"Moved by Henry Livingston, Esq., and seconded by James S. Long.

"That, whereas a Warrant of Assessment has been issued by the Sessions for the County of Kent, dated Richibucto, 14th January, 1854, and addressed to the Assessors of Rates for the Parish of Dundas, to Assess the said Parish in the sum of £170 10, to pay the damage Assessed by a jury for the Road laid out through the lands of Peter Robicho, and Lamang Bourgeris.

"Therefore, **Resolved**, That the Road upon which the Assessment is ordered by said Sessions, having been opened by commission, and recorded, and afterwards a jury of twelve good and lawful men of the County, having been called in, to assess and value the damage caused by such Road passing through the cleared lands of Peter Robicho, and Laman Bourgeris, did adjudge to the said parties, the sum of Seven Pounds, which adjudgment and verdict was duly filed with the Clerk of the Peace for the said County, and which same being offered to said parties was refused.

"Therefore, **Resolved**, That this Meeting representing the majority of Rate Payers of the Parish, will resist the payment of said Assessment with all legal means in their power.—Passed unanimously.

"Proposed by Henry Livingston, Esq., and seconded by James Broderick:

"**Resolved**, That if the Assessors for this present year, viewing the amount ordered to be Assessed as unjust, refuse to Assess the same, this meeting, representing the voice of the Parish, agree to pay any fine attempted to be enforced against them. Passed unanimously.

"Moved by James S. Long, and seconded by Henry Livingston, Esq.

"**Resolved**, That a Committee be appointed to draw up a Petition, addressed to the House of Assembly, stating the imposition on this Parish, and praying that they will do us justice in the matter. Passed unanimously.

"Whereupon, George W. Fernald, Alexander McGuire, and James S. Long, were appointed a Committee to draw up said Petition.

JAMES LONG, Chairman.
JAMES S. LONG, Secretary.
Cocaigne, February 18, 1854."

NOVA SCOTIA.

A MOVEMENT in Railway matters has been made in the Assembly of the Sister Province. On the 14th instant, Mr Howe introduced the following Resolutions:

"**Resolved**—That, in the opinion of this House, it is expedient forthwith to commence the construction of the Railways contemplated by the Act passed during the last Session entitled, "An Act to authorise the construction of certain Railways in this Province."

"**Resolved**—That in order to provide funds for the construction of the said Railways, it shall be lawful for the Governor in Council to open the Savings' Bank, and to issue Province Paper in such mode, and to such extent as may appear prudent and necessary,—to open Cash Accounts with any of the Provincial Banks or with any Banking House in London, and to issue Provincial Bonds or Debentures.

"**Resolved**—That the assignment, construction, and management of such Railways shall be confided to a Commission, to consist of six persons, to be appointed by the Governor in Council, the person first named in the Commission to be the Chairman, and to have a casting vote.

"**Resolved**—That the portion of the work to be first commenced shall be that which, extending in a northerly direction from the harbour of Halifax, will form a common Trunk for all the Lines.

"**Resolved**—That the said Commissioners shall draw upon the Receiver General for any monies required; and account to the Financial Secretary quarterly, but shall not be empowered to expend monies or incur liabilities to a greater extent in any one year, than two hundred thousand pounds.

"**Resolved**—That should any difficulty arise, demanding such interference, the operations of the Commissioners may be restrained by an Order in Council, until the Legislature can be consulted."

It appears from the following editorial, copied from the Sun of the 20th, that these resolutions were adopted by the House. We are glad of this and hope to see our neighbours go rigorously to work in carrying them out. There has been too much talk and delay already. The Sun says:

"The Government Railway Resolutions, laid on the table a few days since by the Hon. the Provincial Secretary, were adopted by the House on Friday evening.

"The debate was, as we had predicted, protracted and wearisome; nor have we terms of reprobation sufficiently strong to apply to the utterly discreditable manoeuvring of the factionists; we write in the plural, for not to old split foot their leader alone, but to Killam, Brown, with others of less mark, belongs the distinction, (the people will bear this in mind) of being, in order to defeat the measure, resolved without scruple to "every argument that sophistry could devise, and every misrepresentation that the alarmist could invent."

"Mr Johnson's amendment was lost by a decisive majority of 9. Killam's shift, viz: to grant £100,000 for Road services instead of Railway expenditures, reduced this majority to 5.

"Then came the Doctor's stratagem, calculated somewhat to trap the Western man, seeing that it went to make obligatory on the Government, first to construct the road hence to Windsor, which was defeated by a majority of 13. Mr Elkanah Young's proposition to limit the amount to be expended in any one year to £100,000, was not carried.

"Three several Amendments being disposed of as above, the Ministerial Resolutions passed 26 to 23."

"The Amendment moved by Mr Johnston amounted substantially to a Resolution of "Want of Confidence"—its rejection, by a majority so decisive, amounts to a vote of Confidence in the Administration. Had the Opposition leader carried his point an immediate dissolution of the House was inevitable; and this denouement, we are very much inclined to believe, Hon. Gentlemen would just now by no means relish.

"The Hon. the Attorney General and the members for the County of Halifax indisposed."

PORT OF RICHIBUCTO.

LAST fall we copied some remarks of a correspondent of the London Shipping Gazette relative to this port, and to-day we transfer to our columns, from the same Journal, a letter from several Shipmasters, complaining of the unfitness of this port for vessels of a draught of water over 11½ feet.

The time has at length arrived when our neighbours must bestir themselves, if they do not wish their port to be abandoned, and we are pleased to see they have brought the subject under the consideration of the Legislature. If that body would grant about £1,000 or £1,500, we feel satisfied the bar could be deepened several feet, and if the suggestions thrown out by the Shipmasters, to lay an extra half-penny per ton on vessels visiting the port, which would be cheerfully borne by their owners, were adopted, a fund would be created sufficient to defray the expense incurred in removing annually such sand as might accumulate on the bar.

We do not know the provisions of the bill brought into the Assembly, but we trust they are sufficient to meet the exigency of the case. It is a measure of serious import to our neighbours, and we feel persuaded it will receive from the Legislature that consideration its merits demand.

"We, the undersigned Shipmasters, beg leave to acquaint the public with the present state of Richibucto Harbour

"The entrance to the port is impeded by a sand bar, about 3½ miles from the town of Richibucto. It is stated in the sailing direction book for this coast, that the depth of water on the bar is 12½