

Governance? That authority is the Minister of Agriculture, whom we in our ignorance still presume to consider a higher authority, in the management of the Agricultural Societies of this Province, than even the Chief Justice.

Had the President followed the dictates of his own better judgment, he would have saved me much trouble—and possibly himself a little. Immediately after the receipt of his reply to my letter of the 14th October, I wrote the article above alluded to, and read my strictures on the President's conduct, to Mr Macdonald, who requested, as a personal favor, that I would withhold it until he had an opportunity of seeing Judge Thompson, and as he was about to leave home, I agreed to wait a fortnight. He admitted that I had a right to expect some explanation from the Judge. That explanation was conveyed to me in Mr Macdonald's note of the 2nd November, and my communication to the Gleaner was closed the day following, being dated the 3rd. At a subsequent interview, Mr Macdonald stated that the Judge would have made the amende honorable but for the untoward influence of a third party.

The impression, not only on my mind but on the minds of the members generally, was that the President had given the Cheque to Mr Hamilton. This is the only error I committed, and when aware of the fact, I did not hesitate to apologize, as will be seen by my letter to the President of the 12th November. But that was not sufficient—the impertinence, the presumption, of a mere subscriber, holding no office in the Society, daring even to express an opinion.—Think Gentlemen as much as you please, but say as little as you can, appears to be the law some people would impose—but we claim the right not only to think, but to speak and write boldly and fearlessly in support of our rights as men and citizens—regardless whom we please or offend, when we feel that we have embarked in a good cause.

"Thrice armed is he who hath his quarrel just." Not only were we told by his Honor, when presiding at a public meeting, that we had no right to speak, but he repudiates, in writing—vide his letter—the right of any member to call in question the acts of the Judges or Directors, even though they should be in open and barefaced violation of the *lex scripta* of the Society. We shall not presume to discuss the Legal merits of the case with a Judge of the Land—but we beg leave to state that we consider such a dogma contrary to equity—to plain common sense. That portion of the President's letter, is we admit, somewhat obscure—still the interpretation we give it, is we believe that which it is intended to convey.

The next point to which we beg leave to direct attention is, the payment of the Prizes to Mr Hamilton. We should not have been aware of the fact of the Cattle belonging to Mr Hamilton being entered in his Son's name, had not our attention been called thereto by Mr Macdonald as Secretary, who further remarked, that it was evidently a ruse on the part of the Q. C. to secure the payment of the Prizes without reimbursing the balance due by him to the Society—we thereupon undertook to expose the matter, on our own responsibility, without in any way compromising Mr Macdonald—who, at the same time, stated there was another case, in which a non-proprietor had exhibited a Mare, for which a prize had been awarded, but he would certainly withhold the payment. Yet this very Gentleman, at the last meeting of the Board, produces a motion, all ready prepared, for the payment of Mr Hamilton's Prizes, which he strenuously supports and votes for, and even goes so far as to accuse Mr LeBoutillier of being actuated by private pique! and to crown the whole, he likewise produced the vote of censure already cut and dried. If motions in both cases had been made by other members of the Board, we should have no cause of complaint against Mr Macdonald, but under all the circumstances it appears to us a novel proceeding.

The better to enable the readers of the Gleaner to judge the matter, we shall give a brief synopsis of what passed at the last meeting of the Board, which we have obtained from a reliable source.

The Secretary having read the correspondence which had passed between the President and Mr Vibert, observed that he had prepared a vote of censure on that gentleman—which he read.\* Mr David Le Boutillier M. P. P., then arose and said—"That the motion now quite took him by surprise.—He was present at the last Agricultural Meeting, and heard all that Mr Vibert said, and, he had no hesitation to say, that not one word dropped from Mr V. calculated to wound the feelings of any one. He stated, in gentlemanly language, facts which were notorious and well known to every member of the Society. To which Mr Clarence Hamilton replied by a volley of abusive language. Language which nothing could justify. And he had no hesitation in saying that the conduct of the President was highly reprehensible in not calling his Nephew to order.—It was the first time in his life that he had attended a public meeting, where not only improper but blackguard language was used, by one member towards another, without an immediate call to order on the part of the Chairman. Had the President done his duty

this correspondence would not have taken place. Far from Mr Vibert's conduct being censurable he considered him entitled to a vote of thanks. But for him the society would probably never have recovered the money from Mr Hamilton.—Gentlemen talked enough out of doors, but he would venture to say that Mr V. was the only member who would boldly have brought the matter forward. As to the observations made by Mr V. relative to the Judge's liability, he as well as other members laboured under the same impression until they saw the Judge's explanation. Mr Vibert had without hesitation written an apology—all that one gentleman can expect from another—What more could the President require. He repeated that the President's conduct had been most unjustifiable, and had met with general condemnation out of doors.

A Motion for the payment of the Prizes to Mr J. R. Hamilton was in like manner brought forward by the Secretary, who spoke strongly in favor of and voted for the payment.

This motion was strenuously opposed by the Rev. J. L. Allan and Mr LeBoutillier, who stated that it was useless to make rules if they were not strictly observed.

"Men should be what they seem; Or, those that be not, would they might seem none!"

The only members of the board present on this occasion were—his Honor the President, the Secretary Treasurer, the Rev. J. L. Allan, Mr LeBoutillier, and Messrs Mathew Caldwell, and Wm. McRae.

Mr Hamilton has stated to the Rev. J. L. Allan and others, that the payment of the balance was never demanded of him, and that he was not going to run after Mr Mathew Caldwell to beg of him to take the money. Now both Messrs Caldwell and McGie maintain that they have repeatedly applied to Mr Hamilton for the amount. Who is to be believed? Mr Hamilton accuses Mercator of publishing falsehoods. We give our authority and leave the public to judge how far the learned Gentleman is justified in accusing us of *trading his fair fame!*

Nor know I aught  
By me that's said or done amiss this night;  
Unless self-charity be sometimes a vice;  
And to defend ourselves it be a sin,  
When violence assails us.

SHAKESPEARE.  
PHILIP VIBERT.  
Paspebiac, 25th March, 1854.

\* The President stating that he would resign if that motion were not passed!!  
\* We would say something—but \*

COUNTY OF BONAVENTURE.  
District of Gaspé, 6th April, 1854.  
To the Editor of the Gleaner.

Sir.—In your paper of the first of April, I observed a communication signed "A Canadian." Your Correspondent whoever he is, whether a Canadian or Pictonian, must be totally ignorant of the working of Municipal Corporations in the District of Gaspé, or he must have very little regard for the veracity of his statements.

In regard to the statements made by John Montgomery and Bliss Boisford, Esquires, in the House of Assembly, New Brunswick, respecting the results of our Municipal Laws, I have no hesitation in stating, that three fourths of the people in this district, would readily endorse what those Gentlemen stated.

I have been residing a few years in the District, and will endeavour to give you some little idea of the management of our Local affairs, particularly in some parts of it. New Richmond is the place where it is intended the Councillors for the upper part of the County of Bonaventure should hold their meetings, and I have seen upon one or two occasions, notices posted up, signed by the Mayor, notifying the above wise acres to meet on a certain day, but it always appeared impossible to get them together. One Councillor had to look after his fish, another his farm, &c., &c., so that now a Council meeting is a thing never thought of, much less looked for. By the bye, I had almost forgotten to state, that within the last three years, one meeting of Councillors was held at New Richmond, at which there were three out of eight of the Councillors attended, and what do you think, Mr Editor, was the surprising amount of business transacted? they appointed two ferrymen and granted them licenses, one for the Grand, the other for the Little Cascapedia Rivers. The Revenue for the New Richmond part of the County, was collected for several years, and paid over to the Secretary Treasurer, when that worthy was called upon to refund, he said he had not received so much as he was by law entitled to for his services. As for our Roads, they cannot be called Roads, I scarcely ever saw an hour's labour performed on them, no Supervisor coming the way as in New Brunswick, to lay off and establish a proper line, every one makes his own Road, how, when, and where he pleases, so that the system is as much to be deplored as the Roads we have to travel on. With respect to our Schools, I have not visited many of them, but in a conversation with the Inspector, who was

making his visit a short time ago, he informed me that they are with some very few exceptions, lamentably behind the age. True as stated by your Correspondent, the Government aid is received, but what a paltry pittance it is, some Teachers receive four pounds, and the highest only seven pounds for the year, the remainder of the teacher's income has to be made up amongst a class of people in some parts of the District, who if urged upon by the more enterprising to assist in the advancement of Education, will tell you some wondrous story of a father, or grandfather who were very clever men and never went to School a day in their lives. I leave any one to imagine what sort of Teachers can be procured, with these prospects before them. You will observe that my remarks respecting Municipal Corporations are confined entirely to the District of Gaspé, in Canada West the results are very different, as I have every reason to believe their Municipal Laws work admirably.

Our wandering friend the Comet made its appearance here on the evening of the 28th March, it is seen from this, in the same direction that it was last autumn, about North West. Yours &c.

A resident of the  
COUNTY OF BONAVENTURE.

COUNTY NORTHUMBERLAND.  
12th March, 1854.

James A. Pierce, Esq.  
Some few weeks ago you startled the Constituency of this County from their propriety by stating that a Requisition to Mr Street was in existence, requesting the Hon. Gentleman, to be a candidate in the "Coming Struggle." As you gave the statement as a mere rumour the constituency were disposed to let it go for what it was worth, believing that "the half dozen of men" in the Shiretown, would never perpetrate so great a folly as to thrust a Requisition on an indignant people. But what was considered mere rumour, has now taken the form of a tangible fact, one was actually seen somewhere in this County, presenting a very soiled and travelled-stained appearance, and bearing upon its nearly blank columns, the respectable number of four names.

There are times, in the career of every public man, when he is forced to exclaim, "save me from my friends." Mr Street has most assuredly reached this period, and must repeat the exclamation with a terrible emphasis. Low as he has fallen in a political point of view, wrapped as he is in the garb of selfishness, which nothing but Place, Power, and Ambition can penetrate, fearfully as he has sold our country and made it a stepping stone for his own ulterior purposes, yet I believe the last spark of manliness is not quenched in the man, and as an act of common honesty to our Country, he will not inflict himself upon us again, but treat the Requisition as an emanation from well meaning but indiscreet friends.

Mr Street must know that his advent in this County as a candidate would arouse the just indignation of 19-20 of the Constituency who know the man in all his tergiversations and tortuous windings, and an attempt to fasten himself upon us again, would result in a defeat unexampled in the history of our County.

He would therefore do an act of kindness to the "six," requesting them as a favor to himself, to call in the rabid missile which is covertly stealing from door to door, the carriers feeling there is something detestable in the affair, and find some other County where his great abilities as a Legislator "may have ample room, and verge enough" for its exercise, for Northumberland has had enough of him.

### News of the Week.

#### UNITED STATES.

CANADA WON'T REBEL.—A correspondent of the New York Daily Times, writing to that paper with respect to some of his allusions to an Irish raid in the direction of Canada, declares the idea to be a very ridiculous and hopeless one. He says:

"I regret sir, you should seem even in appearance to sanction the statement of such men and recommend the attempt to stir up and aid a rebellion in Canada. I know not the extent of the movement made here, with such an end in view, but as a Canadian possessing considerable opportunity of learning the state of public feeling in that country, allow me to say that we are prepared in Canada to meet them, however extensive they may prove. You speak of a slumbering rebellion in Canada. There never was a greater mistake. If causes of disaffection did once exist in Canada, they exist no longer. From Sandwich to Gaspé, not a murmur of discontent with the British Government is to be heard. We have now responsible government, and if bad legislation takes place, it is our own fault, not the fault of the Mother Country. Our connection with her is not only our glory but our profit. Never, perhaps, in the history of the Colony did this sentiment more universally pervade all classes of the people. And there is good reason for this. Our

country is not only free: it is prosperous and progressive. Proofs of this are abundantly supplied by the letter of your Toronto Correspondent which always appears in this morning's edition. To this permit me to add that Canada presents a field for mercantile operations perhaps unequalled in the world at this moment. Her debt is small; the public exchequer overflowing, the revenue more than double the expenditure, our national securities are 17 per cent premium; our banks are large and solid institutions—not a stoppage, much less a failure having occurred for nearly twenty years. English money is flowing into the country for investment, and vast public works are now going on with English funds and at English risk. Not less than 3000 miles of railway are now chartered, and either going on or with a near prospect of doing so. Real estate has greatly risen and labor of every kind is in much demand. The prospect is one of unexampled prosperity. In this state of matters Mr John Mitchell's influence will be of small avail in fermenting disaffection or rebellion."

THE THREATENED REBELLION.—We have already alluded to an exciting rumor, in relation to a threatened invasion of Canada. The New York Times says:—It is reported that a very extensive organization is in progress here among the Irish—that companies have been formed, and that military exercises are constantly practised, with the intention to stir up and aid a rebellion in Canada, whenever the condition of the affairs in the East shall seem more propitious for such a movement. We have received detailed information of the extent of the organization, the numbers concerned, and even the names of the active agents in the arrangement; but under present circumstances we refrain from making it public. It is said that a similar scheme is on foot in Ireland, and that a very large number of men have been enlisted for the project. In his address on the subject, Mitchell says:

"Let others talk of the despotism of Russia. We know that our Russia is England. England stands between us and the rest of Europe. Through her brute mass we can neither be seen nor heard. So loud and dismal is the wail of our own island, that we cannot hear the groans of Poland. Whether Russia is to be oppressor of Poland or not, we care little—we only know Poland was never so oppressed as Ireland.—The one main, manifest, infallible conclusion with us is that in any war, wherever, whenever, England conquers, tyranny and famine and trenchery conquer with her.

"How truly the cause of the Allied 'Powers' in this particular war now impending, is indeed the cause of tyranny; how the single and observing object of England, especially, is to maintain the present order of things in Europe—to keep down the swelling operations for Republican freedom all over the world, and to make sure that the trade in cotton shall go on peacefully forever, under the muzzles of five million muskets; how truly this war, in short, is a war of capital and title and prerogative, against all poor men, it would need too much space to demonstrate, so full as I wish to do it, this week. In the next number of the Citizen, and the next, I shall return to it.

"Russia, indeed, is no friend to the people; yet the success of the Russian arms would be salvation for the people now. A war, a good long thundering war between the sovereigns of Europe, is the agency by which the people of Europe are to be set upon their feet; and it is against the war, not against Russia, that our enemy takes up arms to keep the war beyond the Pruth, beyond the Carpathians, inside the gates of the Bosphorus—any where far away from where it is wanted, is our enemy's policy.

"But if, by the kind favor of Heaven, we see the Britain's flag and the desecrated tri-color of Napoleon trampled and disgraced in the East, then the war will infallibly roll westward, and a new world will be borne of its lightnings and thunders.

"Every Irishman who enlists in the British forces will earn indeed his thirteen pence a day; but he will earn the heavy curse of his oppressed country along with it."

PROGRESS OF THE SEWARD-MITCHELL PLOT.—We are enabled to state that the plot for the invasion of Canada by the Irish, under the guidance of John Mitchell and the advice of William H. Seward, goes on bravely.—From a correspondent's letter, published yesterday in a Wall street contemporary, we gather the important fact that Mr Caleb Lyon, member of Congress, refuses to tell what he knows on the subject. Not very long ago, Mr Lyon was at the headquarters of Prince Gortschakoff, on the Dniester, and it is conjectured by certain parties that he then and there made arrangements with Russia for a supply of money to carry on the Irish invasion, when the Irish Directory fund fails. More improbable things than some such arrangement have been heard of before this. When William H. Seward undertakes a scheme, he is not the man to neglect any opportunity of driving it forward; and the Russians would be quite ready to aid and assist in a movement to harras Great Britain in that quarter. Still, notwithstanding this additional information, there are many features of this Irish invasion respecting which we should like to be enlightened. We should like to know what