

Communications.

COUNTY GASPE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GLEANER,

Sir,—Having by chance seen one of your papers, 25th January last, wherein there are some remarks, signed by a "Friend of Truth," not very complimentary to the author of a Pamphlet, having for its motto "Pro Bono Publico," which was written for the purpose of information to the public in this County, touching the management and expenditure of the Public Monies received by the Revenue Inspector and Secretary Treasurer of this County, which to this day, is not accounted for.—The "Friend of Truth" in all fairness, should have sent his Communication to one of our Provincial Papers which are widely circulated through the County. It would have afforded to the inhabitants here interested in the matter, an opportunity to approve or disapprove of the charges. "Facts are stranger than Fiction." There are no doubt a number of blunders or mistakes, but there remains some unmistakable facts easily proved. I am not disposed to fall out with the "Friend of Truth," perhaps a second reading if he has not a squinting eye, may change his tone and style. If he is the man which his motto declares, we can have no cause to differ. Truth and only truth is all that is required, with the addition of a few grains of common honesty.

When the author of "Pro Bono Publico" touched the lid of Pandora's Box, he expected what would follow. The Wasp's nest being disturbed, it was next to an impossibility to escape harmless—stung, bit, and abused not in very measured terms, was sure to be his fate, and he prepared for the struggle. Your paper of the 23rd February shows the second attack of the allies—the "Brave Whaler," a Bold Beggar would have been much more appropriate.

In answer to this muck-worm or demi-devil taking up his hyperbole, and leaving the practical part as most suited to himself, all that is wanted being a tail—the antics exhibited occasionally by Louis the Rattle Box having already stamped him with the familiar name of being an Ape.

His accusations against the writer, touching the character of some Ladies, is unfounded, it was not thought of or intended: the writer would despise himself to be guilty of such a base act. The allusion to the vegetable show is mentioned merely to point out the trifling, foolish jealousies existing on such occasions—the one receiving the prize, altho' just, excites the envy and ill will of their neighbours. The Pt. St. Peters concern speaks for itself—by gone days—the transactions alluded to took place nearly thirty years ago, therefore the present occupants had no more to do with it than the Ladies in Amsterdam. The "Brave Whaler" with his accustomed hypocritical cant, professes to be a promoter of peace. His vile production gives the lie to his assertion. He is a demagogue and gives utterance to falsehoods. I state them—he charges the author of "Pro Bono Publico" with widely circulating the Pamphlets. It is false, he had them not. A packet containing 20 were sent to a person residing in Douglastown, and came safe to the Post Office, to his address, the postmaster there cabaged one for his amusement, and sent the remainder to his friend the Postmaster at Gaspe Basin, over two months back, and from the Post Office at Gaspe Basin they were circulated, and from whence the "Brave Whaler" received the one which he arrogantly comments on. It is said somewhere that the receiver is as bad as the thief, I think in this instance much worse.—The "Brave Whaler" says the author is a fool, he says right, he was born one and knows it; but he has shown himself to be a greater one, and don't know it. The Author, he adds is well known—perhaps so—is the "Brave Whaler," just as well as the Parson that kissed the singing maid.

What does the author of "Pro Bono Publico" publish to the world—facts, undeniable facts. If he possesses and has made public abuses known to exist, there must be something even worse than he has brought to light, if it is necessary that he must be on his guard from the threats of designing, guilty men, simply because circumstances and duty had put him in possession of facts which others conceived to their detriment. There must be something radically bad in such a community, where a man may not fearlessly tell the truth. Every honorable principle of feeling or action must be wholly obliterated and effaced, not understood, known, or wished to be practised, because it may damage the parties who are publicly known to be guilty of such diabolical acts. I should not be surprised if we do not hear of a second Dr. Silvester tragedy being performed at Gaspe Basin, under the auspices of the "Brave Whaler."

Let the charges and accusations plainly told in "Pro Bono Publico" and known to have been committed, be deeply weighed and diligently investigated by all who are desirous of having the law of order and justice administered in the County. This is all that is required.

A DOUGLASTOWN FISHERMAN.

10th March, 1856.

P. S. By the next Steamer I shall receive 500 copies of the Illustrated "Pro Bono Publico," with splendid likenesses of the conspicuous characters therein named, in Punch's best style. It is useless to enlarge on its merits, staraped as it is with the approbation of every well thinking and respectable man in the County.

COUNTY KENT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE GLEANER,

Sir,—That Mr Bliss feels that his appointment as a Justice of the Peace for the Parish of Richibucto is an indefensible case is sufficiently apparent from the two futile and unsuccessful attempts he has recently made to establish the impression of its, at least, partial popularity.—I refer—first, to the last two of a series of answers he gave to some enquiries that were proposed for his consideration by "A Subscriber" in a recent number of your paper. Queries eliciting those two replies were not proposed by your Correspondent, but he doubtless thought they would be peculiarly forcible and relevant in his slippery position; so with a lawyer-like ingenuity he quietly slipped them in. And secondly, to a *Nota bene* which was appended with a significant quaintness to the end of a letter over his name and which appeared in the *Morning News* of the 12th instant.

It must undoubtedly be an exhaustless source of the purest gratification to him and his friends, to be furnished at times with an opportunity of taunting the public in his own quaint and expressive manner, with the indignity which the people of this County have to submit to in looking upon his appointment as one of an enduring and permanent character; but that he will enjoy it in peace and with a mind at ease, is a problem which a distant future only can solve. The irritation of an injury inflicted time will allay, but when the smart of it is intensified by the addition of insult the alleviation of it then assumes a far greater impossibility, it then becomes proportionally less susceptible of treatment.

That the public feeling in this County is smarting under an inflicted insult is but too apparent: and, so far from its being a cause of regret, I think it must be regarded as a decided and salutary benefit. That it has, though forcibly—been made to feel the sting of an indignity is certainly indicative of a hopeful return to a convalescent consciousness, at least, if not to a complete restoration from its paralysis. That it has hitherto been obstinately passive and insensitive to the few transient public events in which it should have evinced a high-toned and delicate sensibility, cannot be denied. That wriggling and artful politicians have taken advantage of this apathetic state of public feeling to subserve the ends and aims of their own aggrandizement, is likewise equally true. But now, that a somewhat severe restorative has been administered, it is to be hoped and desired, that it will eventually free itself from that incubus which has so nearly deprived it of its vitality; that it will yet work out its renovation, and that, with a brighter vision, with more sensitive nerves, and with a re-animating system, it will watch and guard its claims and privileges with a jealous care, and preserve them intact from the designing jobbery of men in power, whose deeds and doings are so deeply stained with party coloured principles of the most turbid character. Should it however—failing to penetrate the unveiled future, and refusing to profit by its lesson of the sombre past, return to the dotage of an imbecile and whining idiotism, again to suffer an ignominious deprivation of its rights and privileges, and with a blank, expressionless eye, with an eye dimmed by the film of languor—with an eye exhibiting all the symptoms of departed constitutional fire and vigor, to behold them heaped and piled in extravagant profusion upon strangers of but yesterday—upon sojourners lacking antecedent, name or fame.

Then most righteously, will we deserve the ignominy of having our local public offices filled with exotic importations, and their functions wielded by such irresponsible strangers; richly will we merit the position of having our local rights wrested from us by unprincipled temporizers high in the Councils of our Province, and transferred to hirelings to be held as compensations for the sacrifice of what should be priceless principles; and not unmerited will be the scoffs and taunts that will be pointed at us by those exotic incubators, for such blind dereliction of duty to ourselves, and for such a quiescent surrender of our local rights.

Once tacitly allow the principle to be established of having the duties of our public offices administered by irresponsible and claimless persons to the utter exclusion of others whose claims rise immeasurably paramount, and once quietly permit our councillors to dispense their favors to partisans who will repay the compliments by the immolation of principles and the betrayal of cherished rights, to secure to their patrons the attainment of some long loved and fondly cherished view of ulterior personal aggrandizement. Let the people of Kent submit to the introduction of such innovations as these, and who will venture to predict the point at which their onward course will be arrested? Will their progress be stayed ere our interests become alienated? Will they stop short of a complete diversion of the steady and respected flow of the current of our rights into other channels? Or will they not roll on apace, acquiring redoubled force as they pass from one degree of expansion to another, until finally overleaping every obstacle and bearing down in their course every intervening barrier, they rush with resistless impetuosity into the turbid and putrid sea of polluted and baneful principles?

Yet what shall be said of another and still more objectionable kind of influence that has been prominently exerted in this dishonorable and shameful display of a fictitious struggle, a struggle to bear down and sweep away the freedom of our time honored and beloved rights and usages, and to erect on their ruins the intolerable fabrics of party and faction? In what light shall we look upon those clergymen

who, forgetting the peace and the sanctity due to their office—who forsaking the retirement and pureness of their pulpits to court political distinction and fame, have blemished their profession by lending themselves as the ready and subservient instruments to give vigor and energy to the development of party strife and principles?

I remain respectfully yours,

ONE OF THE PEOPLE.

Richibucto, March 18, 1856.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

MR. EDITOR,

The late debate in the House of Assembly, throughout which the laws and principles of Responsible Government were so often quoted and referred to for such contrary purposes, left, it appears to me, one question of great importance undecided, or at least very obscure, namely:—Is the Executive Government responsible for appointments made at the desire of the Members of Assembly?

It would seem to be the opinion of many Members of the Assembly, that the Government should not make an appointment in any County, without it meets the wishes of the local Representatives. If this doctrine is correct, and no discretion whatever is to be exercised by the Executive in such cases, how can they reasonably be held answerable for the character or fitness of any Official when challenged on the floors of the House.

In the case of the appointment of Mr Bliss, in Kent, to the Commission of the Peace, it was declared, I observe by one or two of the friends of the Administration, to be an error, (would to God they had committed a similar error farther north) simply because the member for Kent had not first approved of it. This would certainly seem to imply that the members of Assembly hold themselves to be the legitimate dispensers of patronage, and that the Crown prerogative is yielded up to them. Can the Government be so weak as to permit them to cherish such a monstrous doctrine. If so, woe! woe! to the Province at large.

MARK.

March 13, 1856.

News of the Week.

NOVA SCOTIA.

Colonel Williams, R. E. with other officers, arrived here by the last steamer from Bermuda being appointed it is said, to examine and report upon the state of the fortifications of Nova Scotia. We understand that since his arrival a Board or Committee has met several times upon this important matter.

The Mail Steamer from Newfoundland, brought intelligence of the decease of the Ven. Archdeacon Bridge, who departed this life after a short illness, on the 29th ult.—*Halifax Church Times.*

The Acadian Iron Company.—The importance of the North American Colonies to Great Britain has, perhaps, never been more prominently brought forward than in the formation, at the present time, of a company to work the iron mines of Nova Scotia, on a more extended scale. The project is not altogether new, as the manufacture of charcoal iron has been carried on at the mines for some time by a private association of gentlemen in London, and the result has been a demand, particularly from the manufacturers of steel goods, which the present capital will not enable the present association to supply. In confirmation of this, we notice in the prospectus the name of the Master Cutler, of Sheffield, and the Messrs. Jessop and Mr. Matthews, of Messrs. Turton and Sons, also well known eminent manufactures of steel at Sheffield, and Messrs. Owen, of Rotherham.—These gentlemen are well aware of the importance of being able to obtain an iron fit for their purposes, independent of the chances of foreign supply, to which they are now subject. The immense forests of Nova Scotia, which, to a great extent, cover the site of the mines themselves, afford an inexhaustible supply of timber for the charcoal used in smelting the ore, which makes this iron so valuable, as in England it is quite impracticable to obtain the charcoal in quantity, quality, and at a price to be used for such a purpose. The Acadian Iron Company, therefore, seems to possess advantages rarely to be met with. The strongest evidence of the value of the undertaking is evinced by the existing association, who still retain their interest in the new Company.—*From the Joint Stock Companies Journal, Feb. 26.*

The Ocean Submarine Telegraph.—The St. Johns' Nfld., Times of 5th inst. says Mr. F. N. Gjsborne will shortly revisit that place for the purpose of completing the Telegraph enterprise. He was expected to arrive at New York in the Collin's steamship Baltic, from whence he would probably take a passage for Newfoundland in the Telegraph Company's steamer, during the present month. The Cable to connect Newfoundland with Cape Breton will be laid down next June, as also a new one at Prince Edward Island. The Cable to stretch across the Atlantic and thereby connect Newfoundland with England, was being contracted for to be finished within the present year, so that it may be laid down early in 1857.—*Nova Scotian.*

A line of powerful screw propeller steamers is shortly to commence running between New York and Cork. Some wag says that it is to be called the Cork-screw line.

Festival of St. Patrick.—Yesterday, being the anniversary of the Tutelar Saint of Old Ireland, was duly observed by the Charitable Irish So-

ciety of this City. Soon after 10 A.M. the members, under the direction of the Marshal of the Society, formed in the procession order on Barrington street, and, headed by the fine Band of the 76th Regt., moved off towards St. Patrick Church, Brunswick street. The weather was exceedingly propitious, the streets in good condition, the elegant banners and insignia of the Society presented a highly attractive appearance, the Band discoursed the most popular airs of the Emerald Isle with uncommon sweetness, and the attendance of all ages and both sexes of citizens, as an escort, was numerous beyond any precedent on a similar occasion in Halifax. The Society both in number and general appearance exhibited unmistakable evidences of improvement and progression. After appropriate religious ceremonies at St. Patrick's, the whole returned to Masonic Hall, passing through several of the principal streets presenting the same admirable order which characterized the marching out.

At 7 o'clock some evening the members and their guests re-assembled at the Hall, and partook of a sumptuous and elegant dinner prepared by Mr. George Nicholas, the proprietor. The chair was ably filled by the President, Hon. Benjamin Wier, assisted in a most efficient manner by the Vice President, P. Walsh, Esq. and the Office bearers of the Society. A great many guests participated in the hospitalities of the evening, including several members of both branches of the Legislature. The orchestra was occupied by the Band of the 76th, making the rafters of the old "Cradle of Liberty" ring with harmony.—*Halifax Chronicle.*

NEW BRUNSWICK.

Mr. Fisher's Railway Speech.—We learn from our Fredericton Correspondent, that Mr Fisher's Railway Speech on Monday, was able and convincing to all except those who are determined not to be convinced. He spoke for three hours, alluding to the inactive state of this Province compared with the condition of the neighbouring countries. He said the Government had bills prepared for recompensing persons whose lands were required for Railway purposes. He defended his negotiations with Jackson & Co; he had acted in the matter of compromise from the advice of gentlemen in St. John connected with the European and North American Railway enterprise. He said that Financial men in London expressed surprise at his success with Baring Brothers, while certain merchants and others in New Brunswick asserted to the contrary, and of course the latter gentlemen must know more about financial matters than those belonging to London. The conclusion of the speech we are informed, was very fine.—*M. News.*

The heavy cloud of war that hung over England and America, is being rapidly dispelled. Reason and common sense are regaining the ascendancy. The new American Minister to England, Mr. Duliar, it is now stated, "has instructions to cultivate the relations of friendship and good will between two nations whose connexions and interests are so intimately blended, and to heal as far as he can, all the unhappy dissensions and misunderstandings that have been permitted to spring up on unimportant or exaggerated issues."—*Church Witness.*

In a telegraph despatch posted yesterday in the News Room, from John H. Gray, Esq. it is stated that the "Contract" had been lost or mislaid. We are informed that this refers to the agreement made in London between the contractors and Mr. Fisher. The Railway Contract is safe in the vaults of the Bank, from whence it has never on any occasion been removed.—*Saint John Courier.*

The whole of Monday was employed in trying the case of Mr Breeze, charged now with keeping liquors intended for illegal sale, and the whole day was not sufficient, so Mr. Demill adjourned his court to Monday next, when the trial will be resumed.—*St. John Morning Freeman.*

UNITED STATES.

Long Island Sound was closed during the past winter 30 days—an occurrence that has not taken place since the winter of 1835—6, when navigation was suspended for 50 days.

Sleighting.—In Albany, they have had to the 6th inst., seventy consecutive days of sleighing, and in Boston sixty-four.

Canada and the United States.—As an instance of the tendency to peace in Canada, I may mention that while the English and American Cabinets are discussing the expediency of war, the Council of the Board of Trade in the metropolis of Canada is discussing the propriety of sending a commercial agent to Washington to represent Canadian interests at that seat of government. Such a coincidence, coupled with the fact that the New York Chamber of Commerce has strongly recommended an extension of reciprocity with Canada, show how far removed from war are the thoughts of the commercial men of both countries.—*Correspondent New York Com. Adv.*

The Lost Telegraph Cable.—The London Shipping Gazette contains a letter from Cyrus W. Field, Esq. of New York, now in London, announcing his failure to procure a settlement of the Company's claim on the London underwriters for the loss of their Electric Cable, which occurred last summer after forty-four miles of it had been submerged between Newfoundland and Cape Breton Island and Nova Scotia, in consequence of a storm that compelled the captain to cut the cable in order to save the vessel in which it was embarked. Mr. Field says that one of the underwriter's told him there is no loss, the cable being at the bottom of the sea, just where you wished it to be.