

waving of handkerchiefs—what tossing of caps! What has his lordship in his pocket? is it the draught of a Reform Bill? By no means. He has nothing. Nothing? Oh yes; there peeps out the corner of a coloured silk handkerchief. And even that bandana in the delighted eyes of an admiring people, shall be converted by their fancy into the Union Jack, the flag of England, that the truly national minister declares shall not be hauled down but at the peril of a chastisement of blood to the power that shall lay a finger on the halyards. And so the enraptured people cheer nine times nine and one cheer more for Lord Palmerston!

Enter Lord John Russell. What an uproar and what hissing! If all the geese that had given pens to diplomatists, from Tamerlane to Tallyrand, were revived and hissed with one accord, Lord John could not be more loudly sibilated. The sounds fairly search and whistle through him as a nor'-wester whistles through a ship's rigging. And what has he in his pocket? Why, the product of sage consideration, of midnight oil patriotically devoted, a Reform Bill. There it lies rolled up, an instrument that like the flute of Orpheus is to harmonise all discordant interests, filling 'the isle with sweet noises,' even as the isle of *Ariel* and *Prospero*. Moreover, the man so yelled at, so hooted, is crowned with more than forty years of honorable service, ever foremost against Giant Ignorance and Giant Wrong, and not with pebbles gathered from the book of truth, slinging destruction deep into the forehead of the Tory Goliath. Lord John is coroneted with noble achievements done in the cause of civil and religious liberty—his name as inseparable from the glorious cause as lustre from the stars. Let us not forget this. Unfortunately, ingratitude is too easy not to be too common. Lord Russell the old Reformer—at this hour, too, promising a new Reform Bill—has given a triumph to Lord Palmerston, the avowed opponent of reform. Yet, Palmerston—such is the trick of fate, is cheered to the skies, and Russell hissed to the limbo of rejected statesmen.

It is well to support Lord Palmerston but let the country take heed that whilst we strengthen the minister we do not, for seven years to come damage reform. Lazarus died at last, though, at a certain time, Lazarus was only sleeping.—Reform has long enough been in a trance. Let us hope it may not be trodden to the death by the crowds at polling-booths.

Communications.

J. A. PIERCE, Esq.,

Sir—Seeing that my friend, the Editor of the Colonial Times is fast approaching the political vortex, getting into which, you will admit, is certain destruction to a man of his abilities; and in order to apprise him of his danger, I presented the following communication for his perusal and publication. He said it was too lengthy for publication, adding, it was all against himself; and returned the manuscript, which I again beg to hand you for insertion in your columns, as also a few remarks on his Editorial of the 26th. Yours, &c., &c.,
P.

To the Editor of the Colonial Times,

DEAR SIR—On looking over that wonderful Editorial of yours which appeared in the Times of the 12th inst., I must confess I was both amused and alarmed—and who would not be amused, by perceiving the desperate efforts you had made to ape the Politician—but, feeling an interest in your welfare, and seeing the abrupt manner in which you endeavoured to force your new opinions on the public, the shallow reasons you gave for the change in your Editorial creed, and the inconsistency of your ideas—my enjoyment was considerably checked by the impression on my mind that all was not right with you. And can you wonder, when I behold you blindly rushing from the obscure and safe retreat you have enjoyed for the last seven months; leaving the simple and harmless course in which you were perfectly safe, and assuming a position in which the most able men of our day find the greatest difficulty to sustain themselves (at least, in a manner advantageous to their friends, and honorable to themselves,) knowing well you are not equal to the task. Just observe your inconsistency—without any change of Government since you became a champion of the Quill—without being able to advance, much less substantiate a single charge against the party in power, or making the least apology for your silence hitherto on political matters, you now come out at the eleventh hour, declaring that into politics you are bound to go, just as if you had no alternative, whether right or wrong, without making the least proviso, not as much as to say, if I am able, and that you must take a side in the great political struggles of the day, and advocate the principles of Responsible Government with all your energies, just as if that system was as yet to be introduced; and all this at the request of a few of your Lady Patrons, for whom it would appear, you are willing to both watch and pray. You then go on showing a disposition to eulogise the Opposition, and condemn the present Government, contrary to the general opinion of the people, as has been clearly demonstrated at the last Election; therefore, I say, if you are right in doing so now, you were wrong in not having done so seven months ago. I suppose you re-

member that promise of yours which still appears in your prospectus—that you shall hold yourself independent of all political parties; but if your conversion, or rather, apostasy, at this critical moment, and under present circumstances, and the tendency of your heretical doctrine, be not strong symptoms of party feelings, to say nothing of influence and prejudice, I know not what is; but whether to either, or to the convictions forced upon you by those Patriotic Ladies, (you now yield,) I am not prepared to say; but this I would say—if those Ladies had brought their persuasive powers to bear upon you a little sooner, it might have been better for their political friends, as it would have given them an idea of your political tactics, and of what value they might be to them in case of emergency, and not oblige them to buy a pig in a bag, as the saying is, by picking up such as might offer when necessity drove them to the field. But we all know that contracts sealed by political pressure are seldom faithfully carried out, therefore, it is hard to say which side has the advantage; but, in justice to you I must say, that I believe your zeal and intentions are genuine and undisguised, and cannot fail to enlist the sympathies of your party, how far soever you may fall short of their expectations otherwise; for, who that has read your two last Editorials in their defence, can have a doubt on those points, having shown such reckless independence and prodigality of self-interest, that some people apprehend it may prove fatal to your pecuniary constitution, for which I would feel sorry, and shall prescribe a remedy by and bye.

But Mr Editor, now that you have got through with your first act on the political stage, and the excitement peculiar to such important exertions may have subsided, and your mind probably settled down to its ordinary state of composure, I would in the most friendly manner, beg to enquire what all this sudden outburst means, if it means anything. It really puzzles me to make out, you are so inconsistent. You labour to make it appear that we have not Responsible Government, that the ruling party are not the men of the people, and that every man in the Province must come to your way of thinking if he be possessed of common sense. There are no tyrannical acts with which you can accuse either the Governor or present Government, and yet you go back to the Reigns of King John and King Richard for a parallel of their tyranny. Rather far that, (I think,) to go seeking a subject by which to illustrate your holy and inexorable horror especially, as between the parties in question and their respective Governments and acts, there is no similarity whatever. But I presume you wanted to show your knowledge of History, and at the same time intimate the particular colours under which you meant to take your stand in the great political struggle you allude to. But, having taken your stand and your side as you say, why not fight your adversary with such weapons as circumstances may make available to you; confining yourself to our own times and affairs, our men and their measures, by which alone they should stand or fall, and not run so far from your ranks, looking for a missile to throw at random. That looks too much like the schoolboy's mode of warfare, especially those who cannot fight. You might often see them running about almost blind from the effects of blows or their cowardly passion, willing to grasp at anything by which they might annihilate their antagonist. But such conduct is sure of meeting a prompt punishment in the contempt and disapproval of all the boys who may be present; and I have no doubt your punishment will be similar. You also had the effrontery to tell the people of Northumberland, that they should feel proud of having returned three Liberals. Now I call that both absurd and impertinent. What have they done to make us feel proud; and if it be only now we have discovered them to be Liberals, your assertion meant nothing less than an insult, and is, I think, a commodity you cannot afford to deal in largely.

Having promised you a remedy for such diseases as may arise from over exertion, I will now proceed to do so. If you must show your contempt for the present Government just say Boo, and you will accomplish more than you are likely to do by anything else you can say.

Never sacrifice one friend to please another. Never extend individual animosity to parties.

Never tell your readers they are fools, if they don't believe as you do.

Never try to represent your principles by signs.

But above all, never attempt an Editorial on a subject above your abilities.

PROMPTER.

Chatham, March 26, 1857.

P. S. Since writing the above article, I have had the pleasure of reading your sublime, and I had like to add Original Editorial of the 26th. In the very first sentence of which I find you taking up that worn out threadbare scarecrow phrase, The Family Compact—that dodge has been too often tried to be of any further use, though I have no doubt it may be heard one of those days throughout the Province in some new disguise. Now Sir, you must be well aware that those parties have long since passed from power, that we are now represented by men of our own choice, and that the creatures who so unmercifully abuse those men, to whom quite a different tribute is due, under that fabricated motto, are the anarchists of the day, and what would they not sacrifice to remove everything that obstructs their progress? Are you Sir, now acting conscientiously by joining in the faustical war whoop, against the only true loyal-

ists we can boast of. The refugees and fathers of the Province who sealed their fidelity to King and Country, by the sacrifice of all their possessions, many of them leaving a home of affluence and ease, to brave the dangers, the miseries and privations peculiar to a pioneer life, and under whose management the Institutions and commerce of the Province sprung up, the public offices of trust and emolument, necessarily devolving on them, more from necessity than from avarice or ambition, and whose stewardship would favourably compare with that of their successors. Therefore I say you are not acting conscientiously, judiciously, nor charitably, and it requires no great historical research, for facts, by which my assertions must be tried, and which I shall leave to the better judgment of your readers, but must tell you, that unless you give something more original, or otherwise fall back on your first course, you are, I fear, to use your own expressive terms "Gone Gone!"
P.

COUNTY GASPE.

To the Editor of the Gleaner.

SIR,—Many of your readers, I have no doubt, imagine that the good people of Gaspé drag out a very indifferent existence during the winter months, owing to its isolated position, but the case is quite the reverse.

A few days since a ball came off under the patronage of the members of the Gaspé and Strangers Reading Association. Six of that body were appointed at a meeting held at the Reading Room, for the purpose of making arrangements, &c. The only obstacle that appeared, was the want of some public building, or place sufficiently large to accommodate the large number that would be present. However, that was obviated by Joseph Eden, Esq., who very handsomely placed his house at the disposal of the committee for the occasion.

At seven o'clock the visitors commenced to arrive; shortly after, dancing commenced in right good earnest. Being comparatively a stranger, I was quite taken by surprise at the display of beauty and fashion which might vie with any of our large Provincial Cities.

They who were not attracted by music and dancing, had their revenge at the whist table. The approach of "Sol" was the signal for friends separating. I have passed several winters in Montreal during its gay period, and had many opportunities of being present at many festive scenes, both civil and military, and I must say, that neither there nor in Europe, had I my anticipations better satisfied.

A meeting was held here some time since for the purpose of considering the expediency of having the proposed Steamer from Shediac to Quebec, to make this a place of call. No doubt, should Government give assistance, there will be no difficulty in the way. When the time arrives for such communication, I have no doubt but that this place will have a fair share of visitors, when its romantic and beautiful scenery will be more widely known.

A SUBSCRIBER.

Editor's Department.

MIRAMICHI:

CHATHA M, SATURDAY, APRIL 4, 1857.

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WEEKLY CALENDAR.

Full Moon 9th, 5h 6m A. M. HIGH WATER.

5 S.	6th Sun. in Lent, Palm Sun.	3 38	4 1
6 M		4 23	4 42
7 T.	Prince Leopold born 1853	5 1	5 17
8 W		5 31	5 54
9 Th		5 59	6 13
10 F.	Good Friday.	6 26	6 40
11 S.	Oliver Goldsmith died 1774	6 53	7 8

The above Tides having been calculated with regard to the moon's horizontal parallax and angular distance from the sun, will be found to be correct, due allowance being made at times for high winds and freshets. For Richibucto, subtract, 2h30m—Bathurst, 2h45m—Dalhousie, 2h50m from the above.

OUR POLITICS.

A Correspondent has requested us to define our Politics, or those which we should like to see adopted by the Representatives of this County; and every County in the Province.

First—we should like them to carry out ~~RE-~~TIRE, RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT. We know it has been affirmed that Responsible Government has been introduced into this Province. This we DENY. We have never yet obtained the benefits of this system of Government. We have had a figment, or small portion of it: that part which places in the possession of the Members of the Legislature, a number of Offices with handsome Salaries; and a large amount of patronage in the hands of the Government and the Members of the Assembly. But that portion which confers important Legislative duties on the People, and puts them in possession of extensive privileges, has been withheld. By this we mean, the introduction of Municipal Corporations. There is also another prominent feature of Responsible Government which has not been carried out in this Province—the Initiatory principle. This is plainly to be accounted for. It would confer much labour and responsibility on the Government, which is now thrown on the Representatives; and as that body, as at present constituted, has a vast amount of business to transact, and cannot possibly give that attention to the multiplicity of business which accumulates every year, much confusion takes place, a large amount of revenue is injudiciously expended, and appropriations yearly made far beyond the means at its disposal to meet. These are evils which of necessity must exist while the present anomalous and imperfect system of Legislation prevails.

We may be told that the Legislature has provided for these things. That the Government have it in their power to adopt the Initiatory principle if they please, and that the statute provides that every County can adopt Municipal Corporations if the majority of the people so desire it. This is all very true, and carries with it a certain amount of plausibility; but do not the Members of the Assembly know, that in the case of Initiation, the Government feel no disposition to take on themselves a greater amount of responsibility and labour than they are called upon to perform. Is this not natural? Why then leave it optional? Why not make it imperative? The reason is understood. It looks well, and carries on its face marks of sincerity, and is in accordance with the progressive spirit of the age; but the Members well know that there is no desire on the part of the Government to adopt it; and they also know, that if they were to make an endeavour so to do, it would not be carried out, as was the case in the Session of the winter of 1856. And why—because it would curtail the patronage of Members; it would make sad inroads on their election capital: they could not then go canvassing as they do at present, armed with the potent persuasives—you should or ought to vote for me, as it was through MY most strenuous exertions you obtained the grant for such and such a Road or such and such a Bridge; and appealing to a Freeholder who possesses some influence in his district, it was I who procured you the Road Commissionership, or obtained the Grant to carry out some particular hobby of the individual.

The members also knew, when they left the question of Municipal Corporations similarly open, that they would and could not be carried—that certain powerful influences would be brought to bear to crush any and every attempt that might be made to adopt them, and that those influences in nine cases out of ten, would be successful.

We recollect some years ago, when Lord John Russell sent out his famous Despatch conferring the new Constitution on the British North American Colonies, we were travelling with a gentleman who held an important position in the halls of our Legislature, who was returning home. The subject had for the first time been broached by our Assembly, and had undergone a searching scrutiny or canvassing, and was finally adopted—several members in the opposition conferring on it the epithet of "the Russell Purge." After talking some time about its merits and defects, we said—that it had produced a good deal of debate, angry feeling, and that various constructions had been placed on it. The reply was—yes, it was a crude idea thrown out by Lord Durham in his famous Report on his return from Canada, having been sent to that Colony to inquire into the cause: