

belief by so doing, they would frighten the fish into their nets. By such means they have now to depend on Neguac for Herring for their winter food. If the overseers or the fish wardens will attend to their duty in this fishery, as well as in the Gaspereaux; if such regulations as I have described, and in all occasions the Law put rigidly in force, I have no doubt for years to come, you will find the fish to increase, instead of diminishing, as has been the case.

The small pox in Shippegan has subsided, no new cases for some time. In Caraquet it is abating fast. It has been in these two places since November last, and several valuable lives have been lost, chiefly heads of families.

Shippegan, April 3, 1857.

ST. JOHN.

THE inhabitants of this city have been considerably excited of late. Large meetings of the friends of the Government and Liberal parties have been held, and candidates put in nomination. The Liberals have set up Messrs. Harding and Tilley, for the city, and the Conservatives, Messrs. Lawrence and De Veber.

Another meeting was held at the instance of the Chamber of Commerce, to meet the Delegates from Newfoundland, respecting the convention entered into by the British and the French Governments conceding important fishing privileges to the latter.

The Chair was occupied by the Hon. John Robertson, and the following Resolutions were adopted:—

Resolved—that the Convention entered into on the 14th Jan. last between the Governments of Great Britain and France concerning valuable territorial and fishing rights on the coast of Newfoundland and Labrador to France will, if confirmed, not only most injuriously affect the best interests of our fellow Colonists in Newfoundland, but also this Province, who as British subjects, are entitled to participate in the privileges from which they will be debarred by this convention.

Resolved:—that in view of the important interest involved in this convention, it is our duty both as regards the rights of the people of Newfoundland and the North American Provinces, to protest against the contemplated concessions for which there can be no equivalent.

Resolved:—That Her Majesty's loyal subjects in the North American Colonies claim and demand as their inalienable right that no treaty or convention be made by Her Majesty's Government with any foreign power by which their rights and interests may be invaded, or injuriously affected, unless such treaty or convention be first submitted for their consent, and ratified by Acts of their several and respective Legislatures.

Resolved:—That Petitions be presented to the several branches of the Legislature, when in session, soliciting their cordial co-operation with the people of Newfoundland, and those of the other Provinces, in preventing the operation of so unjust and dangerous a convention, and that the draft of the petition now read be adopted, engrossed, and signed by the Chairman and Secretary, and transmitted in terms of this resolution.

ADVICE TO THE NEWSPAPER PRESS.

THERE is a propriety and justice in the following lines, says the Boston Post, which none who are familiar with the tendencies of our daily press can fail to recognize.

“Mr Editor: Have patience with your old friend while he finds fault with that portion of the daily Newspaper press which is most pestilent nuisance. It is almost literally a record of infamy, with shocking details of the conversations, communications, associations and crimes of their inhabitants and vile companions. Column after column, and large quarto pages are sent abroad with statistics of pollution, staining the spotless minds of youth with blotches which, but for such communication, would never darken their innocent thoughts. If the fine keen edge of purity and modesty inherent in the mind and heart of young people, is worn by familiarity with such descriptions, no aftertime, no example, no gems, or gold can ever restore it.

“What is the motive for spreading every secret shame before the whole community! Is it not enough for a warning, that punishment has been awarded to criminals according to law while the crime is briefly stated in decent language?

“The appetite for disgusts and horrors, for injustice and falsehood, and fraud, and all the dark catalogue of crime, is sharpened by what it feeds on; and the purveyors for the press seen emulous to find who can draw deepest from the caverns of iniquity, or drive swiftest on the wild winds of falsehood and fraud.

“In what strange contrast is all this from the true Province of the daily press—its first object being to give intelligence from every part of the globe, and next, to cultivate the honorable and noble elements of character, strict morals, love of Justice, reverence of law, respect for religion, harmony among our own people, and friendship with all the nations of the world.

“Let me entreat the press to discard the demoralizing course now so prevalent; to adopt the classic grace of honor, civility, strict morals and refined manners; to abolish political in-

trigue by wise statesmanship; and gentle but racy satire on the foibles for our race, to supplant the cravings of the people of infamy, checker by highwaymen, assassins and murderers.

“I ask these favors of the press, on behalf of every lover of decency and order, of every well-wisher to the security of life and property, of and of all such as well know, from the pages of history, that on public purity and morals hang the welfare and stability of the state.”

LEGISLATIVE DOINGS.

BY the last mail we obtained a Letter from a friend and correspondent at Fredericton, dated April 3, from which we extract the following remarks in reference to the members of the late House of Assembly as well as to their conduct. Now this Correspondent is a LIBERAL—one who has supported liberal men and advocated liberal measures, but he has sense enough to discriminate between men and measures, a fault we have, which has caused a cold shoulder to be shown us, by some, on whom we have bestowed some favours, and warmly defended at the sacrifice of personal interest; but in so doing we acted upon principle. It was not the men we supported but the measures they went pledged to carry out. And if in the strife of Legislation they forgot or lost sight of principle, paid but little heed to measures; their aim and object appearing solely to build themselves and their party up, regardless of the expense it would incur, or the ruinous delay it would cause to the business of the country, duty to the people, on whom we rely for support, constrained us to speak out and censure their acts. This we have done, and shall continue to do regardless of the result, let the party be Liberals or Conservatives, in the government or out of it.

We have heard a great deal said of late relative to TAME FOLLOWERS; and loud and bitter have been the comments made on certain individuals for the manner in which they blindly lent themselves to support the Government or the Opposition—right or wrong: but it is truly farcical to observe some of these men, while they denounce with vehemence, and look with indignation on such an act, stoop to any artifice to accomplish their ends, and treat men coolly, and look upon them with suspicion or as enemies, if they have the manliness to act for themselves, or to express an opinion contrary to the well understood interest or desire of those persons.

This may be consistent; this may be in accordance with the spirit and style of modern Legislation, but we have no hesitation in declaring that it is not honest; not in keeping with the right of freedom of speech and action, so dear to Britons, but adverse to the broad principles of LIBERALISM, as we understand them, and have advocated, and which we wish to see acted upon throughout the length and breadth of the Province.

We publish our Correspondent's remarks below, but in so doing we must dissent from some of his conclusions. We believe there were grave faults on both sides, and that his letter contains too many truths.

“We are at length rid of the most ungovernable set of scamps that ever assembled in the city of Fredericton to transact Public Business. I have never, in my experience, seen so much folly, or listened to such nonsense, as emanated from the late Assembly, nor do I think it possible, that we will ever look upon its like again—let us pray that we may not. Some give the blame to the Government—others to the Opposition. For my part, I am compelled to say, from observation, that there can exist but little doubt in the minds of unbiassed individuals, that the chief cause of all the trouble originated with the Opposition. Every effort was put forth by them to thwart the Government in every attempt they made to bring forward measures for the public good. What did one of the Opposition say on the floor of the House—“We will oppose the Government in every measure, whether they are right or wrong.” Is this honest—is it becoming men who are sent to represent the people—the people did I say—alas for the day—I should have said, misrepresenting the people by representing themselves.

“Your editorial of the 28th is too true—there can now be no doubt but that the secret of all the trouble rests in the “six-hundreds.” No matter about the people—no matter whether the County prospers or not—no matter if our young men are seeking distant climes in search of a living—a living denied them by their native land—no matter in fact what happens—only give us the “six-hundreds”—and we will make all right. Some of these Gentlemen will have to render a fearful account at the coming Election. It is time the people took matters into their own hands; it is time that a thorough change should be wrought.

“You may not agree with me, but I must say that I am now thoroughly convinced that the creation of political offices has, and is likely to be, the ruination of the Province. So long as they exist—just so long will confusion reign in the House of Assembly—just so long will men, returned to advance the public interests, neglect their duty in their efforts for self-aggrandizement. Would it not be far better to give them to parties out of the Assembly—would it not be better to make them again, non-political, and reduce the salaries accordingly. Say Surveyor-General £400, P. M. General £500, Provincial Secretary £450, Commissioner Board of Works £400, and all the other Offices in the same proportion. Fill them with good men, without respect to their politics, who should remain there during good behaviour—let them be responsible to the Government—and the Government responsible for their conduct, as well as their own, to the Assembly.

“You can form no conception of the closing scene in the Assembly, it beggars description. The “Head Quarters” extra—two copies of which I send you—contains the facts, but it falls far short of the reality. Such a scene of disorder a street mob would be ashamed of. * * * The sooner all the paid Officers under Government are denied seats in the Legislature, the better it will be for the Province.”

THE ELECTION.

THE High Sheriff of this County has at length received the writ, and it will be seen by his advertisement in another column, that he has set aside Friday, the first of May as the Nomination day; Tuesday the 5th as the Polling Day; and Friday the 8th as the Declaration Day.

If the preparations which have been made, and are still making, are to be taken as an index of the coming contest, the approaching election will be a sharply contested one.

The Sheriff of Gloucester has also made his arrangements. Wednesday, the sixth day of May is appointed as the Nomination day; Saturday the 9th as the Polling day; and the Declaration day, Tuesday, the 12th.

It is reported that there will be a host of Candidates in the field, but with the exception of Mr End, we do not feel at liberty to mention any names.

Our attentive correspondents both in Gloucester and Restigouche, we trust will keep us posted up in election matters.

TO OUR READERS.—The publisher of the Colonial Times in his issue of half a sheet, on Thursday last, has devoted upwards of three columns to the special castigation of our correspondent “Prompter,” and ourselves. We have calmly read over this long effusion, which required no little patience on our part—a virtue, by the way, we do not boast possessing an undue share of—and the conclusion we have been forced to arrive at is—that the man who could sit down and pen such a long, meaningless, witless, and pointless article—without having any reference to its scurrility, &c.—and perpetrate such an infliction on his readers, must be labouring under some mental aberration, or affection of the brain; charity, therefore, prompts us to abstain from saying anything that would add to the infirmity. We cheerfully respond to the better feelings of our nature, and pass the matter over without any further note or comment.

KENNETH BIGGER. On the night of Saturday last, this notorious character who had been confined in the Gaol of this county for burglary, broke the Gaol, and again made his escape—and is now at large. We understand every precaution had been taken to secure him; the Cell in which he was confined had been examined by one of the best Mechanics in the County, under the order of the Gaol Committee, and under his direction was made (as he supposed) so secure as to defy the art of man to escape, but it appears that bolts and bars have lost their power to secure Bigger. It is stated that he proceeded to the Indian encampment, three miles above Newcastle, and purchased a pair of snow-shoes from the Indians, and informed them that he intended to take the route to the Gaspereaux River, the same he took last summer when he escaped from Gaol, and where he is well known by many of the inhabitants.

We give his description, and the dress in which he escaped for the information of those who may be disposed to capture him. He is about 5 feet 10 inches in height, dark hair and complexion, broad shoulders, slightly stooped, with heavy eye-brows and down-cast look.—When he escaped he was dressed in a red shirt, dark brown trousers, and black glazed hat.

OUR POLITICS.—It was our intention to have continued this subject which we commenced last week, but the large amount of original matter that has been handed us for publication during the week, precludes the possibility of saying anything further to-day. We hope we shall be able to resume our remarks next week.

Having had application for extra numbers of the Gleaner to meet the demand, we have printed two hundred copies in addition to our regular issue. Subscribers and others can obtain them by calling at our office.—Price 4d.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Several Communications have been received to-day, but we have not room to publish them.

Those gentlemen who have subscribed a document, expressing a disposition to encourage the institution and maintenance of a Lady's High Class School, are respectfully requested to attend a meeting for discussing the matter, to be held D. V., on Monday evening next, at the Band Room, at 8 o'clock.

The screw steamer Circassia, arrived at Newfoundland on the 30th March, in a passage of eleven days, from Britain. She is the first of the line of screw steamers which a company in Liverpool purpose putting on the route to connect that port with Newfoundland, Halifax and Portland.

PROVINCIAL APPOINTMENTS.—The following persons are appointed Sheriffs of the several undermentioned Counties for the ensuing year:—

James Mitchell, Esquire, Northumberland.—Henry W. Baldwin, Esquire, Gloucester.—John L. Barbarie, Esquire, Restigouche.

BOWSER'S HOTEL.

ARRIVALS DURING THE PAST WEEK.

M. Chambers, St. John, N. B.; Edmund Stewart, Dalhousie; Alexander Girvin, Richibucto; D. Henderson, do; W. End, Esq., Fredericton; William Mills, Richibucto; Wm. G. Desbrow, M. D., Boston.

DEATHS.

At Blissfield, Miramichi, on the 5th April, ROBERT DOAK, aged 72 years. He was born in the Parish of Ochiltree, in Ayrshire, Scotland, and in 1815 immigrated into this Province, and settled in Miramichi. Of generous disposition, great intelligence, sound judgment, and the strictest integrity, he made himself readily and extensively useful in private life, and in the discharge of his public duties as Justice of the Peace for upwards of 30 years. During the last 3 years of his life Mr Doak endured extreme sufferings from the progress of the most malignant Cancer in the head and face. These he bore with christian patience and most humble submission to the sovereign will of Him who had been pleased so to appoint for him, departing strong in the faith of Jesus Christ, and full of the hope of an entrance into that rest which remaineth for the people of God.

Of Consumption, at Chatham, on Thursday night, 9th April, at 12 o'clock, MARY, daughter of Donald M'Donald, aged 24 years, leaving a great number of relatives and friends to mourn their loss.

The funeral will take place to-morrow (Sunday) at 2 o'clock, p. m., when the friends of the family are requested to attend.

To James A. Pierce, Esq.

Dear Sir—Will you admit into your columns a few words to the Proprietor of the Colonial Times. I handed Mr Howe, the annexed letter for publication in his Journal. He refused at first to give it publication, but after a conversation I had with him, he said he would likely print it, if not he would hand it back to me in time. I do not know what set time he meant, but took it for granted—in time for the Gleaner this week. Not hearing from him, I went the third time to see him, when he showed me the article, as he stated, set up, in a corner, but I concluded it was to blind-fold me, and put me off. I then put the question to him,—will you put it in your paper next week, or not. He answered if not crowded out. I then made up my mind that it would never be published in his paper, I now hand it to you, hoping you will allow me a privilege which I naturally conclude he had made up his mind to refuse me.

D. McLACHLAN.

Chatham, April 10, 1857.

For the Colonial Times.

Davis P. Howe, Esq.—Will you oblige me by giving publicity through the columns of your paper, to a few remarks. When I subscribed to your paper, you said you would have nothing to do with Politics. This promise you have broken—and no mistake. I could read your paper with pleasure until I saw “work for the tailors,” ridiculing certain canvassers, reporting that buttons were left in their hands, which I believe to be untrue. Such remarks leave an unfavourable impression on my mind while reading your paper. By this course you are doing harm to yourself, as well as to the community, creating enmity among neighbours. Now Mr Howe, all your subscribers are not Liberals for I know some who are not, and some your best supporters too. I am a Tory, and if spared will go to the poll without being made a victim, or dragged there like a sheep to the slaughter, and vote for whom I like. Yours.—

D. McLACHLAN.

Chatham, April 4, 1857.