

THE DUKE OF WELLINGTON.

From the London Weekly Review.

Having thus lengthened out our prefatory remarks, by way of a tall pedestal to the figure we are preparing, we frankly avow our determination to judge the Duke of Wellington by his success, which has, indeed, been eminently great. There is no man whose character and conduct stand more clearly defined in the full light of history—in continual action, and in conspicuous situations, he prepared his own greatness by the confidence he inspired. His port and figure are in perfect harmony with his character; his person at once strong and light; his countenance open and resolute; his alert and fine symmetry unites the air of command with that of habitual action. The Duke has had his full share of popular applause; but as the tide of favour, like other tides, can never flow without its back-currents, much pains have been taken to decry the merits of a man whose chief sin is, that his merits are too illustrious. The French, too, poor souls, were anxious to refer to the stars, the cause of all the defeats they suffered at his hands. The Duke, say those tacticians, is killed in the details of military manœuvre, but is incapable of great combinations; hence his successes in the field were of a negative description—that is, consisted in saving himself from defeat. But to us, who are no doubt infected with national prejudices, to have marched from Lisbon to Toulouse in the face of resisting armies, appears positive enough. The truth is, the more the Duke of Wellington's military merits are examined, the greater they will appear. His boldness will be proved by a reference to Assy; his promptitude to seize an advantage from the battle of Salamanca; in the lines of Torres Vedras he displayed all the resources of military art; and at Waterloo, the cool steadiness of a consummate general. It was not by accident he excelled; educated at a military school in France, and promoted to command at an early age, he at once distinguished himself by the boldness and completeness of his tactics.

He had studied his profession with unusual assiduity, and was prepared to reap the fullest profit from experience. Although we do not mean to say the military profession is one highly intellectual, we will certainly maintain that the conduct of an army in modern warfare requires abilities above the common point. The army of a civilized people derives its chief force from its organization; and the maintenance of the order which is so essential to it, depends wholly on the foresight of the man who directs its movements. The Duke of Wellington took the command in the Peninsula under discouraging circumstances; he was called on to face experienced generals, and an army used to conquest for nearly twenty years. Of the success with which he acquitted himself, we will say nothing; his ability was evidently not confined to his boldness and prompt decision in the field; he also knew when to be cautious; but it would be a positive injustice to pass over his anxiety to mitigate the horrors of war, by a strict observance of the laws of nations and of humanity. He taught even the Spanish guerrillas to spare, by paying them three piasres for every prisoner they brought to him alive. There never was an army whose tracks were less marked with violence, plunder, or wanton devastation than the British, or in which the enforcement of strict discipline was rendered easier by the completeness of the commissariat arrangements. While the French troops lived in a great degree by pillage, and were kept together with difficulty, the English camp always bespoke the presence of a general who neglected no part of his duty. As a military engineer, the Duke ranks high; and our artillery became under his command superior to the French. Thus it appears that the qualifications of his Grace are not merely of that fighting kind, which will seem to many incompatible with talent. The English army grew under him the most perfectly organized in existence: it grew into harmony with the civilization of England; and the person who fostered this improvement, must himself be under the influence of habits of order, vigilant foresight, and extensive combinations. But nothing contributed more to his Grace's victories, than the perfect assurance he always felt as to the course he should pursue, and which, together with a natural presentiment of success, he inspired in others. The grand secret of this decision is a perfect acquaintance with what we are about, or rather a consciousness of possessing adequate resources. It is itself indeed a source of strength. Firmness is equivalent to expertness; while on the other side, no knowledge will suffice to guide a faltering hand to successful results. It is hard to conceive why this practicable ability, this capacity for action, might not be useful in the administration of a state, as in the conduct of an army. There are, perhaps, some people foolish enough to imagine, that great genius, boundless knowledge, and overwhelming eloquence, are essential in the man who is at the head of affairs. They suppose, that not only the welfare, but the progress of society is at his command; and that its advancement will be proportioned to his intellectual eminence. The moral economy, however, of the world, is much better arranged. The happiness of society does not depend on so inconsistent a phenomenon as genius. The allegorical vessel of the state is only to be steered by its ruler, and not impelled. Those who complain that our legislators and statesmen only follow the march of civilization, seem to lament over the diffusion of knowledge. It is only in such countries as Russia and Turkey that the people can be inferior to the rulers in wisdom and information. In free and civilized communities, the superiority of knowledge ought, and necessarily will be on the side of the people. The idea that a statesman ought to possess resplendent genius, is unsound and mischievous. A minister ought to be the honest and diligent servant of the public, who will in all difficult cases point out the road he is to pursue. He ought to be firm in the execution of his office, and correct in rendering up his accounts. But when the society, like an indolent gentleman, takes a brains-carrier instead of a stew-

ard, all the disorders of ill-governing and over-governing are sure to ensue.—In our constitution, the thinking organs of the body politic, are, God knows, sufficiently bulky and active; but the faculty of volition has, of late, betrayed some feebleness. A strong ministerial will is no less necessary than a correct public sense. A little arbitrary strength, subordinate to the voice of the nation, may be of use to break the force of female bigotry near the throne, or to balk the speculations of tradesmen in the council. The vibrating balance of public opinion oscillates long after its tendency is manifest; and the minister who will be swayed by its indications, requires as much resolution as discernment.

From all these considerations, we cannot help concluding, that the ruins of government could not be in better hands than those of the Duke of Wellington. There never was a man, between whom and his country there existed stronger reciprocal bonds of gratitude and obligation. He has rendered his country no ordinary services: and his country has repaid them nobly. Though allied to the aristocracy by birth, he is sufficiently new in the extraordinary elevation of himself and family, to be free from the incrustation of antique prejudice. A plain man, and of indefatigable activity, he is more likely to introduce simplicity and honest dealing into public offices. With habits of military command, and used to distinguish with his own eyes between the great and small, he will be sure to make light work of those imps of court favour, who entangled the footsteps of the timid statesman. The canker of jealousy has died away with his rival in public esteem, and his Grace can have now no object in view, but to merit the applause of a liberal and enlightened nation. He has already made his fortune: he stands on his character: he is enlightened enough to know his duty; and he is not to be deterred from performing it. It is said that he speaks with plainness and sincerity to the greatest personage in the kingdom, and that he is favourably listened to. If this be true, it is honourable to both parties. We know that his Grace is a steady friend, and that he has, in the days of his prosperity, recollected acts of kindness, which were forgotten by those from whom he had received them.

There is another consideration which merits some attention. Character in cabinets is like character on Change. That is best which has the most credit. Now there is no name circulates more speedily in the political world, or which is more duly honoured, than that of the Duke of Wellington. The influence of Great-Britain, negotiated in his name, loses nothing by discount. This is an advantage which ought not to be lost, especially as it will enable us to persevere in that straight-forward, fair dealing, which has latterly distinguished the diplomacy of this country. We mean no eulogy in what we have written. We abominate the delusions which accompany "the pomp and circumstance of glorious war." But we think that one who has so thoroughly stood the proof; who has so eminently earned the reputation of a prudent, humane, and enlightened commander, must be qualified to administer the government of the state. Under him the subalterns will be kept in order; the squabbles and bickerings of petty ambition must give way to public duty. Exact discipline and activity will be enforced in every department. Above all, he will lend his great influence, and we hope with success, to carry into effect the suggestions of a liberal cabinet.

GEORGE & W. D. HARTT, HAVE on hand EIGHT YOKE OF PRIME Working Cattle

fit for the Timber business, which they will sell reasonable for CASH.

Fredericton, October 20, 1828. 3W P

THE SUBSCRIBER

HAS lately received and offers for sale on the most reasonable terms, by wholesale or retail, the following articles, viz.

Brady, Gin, Rum, Superfine, Fine, and Rye Flour,
Corn, Meal, Chests of Tea, Sugar, Barrels Coffee,
Boxes of Chocolate, Soap and Candles,
Mackarel, Herrings, &c.

Together with an assortment of Dry Goods, all of the best quality.

JAMES BALLOCH.

Fredericton, August 19th, 1828.

THE SUBSCRIBERS

RESPECTFULLY inform their friends and the public, that they have this day entered into Co-Partnership, under the Firm of

BALLOCH & ENGLISH.

The business of the said Co-Partnership will be conducted at WOODSTOCK in the Store lately occupied by Messrs. P. & E. where the Subscribers will keep on hand a constant supply of goods suitable to the Country, which they will dispose of upon the most reasonable terms for cash.

JAMES BALLOCH,
RICHARD ENGLISH.

N. B. No Notes of Hand, given by either of the above Firm, exceeding Fifty Pounds, will be valid unless they are signed by J. B. & R. E., Individually.

Fredericton, August 5, 1828.

ALL persons who have unsettled Accounts, and are indebted to the Subscriber, will please to call and settle them satisfactorily, or they will be put into the hands of an Attorney to collect without discrimination.

Fredericton, April 22, 1828.

JEDEDIAH SLASON.

PAINTS AND OIL.

THE SUBSCRIBERS

HAVE on hand a quantity of Venetian Red, Yellow, Black and White Paints, and prepared Oil, all of the best quality; which will be sold very low for prompt payment.

FISHER, WALKER & Co.

Fredericton, 5th August, 1828.

FOR SALE,

THAT well known establishment, in the Parish of Fredericton, known by the name of the Golden Ball, or Barristers Inn, now in possession of Benjamin Creighton. The above property will be offered with or without the Furniture at Private Sale, until the 24th day of December next; and then, if not previously disposed of, will be offered on the premises at Public Auction. The Sale to commence at 11 o'clock. For particulars, please to apply either to James Miles, or Jedediah Slason.

Fredericton, Oct. 14, 1828.

REMOVAL. The Subscriber respectfully informs his Friends and the Public, that he has removed his Business from his late Store in Queen-street to his new Stand at the team Boat Landing, where he has on hand a large and general assortment of DRY GOODS and GROCERIES; which he offers for sale for Cash, on the most reasonable terms; and hopes from his convenience to both Town and Country, still to receive that liberal patronage hitherto afforded him.

JAMES BALLOCH.

Fredericton, 29th April, 1828.

TO be sold at Public Auction, (if not previously disposed of at private sale,) on the second Monday in January next, at the house of Richard Currie, junr., in the Parish of Canning, that certain Lot of Land situate on the bank of the River St. John, in the said Parish, known by lot No. 2, now occupied by Richard L. Earle. A good title will be given and payments made easy. For further particulars enquire of

DAVID PALMER.

Canning, Oct. 6, 1828. 3W P

PROTECTION INSURANCE COMPANY.

THIS Office will continue to insure as usual against loss or damage by fire, on the most reasonable terms, on application to the Agent,

JAMES BALLOCH.

Fredericton, June 26, 1827.

ALL Persons indebted to the SAINT GEORGE Steam Boat, are requested to make immediate payment to the Subscriber, who is now directed by the Proprietors of said Boat to place all unsettled Notes and Accounts in the hands of an Attorney to collect.

JAMES SEGEE.

Fredericton, April 8, 1828.

TO BE SOLD

Or to Lease for a term of years,

A VALUABLE Farm in the Parish of Wakefield, on which are about 80 Acres cleared; a comfortable Dwelling House and a large Barn.

POSSESSION will be given early next Spring; for further particulars apply on the premises, to

JOHN D. GAULT.

Fredericton, August 9, 1828.

THE Glebe Rents having become due on the 24th March last, it is requested they be forthwith paid into the hands of Jedediah Slason, Esquire.

GEORGE BEST, Rector.

Fredericton, April 8, 1828.

NOTICE.

THE Subscriber requests all persons indebted to him to call and settle their accounts immediately; and if not in their power to pay, to give satisfactory security; Those who neglect to comply with the above request for three months from this date, may expect to have their accounts placed in the hands of proper authority for collection.

D. B. SHELTON.

Fredericton, October 7, 1828. 3m

FOR SALE,

A Set of Mill Irons and a Mill Saw. Enquire at the Royal Gazette Office. May 27, 1828.

CASH GIVEN FOR CLEAN LINEN AND COTTON RAGS AT THIS OFFICE.