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Christian Watchman.

SAINT JOHN, N. B, MARCH 20, 1861.

From the first dawn of the Christian Era, there has existed a class of men, who have perpetuated from age to age, the principles of Truth and Liberty. Possessing these by a higher than human title they have clung to them with a tenacity, which Persecution could never relax, nor Death itself could ever loosen. Under Pagan and Pope, they have been alike steadfast; nor could the civil rage of the one, or the ecclesiastical fury of the other, force them to surrender their principles.

Prominent among these were the Baptists, of whom in every age there have never been wanting those who witnessed a good confession to the truth. Standing out from among other men, their isolation made them conspicuous, and their peculiarities excited persecution. In what part of Christendom have they not proclaimed their faith; what land has not witnessed their sufferings? The flames enveloped them in the gardens of Nero: the wild beasts tore them in the Flavian Amphitheatre; the darkness of the middle ages gathered thickly around the light they bore, but could not quench it; the wilds of Bohemia sheltered them flying from persecution; "their bones lie scattered o'er the Alpine mountains cold." France, Germany, and England, beheld their sufferings; and New Brunswick itself bears witness to their unmerited wrongs.

In all their history they have never committed that sin of persecution from which they suffered. They received the stroke, but forbore to give it; they drank of the bitter draught, but refused to return measure for measure. For the soul's liberty had been recognized by them from the first, and their principles found them as faithful in prosperity as in adversity. In the midnight darkness that enveloped the human mind, they saw this truth clearly, that God had created the soul of man absolutely free, and that persecution for false belief is worse than the error itself. Centuries ago they had attained to that which the world has only of late accepted as the truth. Standing fast in the liberty wherewith Christ had made them free they insisted that all mankind should have the same freedom. When Milton wrote for the people, he was but the exponent of Baptist principles. When Roger Williams established the first free government on earth, he simply brought into practice what had always been the Baptist theory. For this people drank of the waters of life from the source itself of heavenly truth, and not from the cisterns which man had made.

Liberty, pure and undefiled, has in every age distinguished the Baptists. Their churches, their pastors, their officers, their routine of church business, are all established on the simplest democratic forms. The saying of Jefferson, that the American Republic was formed on the model of a Baptist church, has a deeper meaning than is supposed.—Among Baptists there is no centralization, no head, no leader. No human being can sway them. Detached in thousands of separate churches, glorying in their independence, with no consolidation, and only an annual meeting to report their progress, they proudly guide and govern themselves. But though to outward appearance weak and disunited, they are connected by an invisible bond, which is stronger far than any Prelate or President. That bond is their principles drawn from the Bible, and in every age it has been all powerful. Priestly authority is unknown among them; eminent men may be used as servants, but will never be obeyed as rulers; yet so loyal are they to their principles, that in every great emergency, when human leaders have been as nothing, the clarion voice of this great power has never failed to rouse them as one man, and send them *en masse* to the support of truth and Liberty.

As they have always been, elsewhere, so are they at this day in this Province of New Brunswick; foremost in the ranks of Freedom, the Liberals of the Liberals, independent, strictly democratic in their thoughts and customs. In politics there is but one course possible to them, and one only to which their principles point, and that is invariably the Liberal side. For this constancy and singleness of purpose belongs to them, that under every change of power, or name, or men; whatever questions arise, or whatever candidates invite; their course as a whole may be foretold beyond the possibility of doubt, and it is not in the power of man to divert it.

In this Province we are but a part of the mighty community, but our principles are the same, and in every political question we know where our path must of necessity lie. We are taught by suffering also, for even in New Brunswick we have felt the hand of tyranny, and borne a part in the struggle with arbitrary power. Since the days when our ministers danced attendance in the antechambers of pompous officials, sufficient time for forgetfulness has not yet passed away. Even in New Brunswick we have had our witnesses for the truth, and while we revere the memories of those apostolic men who carried our principles through the land in the face of a thousand hardships; we cannot forget the name of the humble minister who once suffered for our faith in a New Brunswick prison. The times have changed since then; the battle has been fought, the victory won; but the men under whom we were oppressed have not passed away, nor is the old spirit extinct in their supporters.—They are powerless now, and like Christian, we emerge from the Valley of the Shadow of Death, and look back upon the decrepit giant as he mutters and scolds in his cavern.

Who are in power, or who are out; who fall, or who rise; or what change in men may take place, is of no vital import to us. It is not for names that we care, but for our principles. These we must evermore uphold, and stand in the front of our party—the very Protestants of Liberalism. These principles have come down to us through eighteen centuries, hallowed by the blood of a thousand martyrs; to talk of seducing us is idle, since that would be to change our nature; to detach us from our party is impossible, for that would be to sever the very heart of Liberalism.

The "Watchman" is not a political paper, nor does it ever take a part in the ordinary proceedings of the political world. But the affairs of this Province have now reached a point at which neutrality would justly be deemed imbecility. For, what do we see? We see the same Party, whose heavy hand we once felt so severely, again endeavouring to attain the pre-eminence. We see the old form under new names, and plausible professions, endeavouring by every unscrupulous means to win our regard and support. We see them with a bitterness of animosity that is seldom found, attacking the most honored names in all the land, and desperately struggling to drag all down into one common ruin. Under such circumstances, it is the duty even of the impartial journalist to speak the truth; how much more shall Baptists speak it, who are so deeply interested. The party that once oppressed us, now seeks our alliance. It is the old fable—The wolf seeks to league himself with the lamb. But loud professions cannot hide from us the old enmity; nor can the recollection of former wrongs be destroyed by words of cajolery. We have not escaped from captivity only to yield ourselves up to our former masters. We have not won the solid results of victory only that we should afterwards relinquish them. For these people to expect our alliance is folly, and to request it is insult; since to, be low it were to ignore our past history, and stultify ourselves and our fathers before the world.

When the hour of trial shall come, the Baptists shall be found in their old places, to vindicate the principles for which they have done and suffered so much, and again to win that victory, which in this land, and in these days, cannot be averted.—And those who have endeavoured to gain their support for an odious cause, whose oppressions are still so vividly remembered, will find that instead of gaining allies, they have roused a spirit throughout the entire Denomination which will be the sure cause of their overthrow.

Land Jobbing and its true Issues.

Now that the labors of the Land Committee are closed, we shall as briefly as possible place before our readers, the true facts of the case, and endeavor to direct the public mind to the real issues, which designing men have sedulously kept back, and to the motives, which led to this unmanly course.

We regard this question as more than political, it towers up far above the mists and vapors which arise from the squabbles of mere party politics—it is a great moral question, affecting character, and involving interests far beyond the political distinctions of Liberal and Conservative; this question affects us as Christian men, who should frown upon wrong, and who should be as careful to seek out, and justify the innocent, as to discover and punish the guilty. We shall not hypocritically appeal to the Searcher of hearts, and use the current cant of the day, which is continually reminding us of a Judgment to come; but as men between men; yet as before God, we shall honestly state the truth, and for this purpose, shall investigate evidence, look into causes, and fairly place on record the true state of this affair, that every candid reader may fairly and reasonably judge.

The present system of disposing of our Crown Lands has been in existence for nearly twenty years; it has been recognized and acted upon, by all Governments during that period, both Conservative and Liberal. During all that time no steps have been taken by the Legislature to alter, and from this we may reasonably infer, that it has been favourably regarded.

In the arrangement of the Civil List, the Crown Lands were to be sold by public auction to the highest bidder, the only deviation from this course was by what was called the Labor Act, which required the erection of a dwelling and occupancy; this done the Land was given at 3s. an acre, to be paid for by road work, or if in money this was expended on the road. We have thus stated what is the law, and we think it in these cases proper; but like all Laws however good, it may be evaded, and this is what we condemn. As well might we condemn Banking institutions, because a Pullinger or a Dourden took advantage of their situation as clerks to appropriate to their own use, the means which belonged to their employers; as well might we denounce the regulations of the Crystal Palace, because a cunning Redpath shamefully abused their confidence, and violated their trust, as censure our Crown Land Department because a Clerk there violates the spirit of the Law, and taking advantage of his official knowledge secures on his own account, and that of his associates over 20,000 acres of our most valuable Crown Lands, on terms which no amount of Christian charity can defend.

Here then is the *real* grievance; on Mr. Andrew Inches rests the chief blame; for not satisfied with his own operations, he led other parties into transactions, the nature of which, had Mr. Inches, as his duty was, explained to them they would have had no connection with. It was the common custom on the part of Mr. Inches, when application was made at his office for land, to tell such applicants that it was not customary to apply in their own names, and he kindly set aside their scruples, by offering to procure any number of names out of any old Almanac, nor has this been a recent course, it has been the course of this Mr. Inches under all Surveyor Generals; Montgomery, and R. D. Wilmot as well as Mr. Brown. Mr. Brown thus came into office under the system which grew into strength under this Mr. R. D. Wilmot, who is now condemning it, and who so boldly denounces what he himself permitted and perpetuated.

Mr. Inches having thus taken such gross advantage of his situation, and official knowledge; public attention was drawn to the matter, and under great excitement reference is made to the regulations, under which this unjustifiable act was perpetrated, and other parties who purchased Crown Lands either for their business operations, or as an investment in an open and legitimate way have been denounced, and the attempt has been made to condemn them, in common with Inches, or rather to condemn them, and to pass him over. The object of this is plain enough, but it will not succeed, and we shall show where, in our opinion, the whole censure should be directed.

We then without equivocation, designate Mr. Andrew Inches, the chief offender in this case; from the year 1853 on till the present time, his course has been in this connection, thoroughly disgraceful. Should the Chancellor of the British Exchequer, availing himself of the knowledge obtained through his official position, buy and sell Exchequer bills, and put into his pocket the profits on those bills, such an act coming to the knowledge of the Commons, or the people, Mr. Gladstone could not retain office for a day. So if either the Provincial Secretary or the Treasurer, availed themselves of information obtained in their official capacity, and bought and sold Provincial Debentures and Exchange, and by these transactions pocketed large sums, which by every principle of right belonged to the people, neither of them should upon such terms be permitted to hold office for an hour. What may therefore be perfectly right and legitimate for one person to do, may be morally wrong for another to do; the Broker on Change, and the Banker in his office, have a perfect right to make money out of these debentures, which the Secretary or Treasurer have with their official knowledge no right to do. and so while all outside of Mr. Inches' office, and not like him directly entrusted with the care of the Provincial Estate, had a just right to purchase this at public Auction, his official position as Clerk, and also his legal disability as a Deputy, should have debarred him from taking such a course. But further, it appears that Mr. Inches has not acquired lands at Public Sale, and in the manner prescribed by law; from the evidence it appears, that he acquired lands in Westmorland County, in violation of the regulations of the Crown Land Department; these regulations prescribe that land beyond 100 acres, cannot be purchased under the instalment principle by one person. So far back as 1853, Inches purchased land in the name of his brothers, and his Son (then six years old), on the instalment principle, and thus no excuse can be offered in defence or palliation of this conduct.

These facts come to the knowledge of the present Government; what is their course, do they attempt to cover his deeds, or shield him from exposure? No, had they been as a Government accomplices with him, they would have defended, but they do the very opposite—they suspend him at once; by this decided act they show their marked disapproval of his conduct, and by their promptness and energy show their full determination to have the whole affair exposed. If they had been mixed up with Mr. Inches they would have retained his services, and thus secured his evidence in their favor, instead of provoking him by their suspension from office, to do as he said he would, his worst against them.

Mr. Inches, stung by this suspension, vows revenge, and comes before the Committee, it is said, raging; he shows himself an unscrupulous Partisan, and while with the one hand, he endeavours to blacken all in the present Government, from whom he knows he can hope for no defence; with the other hand, he whitewashes the past Government; the Mr. R. D. Wilmot of which, he formerly despised, evidently hoping that from them he might gain some favours in return.

The Opposition then endeavour to draw away public attention from Mr Inches, and from the fact that this system has been of twenty years standing. Wily politicians on this Committe, and their satellites out of it, have directed public attention away from the main point, by attempting to include the Government, and all who have bought land within the past six years, in the censure that justly should fall only on Mr. Inches and his confederates, a very select few.

From what we know of this matter, we are led to fear that the Attorney General has acted with some indiscretion, in applying for, and obtaining some 7 or 800 acres of land, by instalments, thus violating the Government regulations which cannot be justified, and for which his Colleagues and the Queen's Representative condemn him; but even he has not a quantity such as one might have supposed, from the noise made by the Opposition; but this great excitement has been worked up, and grossly magnified in its dimensions, and that for purely political ends.

Against the Provincial Secretary the whole force of this agitation has been most earnestly directed. Since last September, this plot has been hatching—to crush him; the Opposition cunningly and in secret laid their plans; to blast his fair fame and unsullied reputation, which we regard with honest satisfaction, and with swelling pride, their vilest tools were employed, and their wiliest schemers were confederate. Charge upon charge was trumped up, and to sustain these a small degree of truth was mixed up with much falsehood, and while they dare not openly accuse they covertly hinted. Unlike the highwayman who comes boldly forth, and demands your money, or your life, they assasin like stab in the dark, and more than once has it been proven by this Mr. Inches himself, as well by Mr. Tilley, both on oath, that the statements published in the "Colonial Empire" and in its Extras, sent free through the Country in cartloads, were untruths; full of prejudice and incorrectly given forth, for which however, their Fredericton Reporter is not to blame.

The witness who withholds explanations, or hides part of the evidence, is perjured equally with him who states positive falsehoods; in this case we charge both courses upon some of the reported evidence in that paper, in connection with Mr. Tilley's case, for it is notorious, among the Reporters in Fredericton, that they all say the Reports in the Empire are not in accordance with the truth!

Mr. Tilley purchased land when a private individual, being neither a member of the Government or Legislature, nor having at that time any expectation of being so; he obtained it openly at Public Auction by his Agent, Mr. Arnold, who was not a Deputy, nor in any way connected with the Public Lands. But on this point we shall quote Mr. Tilley's own statement made upon Oath, of all the Crown Lands he has ever purchased, and the means taken by him:—

In December 1856 I concluded to purchase in King's Co., 300 or 400 acres of good agricultural land, if it could be had at a reasonable price. I was informed by a gentleman in St John that T. O. Arnold, Esq., of Sussex, (not Deputy Arnold) was well acquainted with the lands in that County, and I was referred to him for information.

On the 1st January, 1857, I had an interview with him upon the subject. He said he attended the land sales, knew the quality of the land, and thought he could procure what I wanted. I named 800 acres for self and two friends. He subsequently informed me that he had bought at auction 1280 acres in three lots, one 700, one 370, and one 280 acres; that it was good land, and cheap at 3s. cash per acre, including survey.

I purchased from him the three lots at the price named. It cost Mr. Arnold in cash about 2s. 5d and the 2d. or 3d. per acre survey.

I had no personal knowledge of the way in which these lands were applied for. In February 1857 I applied for 670 acres, and had them brought to sale I placed money in the hands of Mr. James Johnson, who then resided at Moneton, with a request that he would bid to a certain price for me on the day of sale; they were put up at public auction, he purchasing for me, and paid the cash down, as I believe. Three lots, with the land purchased from Arnold, include all that I own under grant from the Crown. They were all brought to sale under advertisement by the Hon. J. Montgomery, Surveyor General, consequently I was not only not a member of the Government, but not a member of the House at the time.

I have on more than one occasion offered the whole or part of these lands to actual settlers at the price they cost me, and a gentleman in St. John now holds a written assurance from me, to give a friend of his, a mechanic in St. John, a deed for a portion of this land at the cost price, provided he settles upon and improves the same within eighteen months from July last, the date of my letter.

Early in 1858 Mr. William Rodgers, Lime burner, Portland, wished me to select for him and some seven or eight others, a good tract of land for actual settlement. I advised him to come to Fredericton and make personal examinations from plans and returns in the Crown Land Office, and at the same time told him that I had purchased a lot of land from Mr. Arnold, said to be superior, and if he and his associates preferred it to any other they could have it at the price it cost me. If he has purchased he has made his selection elsewhere.

In the Autumn of 1858, Mr. Cruikshank, in the establishment of Messrs. Jardine & Co., shewed me a correspondence between him and a friend in Scotland, who had been at work in New Brunswick, by which it appeared that some eight or ten families contemplated coming out from Scotland to New Brunswick. Mr. Cruikshank seemed disposed to advise them to go to the neighborhood of Richibucto. I then told him that I thought they would find it more convenient in King's or Westmorland, and that they could have any or all of my lands at the cost price, if they wished them.

In March 1860, Robert Bowes, Esq., of St John visited Fredericton on behalf of an Association formed in St John, for the purpose of inducing a portion of the laboring population of that City to settle in the country. He visited the Crown Land Office and made selection of a tract or two of land to be surveyed for the applicants, in connection with the St John Association. One of these tracts was in the neighborhood of the 1280 acres purchased from Mr. Arnold. I said to him before he left Fredericton, that if the applicants should prefer mine to any other land in the neighborhood, not granted, they could have part or the whole of it, at what it cost me. In confirmation of this statement, I beg to refer to Mr. Bowes' letter hereto annexed. I have made similar proposals to one or two others. I state this to shew that I have not retarded the settlement of these lands.

After examining plans and maps in the Crown Land Office, in Feb 1857, I asked Mr. Inches what was necessary to be done to bring the Lots selected to sale. (Previous to this time I had never seen an application made, and was ignorant of the exact mode of procedure) He then produced some blank forms, and asked what names I wished it to be brought to sale in, remarking at the same time, that the name of the applicant for lands sold at Auction seldom appeared in the Gazette. I then named three parties, one of whom was Jas Johnson, the person who purchased them for me; these I think he inserted, and when I asked him if it was not necessary that I should sign the application, he said I could if I wished, but it was immaterial. I however signed my name to the application. Reference to the document will settle this question. I did not consider that any exceptions could be taken to these proceedings. During the Session of 1858, I asserted in the House that I had not, since I had been in the Government, applied for an acre of Crown Land for myself. This assertion I now, on oath, state to be correct.

This statement Inches arose and said was correct and truthful in every particular, although the "Colonial Empire" carefully suppressed this fact. Again when it has been attempted to show that Mr. Tilley should have prevented this Inches from acting as he did, during the term of his administration, what does he say?

I do not wish that it shall be inferred from this that I was ignorant that lands were being sold at auction in the Counties of King's, Westmorland, and Albert. It was no doubt known, not only by some of the Government, but by a large portion of the readers of our Provincial newspapers.—These lands have been regularly advertised for thirty days previous to the day of public sale; not only in the *Royal Gazette*, but in some of the newspapers having a very extensive circulation in all parts of New Brunswick. They are in my opinion read by thousands, but what I do assert is, that I was not aware that Mr Inches, the Chief Draughtsman in the Crown Land Office, and the permanent head of the department, was a large purchaser, or that he had bought, or had an interest in any lands sold by the Crown during the time that I have been Provincial Secretary. By examination of some of the plans in the Crown Land Office, I saw the names of some four or five persons covering tracts, varying from 400 to 1000 acres. I did not know that they were not really owned by the parties whose names appeared upon the plan.

Mr. R. D. Wilmot in 1857, said to Mr. Tilley, in reference to these very lands, "I (R. D. Wilmot) know that you (S. L. Tilley,) obtained your lands in a proper manner!" If right then, what is wrong now? Two winters ago, this subject was brought up in the Assembly, founded on lying statements published in the "Freeman," when the same verdict was pronounced. Knowing this, the Opposition are now endeavouring to create the impression that there were other lands, they knowing full well that there was but one transaction; the one referred to above through Mr. Arnold. Then again they seek to couple the names of J. J. Frazer and J. S. Tries with that of Mr. Tilley, with neither of whom has he said he had the least connection in this matter! When this false statement of the "Empire" was brought before the Committee by Mr. Tilley R. D. Wilmot attempted to excuse the "Empire's" course by the miserable subterfuge, that the Reporter had probably mixed up Inches' testimony with Mr. Gowan's!!! Why their course of persecution against Mr. Tilley has been that not of men, but of demons, all the malignity which self-seeking partisans could exhibit, has been poured out against the man whose position renders him the foremost mark for their abuse, and whose character, far above reproach, they seek to degrade to their own level. The cry with the Club, and the Tories has been "Kill Tilley and they'll all come down." They tried him in his Financial arrangements; there was not a penny mispent, and the shrewdest of his opponents could not find a flaw in his accounts. They attacked his Railway Expenditure in connection with the Commissioners, but not a farthing could they alledge unaccounted for. They now attack him in his private character—his last great stronghold, but in this latest and most diabolical scheme, they have most ignominiously failed. he has met these accusations in one of the most able, truthful and triumphant vindications we have ever read. Following this up, he was exposed for many hours to the most searching cross examination; not a point was left untouched, nor a position unshaken, and in the words of one of our oldest and worthiest men who heard him and told us, "He was like one of these old Spanish plumper Dollars, the more he was rubbed, the brighter he grew."

Like an ancient Prime Minister against whom the jealousy of the opposition was directed, his assailants knew the only method they could attack him, was by a bold onslaught on his private character—they had tried every baser mean, they now attack him through a higher, but in a baser way. In the olden time they raised the issue that "no man shall approach to a Higher" to ask aught for the space of thirty days, save of thee, O, King," they knew well that Daniel would be true to his duty, no matter where it led him. His enemies triumph—with demoniac glee, they clutch each other's hand—their victim is now secure, but alas for their plots! There is a Power stronger than their's defending him! Truth triumphs! and it will again, for its power is as strong now as in the days of Darius, and will as surely bring out safely our modern Prime Minister, as it did him against whom the Princes and Presidents of that day, devised their infamous plot!

The designs of the Tories of New Brunswick, in condemning so strongly as they are now doing, the system which was inaugurated by them, and which has been in operation during the greater part of the time, that Tory governments ruled the Province, is too clear to be mistaken: the desire to obtain a party triumph overrides all other considerations—the love of country, and all the feelings which make up a pure patriotism!

The real animus is apparent in the request which Mr. R. D. Wilmot made to Mr. Inches some time since, a request so infamous that we could hardly believe that there were men living in our midst so debased as to make it: that "Mr. R. D. Wilmot asked Inches to alter the date of a document so as to place Tilley in a false position!!" This of course Wilmot denies, and Inches says he might have said that Mr. Wilmot wished him to "fix" this document, but he thinks he did not say alter; but here is a gentleman, Alexander Shives, Esq., a merchant of high standing in our city, who has no political ends to serve, who is in no way connected with the government, who unsolicited comes forward and swears that Mr. Inches told him that Wilmot asked him to alter this document to injure Tilley. Whom are we to believe? It is a matter between this precious pair Wilmot and Inches; and putting them both together, with all their political partizanship, over against Mr. Shives, we have no hesitation in deciding as to whom we believe. Low as human nature has sunk, depraved though it be, we never thought it had sunk so low as evidenced in this request of Wilmot to Inches, had we not proof of it which cannot be controverted. No wonder when Mr. Shives gave this damning fact, and was about to reveal other of these horrid devices, the Committee at once brought their investigation (?) to a close.—Against such diabolical schemes and unprincipled schemers, will not every honest man rise up, and when bad men combine, surely good men ought to unite, to bear up, sustain, and defend the innocent.

What reliance can be placed upon Inches testimony, when in the early part of it he alleged that the Hon Mr. Brown was incompetent, and then at a later period, when Mr. Gowan stated that the business of the Surveyor General's Department was *never in a better position*, nor the work in a greater state of forwardness, and that "Mr. Brown, is a man of sound sense and untiring energy, and these qualities he has exhibited in connection with the Crown Land Office, and that if old age had impaired Mr. Brown's mental powers, he had never detected it." This same Mr. Inches, who at first attempted to decry the old man, who is one of the best public servants the country ever had, then rose up, and stated, that what Mr Gowan had said he entirely concurred in. Taking this in connection with his course regarding his conversation with Mr. Shives and Mr. Ferris, may we not fairly ask, what reliance can be placed upon the evidence of such a witness?

Much has been said and written, on the practice of using fictitious names, and this we consider objectionable, but it appears to have been the rule, rather than the exception and the head of the department, Mr. Andrew Inches seems to have been the party who induced applicants to resort to this, and in such a case, who would consider it objectionable? This course he pursued under Baillie, Montgomery, R. D. Wilmot, and Brown, and if wrong then, why did they not check it when they had the power, and it came before them legitimately as the Political heads of that department? At the commencement of a sickness, the remedy should be applied, for a Physician has little power when for years the system has been exposed to disease.

While however, we assert, that such a course is objectionable, we do not see that in the disposal of land by public sale, the interests of the province can be materially injured thereby; the sale of land at Public auction, according to advertisement, where there is open competition, appears to be just and fair to all parties. If the present system be open to abuse, the natural enquiry is, what is the remedy? We say a tax upon these lands while unoccupied and unimproved—the proceeds therefrom, to be applied to the opening of the roads, in the Parish where such lands lie. We commend this view of the case in our Legislators, and we sincerely trust, that the measure for that purpose, now before the House may become law.

We have heard it asserted that the conditions of actual settlement should be attached to the sales of all Crown Lands. We do not concur in this proposition. Some of the Lands that bring the highest prices are not fit for settlement, they are purchased for the Lumber or Wood that is standing upon them, and this constitutes their chief value. If settlement be made the only conditions of sale, the Province would lose a large sum yearly, and evils would arise greater than any which have yet appeared.

Then again a farmer may wish to purchase in his immediate vicinity 100 acres each for his sons to occupy, when they come of age, and if immediate settlement was in all cases necessary a father could not make this reasonable provision for his children's wants in his own locality; this is a point which should be carefully guarded, that now when seeking Emigrants from abroad, we do not by unwise Legislation drive away those, the best of our people, whom we have now in our midst.

We have, so far, endeavoured to place this matter fairly before our readers, and to bring out the parties who are really guilty, and now, whatever the Report of this Committee may be, we hope it will get a thorough discussion. Of the composition of the Committee we have a word to say. If shame could not have prevented Mr. R. D. Wilmot, who was himself a Surveyor General, and under whose administration much of this evil which Mr. Inches has done, took place; surely the fact, that he himself should have been a Witness, instead of a Judge, ought to have prevented; and we may justly infer, that he secured himself a seat there, that he might avoid a position where he would have been forced to tell what might not have so well served his purposes; then Mr. Tibbitts, an unscrupulous partisan, inflamed against the Government, because they will not grant him the sops he asks for, and whose motives are so well known, that we shall not dwell upon them. Mr. Kerr is an honorable man; a Tory, and one always opposed to the Liberal party. Mr. McLeod, and Mr. McClellan, are high-minded, honorable men, both supporters of the Government, but they are in a minority, against these three out and out opponents.

Throughout the whole of this investigation, which has been more like the proceedings of the Star Chamber, and its chief and assistant Judges like the notorious Jeffreys; it was painful to follow the course pursued, and to watch the catlike dexterity, with which the opposition would fasten upon the smallest point that could be made to tell against the Government, and to mark the desire apparent, to smother all that might lead to a general exposure, involving those who past or present belonged to the Great Tory Party; their course in the Partelow matter, is an example in point, and their shielding Inches in refusing to tell his partners, and which Mr. Wright demanded should be pressed. So partisan was their whole course, that honest John Cudlip denounced it on the floors of the House, and we shall hear more of it, in the coming debate.

During previous winters, the time of the House had been wasted in useless Railway Investigations, carried on at great expense to the country, and damage to the Works, by the withdrawal of the Overseers from the management, and all ended in triumphantly freeing the Government and their Commissioners from the charges trumped up against them; this time, a new dodge is tried; for several days a man who is in the pay of the Imperial Government, and whose past career has won for him an unenviable notoriety, was at Fredericton perfecting the details of this long-talked of scheme; a newspaper, or papers, under his management, having associated with him a disappointed renegade politician, was started by a "Club," and filled with false reports of this matter; they have got into their hands other journals, to effect different interests—to change the Baptists, and to bring over the Temperance men the latter has given his promise; this "Club" know that for good and sufficient reasons, the Baptists have long supported the Liberal party, and they know, too, and it is one of their chief causes of hate, that the Hon. S. L. Tilley has long been the consistent advocate of the Great Temperance Reform, and when for political and other reasons, its friends became few, among the faithless around him, he was found to be ever true. The "Temperance Telegraph" sustained that Reform, money was freely given to support it in the work—it has, like the Baptist Organ, been purchased by the Club, every member of which is a confirmed Tory; every man of them thoroughly anti-Temperance—and many of them engaged in the Liquor Traffic; and they know well that the same attempt which is made to destroy Mr. Tilley, while he will, because unconnected with such influences, become even more powerful, must destroy it, and thus at least, in its destruction one of their objects will be attained.

Such a plot as this we have never been called upon to expose, and for the sake of our Human Nature, we hope we never shall be again. In this Land Jobbing cry, men who were themselves chiefly guilty, were either the prime movers—the witnesses—the Judge, or the Denouncers! Hatred of the Government, and above all, of the Hon. S. L. Tilley, and not love of country, was their sole ruling passion! How different their course from that of the Government? When upon one of their number there was cast the slightest imputation, mark the desire on their part to cover it up, while on the other hand, when one of their members were implicated, the Government promptly called upon him to resign, and he refusing, they as promptly placed their resignations in the hands of the Governor, but he would not accept. Are there evidences of guilt in this? Would men who had aught to hide, thus call upon one of their chief officers to resign, and thus fearlessly, by this act, dare him to show in what they had done wrong? And would not the Governor, who is not ever inclined to the Liberal Party, have accepted these resignations, had he not known that Mr. Tilley and his confreres were free of all blame. Like honest, fearless men, they, the Representatives of the People, asked to come before the People; they had done no wrong—they would wash their hands of all wrong doing, no matter by whom done, and now thus free, and without a charge against them, which they are afraid to meet, they can fearlessly appeal to that People, whom the have faithfully served, to render a true verdict, in accordance with these facts.

[FOR THE REPORTER.]

SIR, I observe in the "Morning Freeman" and "Colonial Empire" of the 14th inst., certain statements with regard to my evidence, given before the Investigating Committee on "Land Jobbing," which are false and wholly unwarranted. I should not have taken the trouble to contradict these statements, knowing as I do that