

To the Printer of the St. John Gazette.

IVth. LETTER OF ALFRED.

MR. MOTT,

THREE Letters of the Freeholder to Creon I have answered, and a well grounded confidence assures me that those answers have been satisfactory to the public, that they have shewn clearly his intentions to deceive them by misrepresentations, and to give to fraud and cunning the semblance of truth, and honorable inducement for the purpose of justifying the unwarrantable and very dishonorable conduct of his Champions, and securing to them once more the means of abusing the confidence of their Constituents. This 4th Letter is certainly a little different from those which have preceded it, in the mode of attempting imposition: His cunning and smooth plausibility have failed, and he approaches the public in this Letter, with the appearance of all that assurance which would naturally result from conscious reſtitution; thus, taking a different road to the same goal, not with any real expectations of ever arriving there, but solely with a view to keep up the ball, and increase his claim to recompence, from those he has been vainly attempting to extricate from the mire; he is very sensible that all his efforts have hitherto only plunged them deeper, and that his further persistence will completely smother them; yet as he sees their fate inevitable, he grows more indifferent as he approaches this unavoidable *ne plus ultra* which must sooner or later be the closing scene of his farce.

There are a description of people Mr. Mott, whom we sometimes meet with, and who are termed familiar scrubs—they will be acquainted with you, with or without your permission; they will dine with you to day self-invited, because they know that they are your most welcome guests; they will sup with you to-morrow, because they are satisfied that you'll be highly gratified by seeing them so soon again; and they will visit you again the day following, in the fullest confidence that their company is as grateful to you, as your wine is to them; and thus, taking all for granted that promotes their own wishes, (like the Irishman who was half married when he had obtained his own consent) they glide smoothly (for a while) down the stream of human life (without rudder or compass) waſted by the gentle, spicy and aromatic breezes of their own vanities, until they find themselves suddenly so encircled by rocks and quicksands that destruction is unavoidable, and this before they have discovered a single breaker a head, or that their ideas have suggested the smallest apprehension of that danger from which there is then no retreat: Just such a licence has the Freeholder taken with the public and with Creon in the beginning of his fourth Letter—and just such a termination will it lead him to. He first thanks Creon for informing the public that the majority of the Members quitted the House without leave, and then adds "We have always agreed in this part of the Statement of Facts"—Now Mr. Mott, I feel strongly disposed to meet these easy and modest assertions of the Freeholder with a head wind; to before he glides very smoothly down the stream, but he must permit me to shew him how to face about, lest he should remain as uninformed in that manoeuvre as he seems to think my friend the Major. You must know Mr. Mott, that having already discovered this Freeholder of yours to have no attachment whatever to the truth when a departure from it will better serve his turn: I have again looked into Creon's Statement, and I find that the liberty he has taken with Creon on this occasion is wholly unfounded; it is true that Creon does not in direct terms inform us that these Members had permission from the House to withdraw when they did so; but I will pledge myself to the public in support of the assertion that these gentlemen did not depart without the assent of the House, and that Creon as well as the Clerk will, if publicly asked the question, support me therein, nor will I believe that the late Speaker will presume to contradict them. I will admit that there was an out-door report on Wednesday, that the seven Champions were to proceed to business on Thursday, and (among other things) to repeal the Charter of the City of Saint John, and to increase the Representation of King's County—And I will also admit, that on the evening of the same day (Wednesday) the Members for Queen's County left Fredericton unwilling perhaps to repeal the Charter of the City, and thereby deprive some of their friends of those Offices which their own wife and judicious political career may have been instrumental in procuring for them: Whether these gentlemen had leave from the House to depart, I leave to them, or to their friend the Freeholder to inform the public; I myself believe they had not, and although I will on that head go no further in assertion; (from my determination never to assert more than I am clearly satisfied is a fact,) yet I will venture to throw the gauntlet to those gentlemen, and defy them to prove that they had leave to depart—for out of ten Members who withdrew after Monday the 1st of March, and before the prorogation, I firmly believe that the two Members last mentioned were the only two who departed without the assent of the House. How contemptible Mr. Mott, must a man appear on reflection, in his own judgment, who thus exposes himself to public detection—Every person who will refer to Creon's Statement for ascertaining whether the Freeholder has commenced his fourth Letter with a truth, or a falsehood, must detect him in the latter, and it will appear to be one of those impudent and atrocious attempts to impose on the credulous and incautious, which ought utterly to destroy all credence to any thing that may come from him in future.

Similar to this, is his next assertion that the eight Members were travelling home before the Money Bill had reached the Council Chamber: Not a Member of the late House Mr. Mott, will dare presume to support him in such assertion—The fact is as notorious (as his talents for the propagation of falsehoods will be from hence forward) that the Money Bill had been sent up to the Council, and that the Members by whom it was sent had returned to the House and reported, before the eight Members alluded to, had left the Lower House. Shame! Shame! on your Freeholder Mr. Mott, to what lengths will his dishonorable zeal in a bad cause not carry him? If he was even one of

those Lawyers who to the discredit of their profession, may be induced to prostitute their talents for the establishment of wrong, and the defeating of right; he has already gone too far, when a jealous and discerning public are the jury: Let me advise him Mr. Mott, to desert a cause which can only be supported by such perjuries in the Court of honor, and by such gross attempts at imposition that detection must immediately ensue, unless he is determined to perish with his cause and has no regard to his posthumous reputation with the world.

The Freeholder Mr. Mott, says, he is at a loss for the meaning of the word *oppressive* as applied by Creon to the longer attendance of the eight Members; I will as readily as Dean Swift give the Devil his due, for I think it not improbable that the Freeholder may be ignorant of a part of the oppressive effects of a longer attendance, and it will be proper therefore to convey to him as well as to the public at large, a little information on that head: In the first place then, the reimbursement of the Members expences comes out of the Treasury of the Province, and a longer attendance on their part than is necessary for the dispatch of the public business, must be oppressive to the Province; but this is not the greatest part of the evil; it is well known that this reimbursement of expences to the Members was intended as the great mean of securing to the Province a free, virtuous, uncorrupted and independent Representation; for, as few of the Representatives are able to afford the expence of an attendance on their duties in the House without injury to themselves and families, so of consequence they would be compelled to send those who could encounter the expence, (and who perhaps might be incompetent) or to Elect non-residents in the vicinity of the House; perhaps this may in part explain the true ground of the long contest between the two Houses on this point: And now let us inquire how this object is carried into effect, for out of that, I think the *oppression* alluded to, will appear to arise. I am very badly informed, or the greater part, if not every one of the few Members who voted for the alteration of the Money Bill on Thursday the fourth of March, received Warrants on the Treasury for the reimbursement of their expences of attendance during the Session, before they left Fredericton on their return home; not one of the gentlemen can be considered as persons in immediate want of such a supply, or who could possibly be put to much inconvenience by the expence arising from their attendance. Has Major Dixon ever yet obtained his Warrant? Has Mr. Street to this hour obtained his? To which and how many of the rest of the Members have Warrants yet been issued, you cannot I presume inform us Mr. Mott, but the Secretary of the Province can, although I think he will not, and if he should he will perhaps tell you that there is no Money in the Treasury, and if there is, that there are arrears of prior Appropriation unsatisfied; have these arrears barred the payments of the Warrants which have been issued to the Noble Colonel and others; and would not the issuing Warrants to those who feel the want of this Money accommodate the parties and probably expedite the payment? I am well aware of all the flimsy cobweb replies that can be made to these inquiries, and I am as well assured that they will never convince the Electors of this Province that their Representatives have been reimbursed their expences in that mode, which is necessary to secure them from inconvenience and oppression in the virtuous discharge of the public trust reposed in them. I agree fully with the Freeholder Mr. Mott, that the spirit of an Englishman will be roused by oppression—I have for Creon adduced to him that instance he requires in justification of the use Creon has made of the term; and not having failed in this, he will I hope permit me to continue to enjoy the reputation of a very Loyal man without bearing any testimony in favor of his friend the Cormorant or of any thing under his influence or direction.

Allow me to return for Creon all due acknowledgment to the Freeholder for his very handsome testimony in favor of Creon's Pamphlet, which "in the hands of men of judgment and information" he says "is certainly the most inoffensive performance which has appeared in public print" "but with the greater part of the good people of this Province the Book" he says "may do some mischief"—This is really in few words Mr. Mott, a very honest apology by the Freeholder for all the hum-bugs and misrepresentations he has troubled the public with; I have in my last observed to him that he "must have a very contemptible opinion of that public to whom he writes, if we are to judge by these presumptuous attempts to impose on their understanding."—And in his reason given for his attacks upon Creon, he acknowledges my conclusion to have been just, and that he really has calculated his Letters for the mediums of folly and ignorance; and under this description of fools and blockheads he includes the greater part of the good people of this Province: For my own part Mr. Mott, I think he never was more out in his calculation, and that there are few, very few indeed, who can be either deceived or misled by those flimsy attempts at imposition which he has sported (by his own acknowledgment) at the ignorant and uninformed: He says indeed that he has made these attacks "with all the exertion in his power" if this is true I can only say God help him with a little more whenever he is inclined to employ it in a better cause. I admire the Freeholder's ingenuity Mr. Mott, in his next paragraph, for (beginning to discover that he cannot get over his difficulties by the detection of one single error in Creon's Statement,) he cunningly attempts to creep under them, by asserting that Creon's Pamphlet is misnamed, and is only a Statement of a Fact, which Fact (as stated by himself) he admits: Perhaps he had not Creon's Statement of Facts before him when he wrote; I will therefore impute this to his want of memory unless he feels inclined to ease his conscience by the acknowledgment that it arose from his great aversion to the light of truth—Charitably for the present presuming the former, I will enumerate the Facts given to us by Creon, which are as follows, viz.

First—That the Lower House had dispatched all the business before them at the time of the departure of the eight Members who left the House on Tuesday.

Second—That the number remaining were only ten, including the Speaker, and of course incompetent to the business they proceeded on.

Third—That the alteration made (by five out of seven Members only present in the House on Thursday) in the Money Bill, had been resisted in a full House but three days before; and therefore (had the House been competent to doing business,) they could not have put the same question a second time (which had been only three days before negatived in a full House) and in the presence only of a majority of five to two, which majority of five were well known to be those who held the affirmative when the question was first put.

Fourth—That the rights of the House would probably have been surrendered to the opinion of the Judges, if the motion had not been opposed by Mr. Street.

Fifth—That the invariable usage of the House was departed from, solely for the purpose of a *dishonorable advantage*, derogatory to the dignity of the House, and to the eternal disgrace of those who destroyed that security which the House had heretofore derived from the honor of its Members.

Sixth—The strange and mysterious communication between the seven Champions and the \_\_\_\_\_ on Wednesday, and the Speaker and the \_\_\_\_\_ on Thursday.

Seventh—That the Speaker left the Chair on Mr. Street's motion on Wednesday (as it was his duty to do) and retained it in defiance of a similar motion from Mr. Street on Thursday, and proceeded to business to which the House were incompetent; but this was subsequent to his communication with the \_\_\_\_\_.

Eighth—That the Speaker at the instance of five Members only altered with his own hand a Bill which had passed the House, after the Clerk had refused to make such alteration.

These are all the material facts Mr. Mott, which we derive from Creon, for as to the *one* which the Freeholder gives him credit for, it is literally of his own forging and fabrication, and is really as he says "a silly weak thing" which he ought to be ashamed to acknowledge: He next alludes to Mr. Street's being interested in the alteration made in the Money Bill; I grant that he was very honorably and honestly interested therein to the amount of the Monies granted to him by the House for his services: The Freeholder cannot be more ready than Mr. Street will be to announce to the public the interest he had in that Bill, and the means adopted to deprive him of the Monies granted to him thereby, under a *j—g* conference and a false report: These tricks Mr. Mott, were disgraceful to the scene of action, but more so to the *j—s* who conducted them, and the Freeholder who attempts their defence: The cause of all this clamour he tells you is the taking "the valuable name" of Mr. Street out of the Money Bill: Mr. Street is I believe allowed by those who know him to be a man of honor and probity: The value of the Freeholder's name I shall leave to the public to discover, but I would give him on this head a friendly hint, that it will be well to be rather more circumspect in his manner of introducing Mr. Street's name in future: He is I believe an Englishman, and they are sometimes a little tenacious on improper familiarities: By keeping this gentleman's name in the Money Bill he tells us we should have lost the Revenue: I think Mr. Mott, I am better informed, and therefore I will not believe him: Still less will his illiberal and ungentlemanly insinuation, that Mr. Street's whole object was to get hold of the Monies granted to him by the House, be credited by any one to whom that gentleman is known: To my knowledge Mr. Mott, Warrants for all the Monies granted to Mr. Street as Clerk of the House were offered to him in April last by Mr. Odell the Secretary of this Province, who informed him that the Warrants were made out to Dugald Campbell, Esq. and by him indorsed to Mr. Street: These Warrants Mr. Mott, were rejected by Mr. Street, who scorned to receive the Monies justly due to him in any manner inconsistent with the right of the House under which he holds his appointment, as such as he spurns the Freeholder and his insinuation; this conduct I think was proof sufficient that to get hold of this Money was not his sole object, as the Freeholder so maliciously and impudently asserts, but on the contrary very clearly evinces that he would not deviate in the smallest degree from that uniform consistency which should mark every decisive act of a man of honor and principle, although the sacrifice of all he had justly earned should be the certain consequence: He was not therefore as the Freeholder is pleased to term it, *unhorsed*: He only declined mounting the Garran, which was offered him in full confidence: That the next House will mount him more to his taste as an Englishman at a future day; but the Noble Colonel rode off triumphantly the Freeholder informs us: I grant that he carried his Warrant for his expences in his pocket, which the poor Members of less interest and more honor did not: Be the triumph all his own, and the Freeholder his Herald to proclaim it: I envy him not.

With what a malicious glee Mr. Mott, does the Freeholder inform us, that an honest, brave and deserving old Officer has only the half pay of a Lieutenant: What a generous cause for exultation! I sincerely lament his Poverty, and the more, when I reflect how nobly it stood the test of all those trials and temptations which assailed it during the last Session: Belial thou tempter bluish, when thou readest these last three lines from the pen of ALFRED.

FOR THE SAINT JOHN GAZETTE.

SO, Mr. Reader and Customer! Are you In Reality a Mechanic too, what a powerful genius you have! But I have suspected you for some time past, and all my journeymen, when the Papers have been brought into the shop, have said, that some how or other, your writings did not work to a joint; they could never think that when a man said no, it was just the same as if he said yes; and they thought it was impossible, they said, that the House of Assembly could be no higher than the Common Council of the City, to be *mandamus* and *sis-ser-rar-roed*, whenever they did wrong, by the Supreme Court; they were sure