

cions which as a body they excite—(Cheers.) I repeat, I have no sympathy with Orange lodges, and I regret their existence in Canada and elsewhere. But the Council pressed on Sir C. Metcalfe that he should pass not an act, but that on his own authority he should give effect to an act analogous to the party processions of this country, and which would have the effect of virtually proscribing every person that belonged to an Orange Society. Sir C. Metcalfe, well knowing that amongst that body—whatever be their errors—and he is as little disposed as I am to lean to them—there are many loyal, faithful and devoted subjects of the Crown, refused, on the part of the Executive, to take any harsh or arbitrary measure, which should go to the verge of legality, for the purpose of suppressing that institution. They next pressed for the introduction of a bill. Sir C. Metcalfe's answer was, if anything was to be done in the matter, he should infinitely prefer legislation. A bill was introduced, and in its progress it was repeatedly and constantly objected to by Sir C. Metcalfe, as containing arbitrary provisions of an oppressive and unconstitutional character, and as being one to which he felt the strongest objection. And I do not think the House will be of opinion that these terms were too strong, when I state the leading provisions of this bill. Every Orangeman was declared by the Bill incapable of holding municipal or civil office, of serving in the militia, or of serving as jurors when challenged. Every person holding office was to make affidavit that he was not an Orangeman, and penalties of the severest character were inflicted for holding office without making such an affidavit. In the last place, the furniture was sold and licence forfeited of any public-house in which a lodge was held. What did the governor do? He had the power of assenting to any act in the name of the Crown, leaving it to the Crown to disallow his decision if it were thought proper. He has the power, and, according to his instructions, he was bound to cause any bill of an extraordinary or unusual character to be reserved for the signification of the Queen's pleasure; the effect of which was, that such a measure should not become law until the Crown in person signified its assent or dissent. The course he took was pursuant to his instructions. He reserved the bill for the signification of the Queen's pleasure, in order to leave to the constitutional advisers of the Crown the discretion of exercising that prerogative which he felt too weighty to take on himself. And that was the single executive, administrative, or legislative act with which the council found fault, and that on the ground that the exercise of the prerogative should be controlled by the advice of the very party to the passing of this bill—(Cheers.) Could a more complete, entire, and absolute surrender be demanded, not of the power of the Governor-General, but of the prerogative of the Crown?

Referring to the private acts relative to Canada passed in the Imperial Parliament, the noble lord said that he was ignorant of those particular cases mentioned by Mr. Roebuck, as the bills passed three or four years back, but he knew that when the company which was referred to by the honourable gentleman came to him, asking for powers to amend an act by the interposition of the British Parliament, the answer he gave was this:—"So far as relates to privileges and powers exercised by you in this country, I do not object to an act of Parliament; but, mind this, I insist that, whatever has been done by the Canadians, this act shall be of no avail until it has obtained the assent of the Colonial Legislature." So much for the justness of the principle of the honourable gentleman, when he gave cautious warnings. The best answer to his prophecies was the conduct pursued on this very bill. The clamour which had been raised against Sir Charles Metcalfe would, he felt confident, be overcome by his honesty, simplicity, and straightforwardness. He did not deny the great commercial and political importance of Canada to this country, but was not the connection also of the greatest benefit to that province?

Are they slight advantages which the people of Canada derive from the connection? They enjoy as free a Government and, I venture to say, the slightest taxation of any people on the inhabited globe. They have perfect religious freedom. They have, at no cost to them, the naval and military protection of one of the mightiest powers. They have annually an immense expenditure in the shape of commissariat and other establishments distributed over their territory. They have been enabled during the last year to borrow (while the United States are unable to obtain money at six per cent.) from their connection with this country, and nothing else, for the improvement of their internal communications, a million and a half, at little, if at all, exceeding three-and-a-half per cent. She has an immense indirect expenditure from the establishment of British merchants and the investment of British capital. I have stated already that she has the protection of this country. She has also for her produce (and no inconsiderable addition has lately been made to this advantage) the exclusive benefit of a free admission to the richest market in the world—(Cheers.) These are the advantages which Canada possesses through her connection with this country; these are the advantages which Canada must be prepared to sacrifice if a separation should unhappily result. It is for Canada well to consider whether the price she has to pay in the slight and all but nominal subordination to this country is too high a price for the protection, advantages, and substantial benefits conferred on her. But Canada must not expect, as the honourable and learned gentleman seems to think she has a right to expect, that she can at once enjoy the unlimited and entire independence of a separate republic, and the advantages derived from British protection and commerce. I believe the mass of the people of Canada are cordially attached to this country. I believe, when they seriously consider the results of the alternative I have put, they will follow, not the advice of unprincipled demagogues—bad, rash, and interested counsellors—but take as their guide the liberal, sound, and honest views of the Governor-General. I am persuaded that, by the exercise of sound sense and discretion, the people of Ca-

nada may long continue to enjoy the advantages she now possesses; and that, in connection with, rather than in subordination to, this country, she may assume the position of a thriving and happy colony.—(The noble lord sat down amid loud cheers.)

## The Loyalist.

FREDERICTON, (N. B.) JUNE 27, 1844.

### IMPRISONMENT OF O'CONNELL.—THE GRASPING SPIRIT OF POKERY CHECKED!!!

By the first June mail (which arrived in Fredericton on Thursday night last,) news of the most important nature was received. The arch-agitator and his satellites, who a short year ago were in a fair way of kindling rebellion into a flame, have been tried by the laws of their country, found guilty, sentenced to be fined and imprisoned, and are now in prison. O'Connell himself has been committed to the Penitentiary for one year! he has also to pay a fine of £2,000, and to give security, himself in £5,000, and two sureties in the sum of £2,500 each, to keep the peace for seven years. O'Connell is upwards of 70 years old, and a year's imprisonment at his age must be severely felt; as for the two thousand pounds fine it can easily be paid from the repeal-fund, although it must be extremely galling to the political fanatics to know that their money—subscribed in a moment of unholy enthusiasm to effect an unholy purpose—has found its way into the exchequer. But the hardest part of the sentence is the security required to keep the peace for seven years. What! must honest Dan no more hold his "monster meetings?"—Must he no longer hurl his fierce denunciations against the "Saxon invader?" How are the mighty fallen! The grey-headed sinner has suffered himself to be taken to the Penitentiary by a few policemen, and spite of all his ravings, not a rapscallion dared to interfere! But the old fox, willing to prolong the farce as long as possible, issued even then his mandate, in which he forbade any popular tumult—a thing most unlikely to happen—and even conjured the women and children to keep at home! But even the "finest pisanthry in the world" treated the "last of the Tribunes" with that contempt his crimes and his cowardice have so richly merited. The streets were thronged, but the police passed quietly through them with their charge; not one attempted to arrest their progress—not a voice cried "rescue!" The poor miserable dupes of Dublin, who once thronged the plains of Clontarf, were at length convinced that they had been misled—that the criminal then in their presence had transgressed the laws of his country, and richly merited the punishment about to be inflicted on him, and that, were the civil authorities not powerful enough to punish him, the army was ready and willing to assist.

Ministers have achieved a great moral triumph, and they have done it not by a stretch of the powers invested in them, nor by asking Parliament for additional powers, but by calling into requisition the laws of the land. They have shown that our excellent code of laws are sufficiently stringent to bring to condign punishment the greatest—the most cunning—political offender of the age. The history of the Repeal Agitation is certainly curious: It was begun out of a mean spirit of revenge, because the Conservatives were restored to power in England, and most unfortunately for the Whig party it was connived at by them, hoping thereby so to embarrass Ministers as to make them resign, when their (the Whigs) return to power must follow. Ministers immediately increased the military establishment of the country, and it was supposed by their friends that a stop would be put to the "monster meetings" by force of arms. Still they were suffered to be held; and then the friends of the Ministry doubted—then even we expressed a doubt as to the propriety of further procrastination. But we must exonerate them from all charges of mismanagement—at that very time Government Reporters were employed collecting a mass of evidence which should ultimately convict the conspirators. They knew the temperature of the men they had to deal with better than we did. We supposed that any attempt to enforce the law against the offenders would have been met by resistance—followed by rebellion. We never supposed—what the Ministers knew—that the leaders of the ridiculous affair were such arrant cowards—that their significant threats were all blarney—that human nature had fallen so low! But when the Clontarf meeting was suppressed—when the conspirators were arrested—when they were tried and found guilty—when at the close of the nine days' debate Sir Robert Peel delivered his masterly speech in the House of Commons—then our confidence in the Ministry returned, and we said, "Dan must go to gaol." But we were laughed at. The procrastination, which resulted from a love of fair play on the part of the Government, and from a desire to catch at straws on the part of the criminals, gave fresh hopes mail after mail to the sympathizers in this country, till at length they exclaimed, "They dare not lay the weight of a finger on him!" Vain exultation! At that very hour the conspirators were committed each to his future residence in a house of correction, from whence all the prayers of all the faithful cannot liberate them!—Now the said sympathizers hang the under lip, for "Dagon their God is dead!"

The effects of the sentence will have an extraordinary and highly beneficial effect upon Ireland in particular, and the

British empire at large. Those who have been ready to desert the ranks of the Ministry, fearing they were too deeply imbued with the doctrines of expediency and conciliation, will again rally around them, rejoicing in this instance of their firmness. Radicals and rebels of all descriptions will know that there is a step beyond which they dare not go with impunity. And every true and loyal British subject—every lover of rational liberty—will rejoice that the majesty of the law has triumphed—that they can be protected against the designs of demagogues without the interference of the military.

This year has been peculiarly unfortunate to aspiring Roman Catholics. Their intolerant spirit—which has shown itself in France by the declaration of the clergy, in Ireland by the Repeal movement, in the United States by excluding the bible from the schools, in this Province by midnight attacks upon Protestants returning to their homes, and in Canada by the struggle of the French party for unlimited power—has in every instance met with a defeat. In France the Chambers have overruled the intolerance of the clergy, in Ireland the agitation is completely crushed, in the United States the people have arisen and taken vengeance on the bigots (we do not say a correct way of doing so,) by destroying their houses of public worship, in St. John one of the ringleaders has been shot, and in Canada there is no doubt but the Governor-General will ultimately triumph, sustained as he is by the loyal portion of the inhabitants, and the Government at home.

We bear Roman Catholics no ill-will: we desire all men to enjoy equal rights and privileges, and above all things liberty of conscience; but they are continually exerting themselves to obtain a power they never possessed but they abused.—We should imagine, however, that the defeat of the schemes we have just enumerated will teach them a lesson they will do well to remember for the future, viz:—that the Protestants of the nineteenth century cannot submit to the domination of a people who ever were and ever will be (generally speaking) bigoted and intolerant.

### SKETCH OF A TOUR TO WOODSTOCK AND VICINITY.

We left Fredericton on Thursday morning the 13th inst. on a visit to Woodstock and parts adjacent, on a collecting tour, for be it known to you, gentle reader, that instead of the people in this Province calling upon newspaper proprietors and paying the amount of their subscriptions, they wait very patiently until the proprietors call upon them, and then the visitor—poor devil—is the unluckiest wight in the world, to call just then, when, had he called a week sooner, or deferred his visit until a week later, he would have found them in funds, &c. We mention this as being too generally the case, although not without some honourable exceptions.

We travelled by the stage sixteen miles, to Mr. Long's tavern, and from thence—in consequence of being under the necessity of calling at a great many houses, crossing the river, &c.—we were obliged to foot it to Woodstock, a distance of forty-six miles. At Woodstock we hired a horse, and spent two or three days in travelling through the various settlements of Jacksontown, Richmond, Houlton, &c. This country is destined ere long to become the granary of New Brunswick. The land is of a very superior quality, and the face of the country has an agreeable appearance, undulating with hills which swell gradually from the fertile valleys at their base, through which flow streams of the purest water. Most of the land which is not yet brought under cultivation is covered with a heavy growth of hard-wood, chiefly rock-maple, interspersed with beech and birch; this is a sufficient proof of its strength, but if any were yet wanting it is to be found in the crops produced, which we are informed are equal, if not superior, to any grown on uplands in any part of the Province. Most of the settlers appear to be in easy circumstances—so far as being in possession of good farms, good stock, and the necessaries of life may be called so; but money is at present extremely scarce among them. This may be the result partly of the depression felt throughout the Province, but more in consequence of the facilities afforded in past times of obtaining credit at the stores—a most pernicious system, and we do not hesitate to say that the merchants of Woodstock—though unwittingly—have been the cause of much misery among the back settlers in the vicinity. The system pursued has been this: a settler goes to a store for some article he actually stands in need of, for which he pays the money, the merchant then recommends other goods, and if he is informed that the other has no more money, he—knowing that he has a farm—offers to trust him; the settler thinking that he can make good his payments at the time specified, is induced to purchase goods he could have done without, for which the merchant, being uncertain when he will get paid, charges one hundred per cent. profit—in some instances more than that. The high price alone must prove ruinous to the purchaser, but when pay-day comes and he is unable to pay—having perhaps run up a heavy bill—he is either obliged to sell his stock, or else to give the merchant a mortgage on his land. Sometimes the merchant, not having a large capital, is ruined himself; but where he is able to wait he soon becomes completely master over whole herds of poor settlers, holding them in complete bondage, by threatening to foreclose their mortgages unless they do his bidding. To such an extent has this system been carried out in Carleton County, that we see at this moment two men holding the situation of Members of