## GREAT-BRITAIN, &c.

BANK OF ENGLAND.—The quarterly meeting of the proprietors was held on Thursday. The hall was numerously crowded. A motion was made to exclude the reporters, which was opposed by Mr. Selwyn as ungracious and unusual. He contended that the Bank was under obligations to that of the Press which had detailed the evidence —whatever might be its feeling towards the other part which have dealt largely in comment without offering facts. The previous question was carried. The governor declared a dividend of four cent. interest and profits for the half-year ending October 10.—Mr. Blackburn said, the Ministers had dealt hard with the bank, perhaps a dividend like the present would never be declared again. The dividend was agreed to.—Mr. Yonge moved that a general resolution to this effect that the fluctuations in the capital, and the risks and losses of the Bank had been produced by political causes—by the interference of government compelling the bank to return to cash payments, &c. The public must not be led to believe that the bank made all profits. The motion was negatived, and one of confidence in the Directors was carried unanimously. The Governor returned thanks: he observed, that the directors were no party to the motion for excluding the press; they feared no publicity.—Adjourned.

### FATAL AFFRAY IN IRELAND.

On Monday morning, a body of 30 police, under the command of Chief Constable Burke, proceeded to post notices, for the payment of the arrears of tithe for 1831, in the Parish of Aglish, belonging to the Rev. Mr. Newport, near Mooincoin, in this county. A great crowd, as is customary, attended, and kept continually increasing for some time. Insulting language was used, as it is said, towards the police—such as, "Remember Carrickshock! "Remember Gibbons!" "This will be another Carrickshot!" were repeatedly used, and Constable Burke as repeatedly cautioned the people against committing any violence, and took precautions to have his men prepared for an attack, at the same time desiring them on no account to fire, unless he should distinctly order them to do so. After some time, the neighboring chapel bell was heard to ring, the noise and the insulting language increased, and the people went within twenty yards of the police and beckoned those more distant to approach them.

It is not asserted that the people were armed—it is not said that a stone was thrown—it is not hinted that any further symptoms of attack, than those we have stated, were apparent; but those were considered so sufficiently decided, that Captain Burke now thought it time to act. He drew out his watch, and told the people to disperse in ten minutes, or he must fire on them. This warning was unattended to. The noise continued, but it is not asserted that to the last moment any attack was made. During the elapsing of the ten minutes, Capt. Burke made his men prime and load, and take up a proper position, in division, on an eminence hard by; and immediately afterwards ordered one division to open an independent fire on the people in their front. The panic-stricken crowd instantly fled, and, when it was deemed advisable to put a stop to the firing of the police, it was found that 12 persons were shot dead, and 30 wounded, independent of those who, we suppose, were wounded, but able to fly from the field.—*Kilkenny Journal.*

FRANCE.—It appears that the French people are little satisfied with the new Ministry, that has just come into power, and the general impression is that it cannot long sustain itself. As proof of this, we present extracts from some of the leading popular Journals.

Papers and letters from Paris are to the evening of Saturday, Oct. 13. A letter of that date says:

It is said that in order to assist the present French Government, and to secure to it, if possible, a majority in the Chamber of Deputies, the Courts of Berlin and Vienna will consent to the entry of French troops into Belgium, in order to attack the Citadel of Antwerp, and, if possible, dislodge the Dutch troops; but on the condition that neither Belgian nor French troops are to enter Holland; and that as soon as by this *coup* a majority shall be assured to the present Ministry in the Chamber of Deputies, the French troops will withdraw from Belgium. This project is very generally spoken of in well-informed and the higher circles; but the mere circumstance of its being known before hand would destroy completely the effect that it is intended to produce.

The Belgian Chambers will meet on the 5th of November. An attack, it is said, is to be made by the Belgian army on the Citadel of Antwerp on the 20th instant, and all letters from Brussels, Ghent, Antwerp, &c. announce to us the near approach of war. I have not seen one which does not state this in the strongest manner.

*The resolution of the Press to overthrow the new Government.*—There is but one independent journal in Paris which has pronounced in favour of the new Administration, and that paper is the Journal des Debats. Even the Debats, since its Proprietor has been named a Peer of France, can scarcely be called independent. As to the Nouvelliste and the France Nouvelle, they openly receive six thousand francs per month each, from the Government, and M. Thiers has already stated his intention of continuing to pay these sums.

The Constitutionnel, which is the journal that has the largest number of subscribers in France, says, this morning:—

It is not until the 19th November that the Chambers will meet! Thirty-seven more days have we to pass with the *deplorable* Ministry which has just been *imposed* on France, before the Chamber of Deputies will assemble before which it will have to appear, and which will render it justice. This waiting will be long, perhaps perilous, but we trust that the patience of the country will last till that day. We hope much from the wisdom and the patriotism of the country—we hope, above all, in the confidence which it should have in its own force, and in the intervention of its representatives. We hoped that the next session would have been devoted to the interests and wants of France; and we trusted that from the union of patriots of all opinions, peace and security would ensue, and that the prosperity of commerce and of industry, would be the consequence of the return of interior order, and the accomplishment of the promises of the Charter!

Vain hopes! deceitful illusions! We are farther off than ever from the good of which we dreamt.—The fatal ministry of the 11th of October calls into question the whole revolution of July, and even taken from us the advantages which we possessed over the most disastrous times of the restoration.—The Constitutionnel then entreats the public not to get up *emeutes*, &c.

SWEDEN.—The commerce and trade of Sweden seem to be in a very miserable state. In an intended address of the citizens of Gottenburg to the king, which is given in the Hamburg papers of last week, the addresses say:—

"Our mercantile navy, which, before the year 1816, consisted of about 200 ships, the tonnage of which was 15,000 lasts, is now reduced to 73, in all only 6,825 lasts; most of which ships are now old, and perform their annual voyage at a loss. For several years past not a ship has been launched in our dock-yards, the owners of which now look upon the day as a festival on which an old ship is given them to repair. We cannot more forcibly describe the decline of our trade, in a few words, than by stating that the reserved revenue, which in 1811 brought to your Majesty and the crown 134,000 rix dollars banco, left last year only 56,000, while the expenditure for the poor amounts to more than 36,000. The course of exchange, which, at the fall of the King, who was deposed from his incapacity to govern, was at 55 schellings only of Hamburg, is at this moment 148.—How are we to account for such circumstances, which, unhappily, with few exceptions, may be said of the whole kingdom?"

They do not blame the intentions of government; but they deprecate its perpetual interference, and the irregularity and uncertainty which such interference tends to introduce in all mercantile undertakings. The people of all countries are beginning to learn this lesson.

## COLONIAL.

### LEGISLATURE OF LOWER CANADA.

*House of Assembly, November 21.*

AYLMER, Governor-in-Chief.

It obedience to the King's commands, signified through Viscount Goderich, His Majesty's principal Secretary of State for the Colonial Department, the Governor-in-Chief transmits to the House of Assembly copies of the undermentioned documents:

1st. A Despatch from Viscount Goderich addressed to the Governor-in-Chief, dated Downing-street, 26th January, 1832, respecting the expulsion of Robert Christie, Esq. from his seat in the House of Assembly, as Member for the County of Gaspe.

2d. Copy of a letter from Robert Christie, Esq. addressed to Viscount Goderich, dated Quebec, 10th October, 1831.

3d. Copies of Resolutions adopted at meetings of the Freeholders and Electors of the County of Gaspe, held at Perce, Douglastown, St. George's Cove, Point St. Peter, Malbay and Cape Cove, to take into consideration measures for maintaining the elective franchise and the right of the freeholders to be represented in the Legislature of the Province.

In compliance with the instructions conveyed in the Despatch of Viscount Goderich, (a copy of which is now transmitted) the Governor-in-Chief signifies to the House of Assembly, His Majesty's earnest desire, that they would take into their early consideration the complaints of the inhabitants of the County of Gaspe. His Majesty will not permit himself to doubt that if the facts be really such as are stated in these resolutions, the House will rescind the vote by which Mr. Christie is said to have been excluded from his seat. The efforts which his Majesty has made to promote to the utmost of his power the welfare of his faithful subjects in Lower Canada, and to place on the most secure foundation the rights of the House of Assembly of that Province, at once entitle him to expect that the House will receive with due attention a suggestion which is prompted by his anxiety that every class of the people of Lower Canada should enjoy a full participation of the privileges of its free Constitution.

*Castle of St. Lewis, Quebec,*
*21st November, 1832.*

"*Downing-Street, 26th Jan. 1832.*

"MY LORD,—I have received from Mr. Robert Christie, a letter dated 10th of October last, enclosing copies of Resolutions passed by the inhabitants of the County of Gaspe, at public meetings convoked for the purpose of taking into consideration certain grievances under which they conceive themselves to labor, by the exclusion of Mr. Christie from the seat in the House of Assembly of Lower Canada, to which he had been on five successive occasions elected.

"I am unwilling to assume that the House of Assembly have adopted so strong a measure as the expulsion of one of its members without sufficient grounds. As guardians of the Constitutional rights of all classes of the King's subjects within the Province of Lower Canada, that House must be supposed to be peculiarly jealous of those rights which they are thus accused of having infringed. Least of all can I consider it probable, that, after the well known conflict between the Electors of the County of Middlesex and the House of Commons, and the vote of the 3d of May, 1782, by which that great Constitutional question was finally decided, the House of Assembly would maintain that any person could become ineligible as a member of that body by the mere force of a former vote of expulsion, or in consequence of any breach of privilege upon which any such preceding vote may have been founded. It is alleged in these Resolutions that the supposed disqualification of Mr. Christie arises from an offence imputed to that gentleman against the privileges, not of the present, but of a former Assembly, a statement which still further enhances the improbability of the representation. Under such circumstances, His Majesty's opinion upon the subject is unavoidably suspended; His Majesty, however, acknowledges the right of Mr. Christie, in common with all his subjects, to such assistance as His Majesty can afford for the redress of any grievances under which he may labour. Your Lordship will, therefore, call on that gentleman for a copy of his letter to myself, of the 10th of October last, and of the resolutions enclosed in it. You will communicate to the House of Assembly copies of those documents and of my present despatch, and you will signify to that House His Majesty's earnest desire, that they would take into their early consideration, the complaints of the County of Gaspe. His Majesty will not permit himself to doubt, that if the facts be really such as are stated in these resolutions, the House will rescind the vote, by which Mr. Christie is said to have been excluded from his seat.

"The efforts which His Majesty has made to promote, to the utmost of his power, the welfare of his faithful subjects in Lower Canada, and to place on the most secure foundation the rights of the House of Assembly of that Province, at once entitle and encourage him to expect, that the House will receive with due attention a suggestion which is prompted by his anxiety that every class of the people of Lower Canada should enjoy a full participation in the privileges of its free Constitution.

I have the honor to be, &c.
(Signed) GODERICH.

## COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE COURIER.

MR. CHUBB.—In requesting that a small portion of your paper may be devoted to the publication of the following, I deem it unnecessary to apologize for the intrusion. The *Royal Gazette* is open only for the admission of *one* set of opinions; it will advocate only *one* set of principles; and the veriest fool that ever fancied himself the possessor of talents, may be assured of a hearty welcome to its columns, if he only support a *faction* that has almost identified itself with the Colonial Government;—I am so weak as to incline to the popular side of the question that has elicited this letter, and against me the *Gazette* is closed forever.

I am, Mr. Chubb, your obedient servant,
X. Y. Z.

*To "A. B. C." of the Royal Gazette.*

SIR,—When a man ventures to throw his gauntlet to the public, and dare the people to a contest, he must expect to encounter a host of enemies; when he presumes to promulgate doctrines which are only based upon the unstable foundation of convenience, or necessity; when he avows sentiments that are not more detestable for their pernicious tendency, than contemptible by the language in which they are expressed; when he recklessly advances the grossest falsehoods in support of his arguments, and to maintain his positions; it will not create surprise if he be vanquished—nor need we be astonished if he fall by the weapons of his own selection. Sarcasm is indeed a dangerous instrument in the hands of folly. You, Sir, have shewn us how ridiculous it may be made by a misapplication of its power. Beware that you suffer not from the keenness of its edge:—for elegance of style and extent of information, I believe we are equally mated —for a perverse ingenuity in distorting facts, I admit your superiority; but much may be said in the defence of one who is too vain to listen to the counsel of experience—who is too ignorant, or too sanguine, to deliberate upon probable consequences ere he rushes into action—who has every reason to tremble at the fiat of impartial justice, and who can only be supported in his iniquitous career by a continued adherence to a system of secret villainy. Judging of your communication by this test, we find some inducement to pardon you for attempting to deceive the public. That '*A New-Brunswicker*,' in the last *Courier*, should have mistaken your identity, and scourged *an innocent person*, is more a subject of regret than of surprise: when several ruffians are assembled in a little group, each contending for the mastery in wickedness, it is difficult to award the crown of villainy to any one of them. Your claims have now the precedence—they are before the public; you have openly avowed your principles, and disclosed your views, and we may reasonably suppose them a general index to those of your associates. Be it then my task to drag you from your place of fancied concealment and expose you to the world in your naked deformity:—conjecturing, therefore, that the atmosphere of New-Brunswick had not been polluted by the presence of such a monster, until a late period of the country's settlement,—that your demoniacal energies had either slumbered in total inactivity, or had been exerted only within the limited sphere of your own personal influence, until the memorable autumn of 1825, when a fearful dispensation of Providence furnished you with an opportunity of developing the more favourable traits of your character—thus securing a benefactor and protector in one whom you have since spurned and worshipped, betrayed and idolized, as you happened to be prompted by interest, or instigated by malice; believing that the country of your reputed nativity rejects your pretensions even to the trifling claim of birthright,—and that your early adopted country as fully denies that your peculiar vices are found among her sons, or that your dubious virtues have ever disgraced the native Hibernian,—and that you are now disavowed by each nation, and denounced by both; assuming these facts to be correct, which you dare not deny, we are prepared to expect any thing from such a source; but remember, Sir, that the closest mask cannot always conceal the villain; there is an indelible mark—a stamp of Hell's own design—which is imprinted upon such persons as "*A. B. C.*"—and which proves them to be the choicest weapons that Satan would desire to wield in deluding and subjugating the spirits of men;—feared and detested in your public capacity, despised and contemned in private society, without either moral principle to direct your actions, or the fear of your Creator to restrain the indulgence of your fiendish passions, you exhibit a finished example of moral degradation. That you possess some ability, is an acknowledged fact; that your abilities have been strangely over estimated, is also a fact; but in your present prosperity, connected with the utter absence of any species of merit, we read the plain lesson, that the man who basely consents to pander for the vices of the great—who fears not to extenuate their direst offences—who is always prepared to execute their will, and bows with feigned humility to their despotic mandates, is already on the road to affluence. You have already been charged with duplicity and treachery in your private transactions; you been arraigned before the public for extortion, fraud, and tyranny in your official station; and yet you are trusted, yet you are cherished, yet are you supported, by your superior Officer, to whom all your vices have been fully and repeatedly disclosed; but a community of interests and of pursuits, bind the traitor to his brother traitor, and impel both to enter into a tacit compact, for mutual security.

Your puerile sarcasms upon the style and language of the "*Bushman*" and the "*Refugee*," *both of whom appear to understand the grammar of their native tongue*, are so contemptible, as hardly to merit a reply. A man may very possibly be attached to his "beloved cottage," the erection of his own hands, and I have yet to learn that such attachment is a legitimate object of satire;—he may also be induced to abandon his cottage and his garden, or, as you have beautifully *translated* the sentence, *his hut and cabbage plants!* by the oppressive and illegal exactions of the mistaken men who are entrusted with a share in the management of public affairs,—he may hope, in some distant region, to enjoy a more equitable reward for his labour—a region where a total destitution of moral integrity shall not be an all powerful claim to advancement; he may likewise fear that the system which has been extended to its utmost limits with impunity, and exceeded without punishment, may be still further employed as an instrument of oppression, and moulded to the will of an irresponsible and arbitrary despot;—he may complain that the Government should have had recourse to such dangerous measures to supply its present wants, and insist upon a literal compliance with the terms of a clause, which an overwhelming concourse of circumstances prove to have been only a nominal condition, inserted as a mere formality, and only enforced by the necessities of an improvident Colonial Ministry,—all this he may condemn, without either incurring blame or deserving censure; but you, Sir, shall speedily be taught to distinguish between the deep and indignant murmurs of a suffering people, and the clamours of an unprincipled club of knaves, who dispute about the division of the public spoils, each striving to obtain the largest proportion of the plunder. *You* have already secured a moderate portion; and by stepping forward so boldly in defence of your accomplices in wickedness, you hope to receive a greater share. To you, Sir, I would say—*Vivamus dum vivimus.*—Your career is almost finished—the hour of retribution is at hand.

You assert that the spirit of resistance to the collection of the Quit Rents, is confined to a few factious individuals. This assertion, I know to be false. You say that the contract for Quit Rent in the Grants, is a *bona fide* contract, and always designed to be construed as such, and the condition thereof to be duly and regularly enforced;—how stands the matter between these two assertions and the true facts of the case? As regards the former, I affirm, that the tax of Quit Rent is paid with extreme reluctance by the people—that it is universally believed to be exacted contrary to the original intention of the contracting parties—that the more intelligent part of the population are opposed to it both in principle and in practice—and that many *Professional Gentlemen* declare their opinion, that the *collection* of that tax is an illegal, arbitrary, and unconstitutional measure; and I further affirm, that the exaction of Quit Rent is suffered by the people, only because they possess not the means of efficient resistance to the impost. These are facts, Sir, which are too well authenticated to b overthrown by the mere declaration of "*A. B. C.*" If you, Sir, desire to establish a contrary position, you must support it by more cogent arguments than the report of a fictitious conversation with the *humble settlers*. The people are not disposed to submit any longer to such a system of misrule as has lately distinguished this Province, and has roused the attention of her neighbours to the extent of her sufferings. The people now understand the *manner* in which His Majesty's Casual Revenue is applied in this Province—they are sufficiently aware that a vast proportion of it is appropriated to the support of such constitutional fungi as "*A. B. C.*"—they know that the available resources of the Crown in this Province are almost exhausted—they observe that the Commissioner of Crown Lands, who, with his subordinate officers, receives about one-fourth of the whole annual revenue, *exclusive of the Secret Service money*, is at this moment diligently searching for, and selling, every *inch* of land in this Province, which his predecessors had either reserved for public uses or for the Indians, or that had accidentally been omitted in the original grants, and held for many years by the prescriptive title of occupancy—even these lands, without a single exception, he is now selling—dealing destruction and ruin around him at each successive step, and yet unable to supply the deficiencies of the revenue;—they are also acquainted with the fact, that the further prosecution of the *Royal Road* was suspended in consequence of the decrease of the fund whence the labourers are paid;—they remember with indignation, that a scheme of the basest deception was once practised in the contract for making that road; and here perhaps I may properly introduce an explanation of that circumstance. Printed advertisements were profusely circulated through the country, purporting that on a certain day the *Commissioners* would sell to the lowest bidder, such portions of that road as should then be determined, to be opened and completed in such manner as should also then be explained to the public. Pursuant to these notices, a large concourse of people assembled at the road, many of them from parts far remote from the place of sale, and all desirous to contract for a part of the work. The Commissioners were also present. The first bid I have understood to be 40s. per rood of the road, 66 feet wide; the competition was eager, and the competitors were numerous, and the proposals rapidly decreased to about 22s. 6d. per rood, where it remained for some time stationary, the people being well assured that the work could not be performed at a lower rate without sustaining loss,—when one, *who appears to have been entrusted with the secret*, bid *Ten Shillings per Rood*, or £120 per mile; to him, of course, it was struck off, but while every tongue was mute with astonishment, a whisper went abroad that the price was ten shillings for each square rood—thus making it equal to the first *regular* proposal of £640 per mile! The victims of this official fraud were not inclined to submit in silence to the imposture, and it was found expedient to declare that the sale was only a feigned sale,—that the purchaser had no intention of entering upon his implied contract,—and that the work would be conducted upon its original principles!!! These are facts which cannot be denied, and they are notorious, and cannot be contradicted; but as if the cup of iniquity were not full, they now again observe an advertisement in the *Royal Gazette*, (signed by the Secretary of the Royal Road,) which must have been dictated by the extremest necessity, containing a proposition which is at once disgraceful to the Government and insulting to the people. I may at some future time make some observations upon this subject, and shew that the benefits which may be supposed to result from the proposed scheme, are illusory, while the injury is certain and inevitable. Knowing all these things —knowing the imprudent and lavish mode in which the public monies, or, if you please, *the Crown Revenues*, are distributed among the excrescences of the Colonial Government, and that the last farthing is wrested from the trembling hand of the oppressed subject, to procure the luxuries and superfluities of mimic grandeur for persons whose offices are a libel upon common sense, and the continuation of whose official existence is a singular and shameful anomaly in the annals of a reformed and liberal Government; knowing all these things —with these facts ever present to our view—can it be a subject of surprise that we complain, and will it be strange if we should eventually arise and assail the spoilers of our country?

The latter of your positions may not be so easily controverted. I am no Lawyer, and therefore cannot determine whether the Quit Rent clause in the Grants may be construed as a positive *and mutual* covenant for payment, entered into between the parties to the grant. I know not whether the King possesses *a Constitutional right* to order the collection of the Quit Rents, or whether the clause is not simply a modification of the ancient Feudal Tenure—an apparent commutation of services which could not be enforced, to the nominal payment of a sum of money, which was never intended to be paid or demanded—an implied acknowledgment of fealty and subjection to the grantor. Be this as it may, I contend that your insinuation, that the Crown Officers, at the time of making the old grants, (which alone are subject to the tax,) had ever contemplated the possibility of the Quit Rent clause being enforced at some future period, is absolutely false, and carries absurdity upon its face; and this I shall endeavour to prove—1st, by *analogy*—and, 2dly, by *implication*. It is an acknowledged fact, that a great portion of the lands in England were granted with a condition that the grantee should at certain times and places pay to the Sovereign, (who was the grantor,) *one peppercorn*, for each specific quantity of the lands so granted, say every hundred acres, more or less,—that other lands are held upon the condition that the grantee shall attend the King with *two dogs* of a certain kind, so often as the Monarch shall hunt in the Royal Forests,—others, that the grantee shall furnish a quantity of *straw* for the *Royal Bed Chamber*, and many other ridiculous, immodest, and impossible tenures; yet we never heard of these conditions being enforced. Nay, would not the Minister who dared to suggest the expediency of demanding a literal compliance with the simplest of these tenures, at the present day, speedily become the victim of his temerity—not even the utmost favour of his Sovereign would save him from ruin. Analogy, therefore, clearly supports me in the declaration, that the Quit Rent, or conditional tenure of the grant, is but a simple formality, and, by an ingenious misconstruction, used as a means of indirect taxation. But, in the second place, I will try to shew, by implication, that your position is false. Stand forth "*A. B. C.*" and inform us, inform the world, by what rule of constructive equity, the heaviest load of taxation is laid upon those who merit the greatest share of indulgence—the first settlers of the country—the persons who, guided by principles of loyalty, (widely different indeed from those that distinguish the career of you and your companions,) were induced to abandon their friends, their relations, their fortune, their country, and all the endearing ties that unite man to man, and seek a place of refuge in the unknown and unexplored bosom of a dreary and desolate wilderness,—who endured every species of privation, and suffered even the extremity of misery, of *famine*, in their efforts to create for themselves a future home, under the protection of their revered Monarch. You, Sir, cannot appreciate the dangers and the difficulties which they were compelled to encounter;—you know not the afflictions which they were forced to sustain—the enemies by which they were assailed—the solitude of their rude and humble dwellings, far removed from the pleasures of society, surrounded by impenetrable forests, which were inhabited only by ravenous beasts of prey, or the ferocious Indian, both of whom were intent upon the destruction of the white man;—the appalling prospect which often presented itself to their view, shewing no termination of their labours, no period to their sufferings. It is beyond the skill of man faithfully to pourtray the state of the original inhabitants of this Province during the first few years of its settlement; but, although you, Sir, and the most formidable of your supporters, are *personally* ignorant of the facts, they are within the recollection even of the present generation. Yet these are the men who are selected as the subjects of a rash and dangerous experiment, as novel in principle as it is vile and irregular in practice; think you, Sir, that when the miserable donation of *one hundred acres of wilderness land*, was presented to the brave soldier who had fought and bled in his country's defence, or to the loyal subject, who cheerfully resigned every prospect of future prosperity, to follow the doubtful fortunes of his Prince,—when this land was situated at a distance of fifty or sixty miles from any place where the necessaries of life could be obtained; when, in numerous instances, the settler was compelled *to travel on foot*, that space, *to purchase even one single bushel of Indian Corn*, which he carried home upon his shoulders; when, in many cases, he was reduced to the necessity of subsisting for months upon such herbs as he might discover in the forest, or such provisions as the rivers might supply—or obliged to pluck up and eat the *Potatoes* which he had recently planted, or those which he had reserved for seed; in consequence of which, vast numbers of the people sold their lands for a mere nominal value, (*in some cases not more than ten shillings for one hundred acres*,) or relinquished it forever, as wholly unprofitable and valueless. Even you, Sir, cannot, do not, believe, that these persons *then* supposed that they, or their descendants, would ever be desired to pay a rent for those lands which they had received, *ostensibly*, as a free and well merited gift, unburthened with positive and oppressive claims. You and your associates may consider these remarks as fair objects of ridicule; but your opinion neither detracts from the merits of the case, nor alters the facts which I have advanced. Further, Sir—the Grants uniformly provide, that the payment of the Quit Rents shall commence (I think) in two years subsequently to the date of the grant,—that they shall be paid to the Receiver General at Fredericton, or at the Seat of Government—a stipulation which, at that time, it was literally and morally impossible to perform: first, on account of the great distance at which many of the settlers were located from the Seat of Government; next, the impassable nature of the roads, or, more properly, the *foot paths*, through the wilderness; and, lastly, the total impossibility of a *poor* settler being able to obtain *two shillings in money* for any thing that he could offer for sale, provided that he depended solely upon the produce of his land for the receipt of money. This circumstance alone, I conceive to be conclusive evidence against the modern construction of the Quit Rent clause. But we will proceed a little further: it is somewhat remarkable, that some of the Grants provide that the Quit Rent shall be two shillings annually, which, of course, can mean nothing but currency; while others specify two shillings sterling. How will you, Sir, reconcile these discrepancies with each other, or with the terms of your assumption? Will you undertake to charge the officers who framed the former class of grants, with folly? If an uniform system was intended to be in operation, or rather, if the Quit Rent clause was designed to be a *bona fide* and *performable* condition, would such a variation have obtained in the grants?—Surely not. But, laying aside this argument, I will ask you, Sir, to explain to the world, *why the Grants, as at present issued, contain, instead of the Quit Rent of two shillings per hundred acres, a clause, substituting therefor, the payment or rendering of One Peppercorn, for the same quantity, deliverable to the proper Crown Officer?* Is it intended also to exact a literal compliance with the latter condition, or if the reservation of the two shillings and of the peppercorn be not synonymous, or identically the same, why was not the rendering of the peppercorn also inserted in the old Grants?

I might adduce many other arguments in favour of my proposition; but I shall be silent until you or your fellows give the public a satisfactory refutation of those which I have now advanced. In conclusion, I say, that the Quit Rent clause affords a feasible pretence for increasing the receipts of the Crown Revenue, loaded as it is at present with charges which it is wholly inadequate to pay;—in other words, the Provincial Civil List is now expected to be paid out of the Provincial Casual Revenue,—that fund is insufficient to pay the expense of opening *the Royal Road*, and the extravagant salaries that have been granted to *some* of the Provincial Officers. The Imperial Parliament will no longer consent to eke out the Revenue,—the Public Officers must be paid, and the Quit Rents are demanded to make up the deficiency. This is the true state of affairs—these are the reasons why the Colonial Government has resolved to resort to the novel and dubious expedient of collecting the Quit Rents,—here, and here alone, we can discover the secret springs that regulate the complicated machinery which is now in motion. I will only add one word of caution—REMEMBER THE STAMP ACT OF FORMER DAYS!

[For the Courier.]

DEAR MR. EDITOR,—I am fairly enraptured by the very flattering compliment that you have paid me in your last week's Courier; and although you seem to doubt the truth of a *Secret Service Fund*, I can readily pardon your incredulity, because the very magnitude of the offence imparts to it something like an air of fiction, but it is true though—and I will give you a history of the whole matter just now. People are wondering, and marvelling how John Gape procures so much *first handed* information. I will tell you and them a secret. You remember the story about the Ring of Gyges, a Lydian King, which would make him invisible when put on his finger; well, Dear Mr. Editor, do you know that I am the present possessor of that identical Ring.—You may laugh, but I tell you a positive truth, and when I next see you, I will convince you of the fact. Now then, Dear Mr. Editor, the Cat is out of the bag: and you know the whole ins and outs of the affair. Whenever I want to take a peep behind the curtain, and see how matters are conducted in the Secret Sanctuaries of our Public Offices, on goes my ring, and in I walk, none daring to say, "whither goest thou?" because they don't see me; but I have sometimes a great deal of trouble in preventing the crowd of mercenary creatures that are continually wandering about the anti-chambers of the Great, from running against me, and so leading to a discovery of the "*invisible spy*," but hitherto I have escaped notice, and I think that with a moderate share of prudence, I shall be able to *gape* in the Escritoirs, &c. of the Government Agents, until I shall have made most wonderful discoveries. Now, dear Mr. Editor, it was just by means of my Ring that I contrived to get at the *Secret* of the "*Hush Money*," but as I am not in a composing humour at present, I will just transcribe the entry which I made *on the spot* in my Memorandum Book. I dare not mention names, but your readers may form their own conclusions as to the persons that are intended to be pointed out.

*Memo.* OF THE ORIGIN OF THE SECRET SERVICE FUND.

"A certain person who possesses unlimited power "in New-Brunswick, had directed that the sum of "three pence per ton should be paid as survey fees "on all timber licensed to applicants in the Pro- "vince, which in the year 1831, amounted to 2400*l.* "This sum was included in the amount of Receipts "of the King's Casual Revenue, and submitted "monthly to the inspection of the Auditor General; "the said certain person being lately in England, "procured an order from a certain Cabinet Minis- "ter, that the said sum of three pence per ton of "survey money as above should be placed at the "absolute and sole disposal and controul of the said "certain person, *to defray the expence of certain* "*secret services*; and that the said sum (perhaps "£2400 as above,) was not to be noticed in the "amount laid before the Auditor.—Upon the re- "ceipt of this order, a certain greater person, re- "monstrated with the certain Minister against the "impropriety of that determination, asserting the "probability that such a transaction, if made pub- "lic, would give general dissatisfaction to the coun- "try, and be attended with most lamentable con- "sequences. The certain Minister being unable "to resist the conviction which the said represen- "tation was calculated to produce, rescinded his "order so far, as to direct that the expenditure of "the *survey money* alias *secret service money*, "should be examined by *a private audit.* MIGHT "OVERCOMETH RIGHT."

The foregoing, dear Mr. Editor, is a copy of my original note on the subject, and I will avouch for its truth;—will you still doubt me? I guess not. If I have asserted falsehoods, the Press is open for the allegations of those who are implicated in the measure: but they know that I am correct, and, dear Mr. Editor, their uniform silence upon all the remarks that I have made in my communications, is a tacit admission of the facts. I have been informed that some of the official sycophants affect to smile at the remarks of John Gape. I once read of an Indian, whose canoe, (in which he lay asleep) was on the river shore, a little distance above Niagara Falls—it accidentally floated away—but the Indian waked not until all human skill was unable to rescue him from destruction—he started on his feet, gazed wildly about him, uttered a bitter laugh of mental anguish, grasped his rum bottle, and was dashed over the precipice while in the act of drinking. Just so with them—I admire even the appearance of fortitude in danger, and advise them to continue to smile at the feeble attacks of John Gape, until they find themselves at the brink of the abyss, then ——— ———,—but now for some more

EXTRACTS FROM MY JOURNAL.

Saw some observations in the Miramichi Gleaner, implying that the lands which were reserved for *public uses*, had not been sold. *Mem.* Wonder who said so; would like to know whether it was not one of the little Tadpoles that swim about in the huge pond of corruption at Head-Quarters, commonly called a Department; believe it must have been so, and would call the attention of Mr. Pierce to the fact that *almost* every single *ungranted* Lot in the County of York and of Carleton, that had been set apart for Glebe Lands or for the support of Schools, were sold by the Commissioner;—believe that all were offered for sale, but the upset prices of some were too high, and no bidders offered:—will explain this more fully hereafter.

Heard that a small triangular piece of ungranted land in the lower part of Fredericton had been applied for some time since by a son of the individual who owned the adjacent lot:—the Governor and Council declined to pass a Grant *then*, as they wished to *keep it an open space*,—this the Commissioner has recently sold for £96; heard that the former applicant has memorialed His Excellency on the subject; don't know what answer has been received. *Mem.* Wonder when the *promenade*, and the land in front of the Barracks, will be sold. Would advise that Petitions *with fees*, be received at the Office from applicants for those lands; and that they should afterwards be disposed of by public sale:—excellent suggestion that; the fees which will be received from the deluded applicants can go to swell the Casual Revenue, or the pockets of the person who receives the *money*.—*Mem.* Claim no credit for this hint, it was acted upon formerly, at the sale of the Water lots adjoining the Market House. Petitions were entered and fees paid upon them; the fees were retained, the petitions destroyed, and the land set up for sale.—Hem! Wonder who pocketed those fees—faugh! why the very air of the Office is polluted by such conduct, it smells of rank treachery.

Heard that some time ago the Commissioner sold some Water lots beside the Market House in Fredericton—one of these lots being the identical space that had been *reserved as a street* in the Grants to the purchasers of the adjoining lands; the grantees applied to the Governor, and the sale was instantly ordered to be avoided. *Mem.* Wonder who was master there: think the petitioners were fortunate in finding one who was both able and willing to clear all obstructions from the channel of justice—think however that the officer who could so grossly violate every principle of public good faith, hardly deserves to be continued in office.

Saw something in the Gleaner about the sale of the Indian Reserves: can't agree with the Editor that the Indians should be otherwise provided for, and the land sold; suppose he means that the proceeds of the sales of those lands should be vested in some public Fund (after paying the reasonable expences) and the interest of that money, under the controul of proper officers, applied to the benefit of the Indians, thus carrying into effect the original intentions of the Government; believe this is his opinion. *Mem.* Wonder whether he will confess that the sale money will be much better applied as at present contemplated; that is, to be merged in the Casual Revenue, and go towards paying the salaries of a swarm of supernumeraries, dependent upon *the Office*,—when the most sacred and positive pledges, are considered of no force, and are every day openly broken: why should the Indians be exempted from the operation of a system that has only one object in view, that of aggrandizing and enriching, and perhaps ennobling, its present incumbent.

I shall saunter over next week towards the Baie de Chaleurs, and collect a few facts from a certain Mr. M'PHERSON, in that quarter.—*Mem.* Wonder whether that name is known at Head-Quarters, and at *the Office;* will recall him and his case to the memory of somebody, and then may exclaim to the Grand Turk and the Russian Autocrat—Hide your diminished heads, and confess that in Despotism, your are exceeded by a subordinate Officer in the Province of New-Brunswick. Mem. *John Gape has a microscopic eye.*

I am, dear Mr. Editor, your admirer,
JOHN GAPE.

MR. CHUBB,—From the account which appeared in the last Observer, detailing the proceedings of a public meeting lately held in this City, for the purpose of setting on foot a scheme for another Bank, and from sundry communications that have from time to time appeared under various signatures, it seems to be the intention of those persons favourable to the measure, to renew the application made to the Legislature at its last session, for an Act of Incorporation.

The main ground of that application then made, and which it is conceived is the principal argument for the measure, with a great majority of the present movers, is the want of further Banking Capital for the purposes of trade. Other motives, no doubt, may have their influence, but this is the point of view in which the question will be presented for the consideration of the General Assembly, and it is certainly entitled to serious attention and if it should be made to appear that the operations of the present institution with the capital which it possesses are insufficient to give a wholesome facility to commerce, our Legislators will no doubt adopt some means to remedy the deficiency.

A good deal of difference of opinion prevails as to the effect of Banking in general, and as to its results in regard to this community in particular. Some there are,—and those whose opinions are entitled to great respect, who question the policy of Banking establishments altogether, as tending to give too great opportunities to speculators possessed of little or no capital, and placing them too nearly on a par with established merchants of large property. The inducement also afforded to men with some capital to engage in traffic beyond the bounds of prudence, who are frequently drawn into the vortex of excessive Speculation is dwelt upon as an evil arising out of the existence of Banks, while it is alleged further, that other individuals incur an imminent risk in their dealings, and are liable to suffer from the false credit with which persons whose transactions are thus unnaturally extended, become invested.

There is, no doubt, some reason in these objections, but the evils which will be found to arise from the want of a legitimate source from whence the necessary accommodation in money can be supplied, will greatly overbalance the inconveniences resulting from the existence of such establishments, if properly conducted; and indeed the weight of the argument applies more to the improper management of Banking institutions, than to the use of them at all. The far greater portion of the community, therefore, who have given their attention to the nature and exigencies of our commerce, as well as those who have taken a more extensive survey of the effects of the present establishment, in regard to the Province at large, are in favour of Banking; but a great diversity of sentiment prevails as to the *principles* on which Banks should be established, the *extent* to which they shou d be carried, and, as regards the present question in particular, whether the public interest would be best secured by enabling the Bank of New-Brunswick to augment its stock to such extent as may be requisite to meet the growing wants of an enterprising and increasing community—or to raise up a rival institution, founded on similar or different principles. Each party has its strenuous advocates: while one side triumphantly points to the flourishing state of the present institution—the enterprise which gave birth to it—the liberal and public principles on which it was founded, for the equal benefit of all who might think proper to share in the profits or encounter the losses which might attend a new and untried experiment—the great extent of its operations—the unquestioned currency of its paper, and the independence of its Directors. And while these considerations are urged, as well entitling it to public confidence and support, it is assailed, on the other hand, in no very measured terms of censure, both within the walls of the Legislature and in the public prints. Stigmatized as a monopoly—capricious and despotic—as illiberal in its transactions and not affording that reasonable accommodation which it should have done—at the same time it is charged with enjoying a large and overgrown profit—and the community have been loudly called on to shake the Oligarchy, as it has been termed, from their seats, and rescue themselves from the thraldom in which they have been so ignominiously held. I purpose, at a future day, through the medium of your very respectable journal, to examine how far the clamour that has been raised is well or ill founded, and likewise to offer a few observations on the policy of the proposed measure.

I am, Sir, Your's, &c.
*December 7th.* ALPHA.


### LONDON GOODS.

*The subscribers have just received per ship Percy, from London:*

AN extensive and choice Assortment of BRITISH and INDIA GOODS, suitable for the present season, which they will dispose of wholesale, on the most moderate terms for approved payment—

13 BALES of superfine black, blue, olive, and drab CLOTHS;
5 Bales Blankets, Flannels, Serges, &c.
4 Ditto BOMBAZETTS, MOREENS, &c.
3 Hogsheads FURS, of the newest fashions;
2 Trunks India Silks and Shawls;
5 Trunks Crapes, Laces, ladies and gentlemens' GLOVES, HOSIERY, &c.
6 Cases of Gentlemens' HATS, &c.

ALSO—ON HAND:
2 Pipes and 4 Hogsheads PORT WINE, of a very superior quality: 2 hhds. sherry Wine.

November 10. *LOWE & GROOCOCK.*