UNITED STATES.

[*From the Boston Traveller.*]

SOUTH CAROLINA.—The President's proclamation has produced a great excitement in every part of South Carolina; and the nullifiers seem to be hurrying on to the dreadful crisis, which we did hope might have been avoided. The Legislature have taken fire at the strong language of that document, and passed a resolution requesting the Governor forthwith to issue his proclamation, "warning the good people of this state against the attempt of the President of the U. States, to seduce them from their allegiance; exhorting them to disregard his vain menaces, and to be prepared to sustain the dignity and protect the liberty of the State, against the arbitrary measures, proposed by the President.

The military bill passed the house as amended, or rather remoddled, by the Senate; and the Bill declaring it felony, without benefit of the clergy to be found in arms against the State, has been laid on the table. On the second reading of the bill relative to the test oath, an animated discussion took place, which resulted in the adoption, by an almost unanimous vote, of amendments offered by Mr. Pickens, providing that the test oath should not be administered to judges and other civil officers, nor to the military, until the period when they should be actually called on to enforce the ordinance.

It is understood that the bill gives power to the government to call on any person holding a civil or military office to take the oath at any time he may deem expedient, and authorizes him by proclamation, giving one week's notice, to call on all officers to take the oath.

GOVERNOR HAYNE'S PROCLAMATION.—In compliance with the request of the Legislature, the Governor of South Carolina has issued a long proclamation, full of argument and eloquent appeals to valor and patriotism. If the new executive is sustained in his position, we do not see how actual collision and bloodshed can be avoided. "The President (says Gov. Hayne) has publicly and solemnly denied his own doctrine—claiming and exercising, as is known to all the world, the right to refuse to execute acts of Congress and solemn treaties, even after they had received the sanction of every part of the Federal Government." And after thus availing himself of the President's own inconsistency, the Governor proceeds to show that the doctrine of Nullification had its origin in Virginia, from whence, after being adopted by the Legislature of that State, it was transplanted into Kentucky, and there adopted by the State Legislature, in the form of resolutions, prepared for the occasion by Mr. Jefferson's own hand. The proclamation denies the authority of the President to call out the militia, or the military, or naval force, of the country, against the State of South Carolina, and argues that the authority given, to call out the militia, in case the execution of the laws of the United States is obstructed, applies only to combinations of individuals acting of themselves, without any lawful authority; and that the constituted authorities, acting under the laws of the State, and its citizens obeying its commands, cannot be considered as a mob, forming combinations against the laws of the Union.

The Governor says that "unless the President is resolved to disregard all constitutional obligations, and to trample the laws of his country under his feet, he has no authority whatever to use force against the State of South Carolina, and should he attempt to do so, the patriotic citizens of the State know too well their own rights, and have too sacred a regard to their duties, to hesitate one moment in repelling invasion, come it from what quarter it may." He denies that the object of South Carolina is disunion, and professes her sincere attachment to the Union, but declares it to be her duty to oppose an infraction of the principles which form the basis of the Union. He says that if the principles of the President are established, particularly those which deny the right of a state to secede, then indeed will the days of our liberty be numbered, and the republic will have found a master. The stormy document closes with the following appeal:

"Fellow citizens—In the name and behalf of the state of South Carolina, I do solemnly warn you against all attempts to seduce you from your primary allegiance to the state,—I charge you to be faithful to your duty as citizens of South Carolina, and earnestly exhort you to disregard those "vain menaces" of military force, which if the President, in violation of all his constitutional obligations, and of your most sacred rights, should be attempted to employ, it would become your solemn duty at all hazards to resist. I require you to be fully prepared, to sustain the dignity and protect the liberties of the state if need be, with your "lives and fortunes." And may that great and good *Being*, who, "as a father careth for his children," inspire *us* with that *holy zeal in a good cause*, which is the *best safeguard of our Rights and Liberties*.

The Columbia Telescope of the 29th ult. contains a military Grneral Order, from the Adjutant General of South Carolina, giving public notice that the services of all the patriotic citizens of the State will be accepted as volunteers to suppress insurrection, repel invasion, and support the authorities in the execution of the laws, &c.

Lotteries are at their last chance; Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New-York, are about to put them down. Then comes, we hope, contentment with labour, moderate earnings, and gradual and retained accumulation.

COMMUNICATIONS.

[For the Courier.]

QUIT RENTS.

MR. CHUBB.—Several of your correspondents have ably pointed out the impolicy and hardship of exacting the Quit Rents in the Colonies; their observations must be fresh in the recollection of your readers: I shall not now recapitulate them, but proceed to state other very serious objections to *Quit Rents*, which were overlooked by them; and here I cannot help expressing my regret, that your able correspondent "*Mentor*" had not taken up this subject, as, from what he has already written, I consider him to be as fully equal to the task as any person within the limits of the Province. My object is to induce a more close inquiry into the subject, which has now begun to assume a seriously important character; and if it should be made appear that the reservation of Quit Rents, to His Majesty, is a revival of that badge of Norman slavery which was imposed upon the people of England by the Conqueror, 750 years ago—which, though greatly ameliorated in effect, but not in principle—it cannot be doubted, that upon a proper remonstrance to His Majesty from the Legislature of the Province, they will be immediately and forever relinquished, as incompatible with a *free Government*, and therefore unworthy of the acceptance of a *Constitutional King*.

Under the Feudal System, the reservations in grants of land were of various kinds, such as *relief, wardship, &c. &c.* and *aids;* which oppressive incumbrances gradually gave way before the light of reason which began to dawn upon the kingdom after the wars of the *two Roses* were brought to a conclusion. The slavery and hardship of this system being so grievous, that the attention of the nation was directed to it, and several attempts were made to ameliorate it, but our ancestors soon found that the amelioration of a grievance, though it softened the harshness of it, did not remove it—*it was still a grievance;* they therefore came to the resolution to get rid of it forever, and accordingly this odious system was finally abolished by an Act passed in the 12th year of the reign of Charles the 2d, which freed the titles by which lands were then held, from the slavish appendages of this system, and elevated the land-holders from the condition of *vassals* or *feuds*, to be *free men*, and there now remains generally in England, but two kinds of titles or tenures, *Freehold* and *Copyhold*, or lands held in *free tenure in common soccage*, and lease tenure by *copy of court roll*.

The reservation of *Quit Rents* in the Colonies, appears to be analogous to the Feudal reservation of *aids*, and was probably commenced with the first grants of lands in the Colonies, so early as the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and, unfortunately, when these reservations of *aids*, &c. &c. were abolished in England by law, the Colonies were not included in the memorable Act passed for that purpose, and therefore the reservation has continued to be made in Colonial grants, till the adoption of the new plan of selling the Crown Lands, a few years since. And, though in this Province some grants were made nearly seventy years ago, yet it was reserved to the Statesmen of *the* nineteenth century, to order them (*the Quit Rents*) to be exacted, and thus to revive in the Colonies, a part of that oppressive system, which our ancestors, near two hundred years ago, would no longer submit to. Thus we have the humiliation to feel that the land-holder in our *parent state* is a *freeman*, and that we, the Colonial land-holders, under the granting system, are *vassals*. Can it be supposed that our gracious Sovereign would wish to keep up such an odious and invidious distinction between his subjects at home and abroad? No—it is impossible; it cannot be, that His Majesty has deliberately determined on the collection of the Quit Rents; and we can only account for such an absurd, oppressive, and impolitic measure, by imputing it to the desire of Ministers, (who are too ready to seize with avidity every means which can be pointed out to them,) to raise money for purposes of *patronage*, or for other purposes,—or to the recommendation of the Administrators of Colonial Governments, who have sometimes recommended the collection of the Quit Rents in consequence of advice given to them by *interested persons*, before they had been long enough in the Colonies to judge properly of the measure; and at other times they have done it to propitiate Ministers, who are always ready to receive, with the utmost degree of complacency, any project for raising money from the people, and never object to any species of taxation which, they are informed, will be submitted to.

If our Sovereign stood in need of the Quit Rents, to support the dignity of the Crown, I am quite sure that there is not a man in this Colony who would not cheerfully pay double the amount of them; but no such need exists, and indeed His Majesty cannot apply one penny of them to his own private use, but the remnant which may be left of them, after the charges of collection are paid, (if any thing is left,) is to swell the amount of the Casual Revenue, which, we are told, is to be expended in the Colony. I am inclined, however, to think that the only effect of collecting would be, what the parties who first recommended the measure must have foreseen, to line the pockets of a few insatiable Public Officers, without adding any thing to the Public Revenues.

In every point of view, the collection of Quit Rents is in the highest degree objectionable: It is impolitic, because it will create discontent; it is oppressive, because it is putting the people to great inconvenience and unsettling their minds, without doing any service to the state; it is unconstitutional, because it is utterly at variance with the institutions and principles of *our Free Government;* it is derogatory to the Crown, because it makes *vassals* of the earlier settlers of this Colony, while the land-holder in Great-Britain, and the settlers who come to this Province and settle under the system now in practice of selling the Crown Lands, are *free men*—their grants not being encumbered by the oppressive badge of Norman slavery, *the Quit Rent;*—consequently a most invidious distinction is made, and will be kept alive, between the *old* and *new* settler, in favour of the latter. And here I cannot help observing, that notwithstanding the multiplied complaints and charges which have been published through the medium of the Press, against the Commissioner of Crown Lands, as regards his public conduct, which remain as yet uncontradicted, he has the great merit, by the system which he now follows in selling the Crown Lands, and which seems to have been invented for his benefit, of abolishing the Feudal incumbrance of *Quit Rent*. In all Grants issued under this system, the new settler, as before observed, when he pays for his land, obtains a free grant, and he is therefore *free*, and not a *vassal*, like the other settlers: and this appears to me to be the only redeeming feature in the Crown Land Department.

It is, indeed, astonishing, that at this late period, a part of the *odious* and oppressive Feudal system, should be revived in the British Colonies, —a system which has nothing *British* in it, having been forcibly introduced into England by a rapacious foreign conqueror, but which, being too oppressive to be long endured there, was utterly abolished, as before observed, in the reign of Chas. the 2d,—a system which was unknown in England at the time of the landing of Julius Cæsar, fifty-five years before the Christian æra, and for 1100 years afterwards, to the *Norman conquest;*—a system which originated with the Barbarian Despots of the North of Europe, who carried it with them, in their *conquest* and *desolation* of the fairest portion of that quarter of the globe.

A wise Government would surely perceive that incalculable evils hang upon the collection of *Quit Rents*, and no good purpose can possibly be effected by such an odious measure. Blackstone, speaking of the practice of the Kings of England, in using the French language to declare their intentions to Parliament, thus expresses himself—"A badge, it must be owned, (now the only one remaining) of conquest; and which one would wish to see fall into total oblivion, unless it be reserved as a solemn memento to remind us that our liberties are mortal, having been once destroyed by a foreign force."* If then this is the *only* badge remaining in England of the destruction of their liberties; we, in the Colonies, are, by the *fostering care* of the *Parent State*, favoured with at least *two*—as the Quit Rent system was laid upon the necks of the people by the same *foreign force*, and it is quite certain that the collection of them will oftener remind us of the destruction of our liberties, than will the King's giving his Royal assent to Bills, &c. &c. in *Norman French*.

It is most anxiously to be wished that Government would pause before any further steps are taken for the compulsory exaction of the Quit Rents: let the loss and gain of the measure be first duly calculated and weighed;—how then will the account stand? They may possibly wring from the people of the Province, a paltry gross sum annually of not more than £2000,—(it would not exceed this amount by more than £500 if the whole were collected, which is next to impossible,)—one half of which, or more, will be swallowed up in charges of collection, if the people should all make an annual journey to Fredericton to pay these rents or aids to His Majesty; and it must be apparent that these journeys would cost the parties in many instances ten, twenty, and even forty times the amount of the rent which they would have to pay; and if collectors should travel through the Province to collect these rents or aids, the whole amount would be hardly sufficient to pay the charges. And for all this *mighty* gain, Government will, I fear, lose the affections of a truly loyal people. O what an infatuation is in this resolve to enforce the payment of *Quit Rents;* it appears to have been an experiment made in the mere wantonness of power, in order to try to the utmost the patience of the people.

I still indulge the hope, that the Lieutenant-Governor, who certainly can have no wish but for the good of the Province, will, now that he has had opportunities of judging for himself, see the propriety of recommending to Ministers to abandon so impolitic and unproductive a scheme.

I am, Sir, &c. A NATIVE.

Dec. 29th, 1832.

P. S.—Measures of severity have, it appears, already been instituted against such of the settlers under the old granting system, as have neglected to pay the *Quit Rent;* such of them, therefore, as do not pay this odious tribute, with the addition of *costs*, will have their lands escheated to the Crown: what then is to become of the lands thus escheated, with the improvements which may have been made on them by the poor settlers, during years of unceasing toil, and under numberless privations incident to the settlement of a new country?—*They will be sold by the Commissioner of Crown Lands to the highest bidder, and the purchaser will have a free grant, unincumbered with Quit Rent, or any other Feudal tenure! ! !*—This, indeed, needs no comment—the best blood of the country will boil with indignation at such proceedings.

* This practice was also introduced by William the Conqueror.

[FOR THE COURIER.]

MR. CHUBB.—Your correspondent "*Mr. Know-nothing,*" in his conversation with "*John Gape,*" comes before the public in such a *questionable shape*, that I am utterly at a loss to determine whether he is a friend or a foe. He says that my statements respecting the Royal Road, so far as they tax the Commissioners with base deception, *are totally false and groundless,* "and that the Commissioners acted honorably, and with the best intentions," and that *I knew nothing of the transaction which I attempted to describe.* To the latter charge, I plead guilty; and I believe that, Mr. Know-nothing, the Commissioners, and their satellites, excepted, every other man in the Province is equally ignorant of the honorable actions and good intentions which presided at the sale of that Road; but, without insisting upon a matter which Mr. Know-nothing considers it *unnecessary* to explain, or noticing his petulant and unguarded sarcasm about my calculation by the *Rood*, which I believe to be synonymous with *Pole* or *Rod;* I will only ask Mr. Know-nothing, whether, by his assurance that Mr. Goodfellow will contract to make better roads than the Royal Road, and through a more difficult country than that through which it has passed, at *less than one hundred pounds per mile*, he means to intimate that the Royal Road has not cost a greater proportionate sum—or that no more than *one thousand or twelve hundred pounds* have already been expended in the execution of that mighty project? I am in error if the Road has been *completed* a greater average distance than *twelve* miles; and by Mr. Know-nothing's own doctrine, we have a right to expect that *twelve* hundred pounds *ought* to have been the full amount of expenditure;—this I will leave him to explain to the public.

Mr. Know-nothing makes some very *free quotations* on the Quit Rent question: perhaps he will again examine "*the copies of certain papers in the archives of Nova-Scotia,*" and in the petition of the *Acadian French*, he will discover something like the following:—"General Phillips, the Governor of Nova-Scotia, did, in your Majesty's name, confirm unto us, and all the inhabitants of the whole extent of the Bay of Minas and rivers thereunto belonging, the free and entire possession of those lands we were then possessed of, *which, by grants from the former French Government, we held to us and our heirs forever, on paying the customary Quit Rents,*" &c. I will not hazard an insult to *Mr. Know-nothing*, by assuming the possibility that he knew not the existence of the clause I have quoted; and one who seems so conversant with the English language, cannot possibly construe the clause in any other manner, than that the Acadians held grants from the former French Government, of lands upon which, *by those Grants*, Quit Rents were reserved. These Rents, they allege to have paid; but, Sir, does this fact furnish any reason for extending the construction of that sentence to the case of a natural subject of Great-Britain? The Acadians were suffered to remain neutral during the war between the English and the French, with their Indian allies; for this important exemption, they were required to behave with due submission and fidelity to His Britannic Majesty, and to *pay their customary Quit Rents.* This, therefore, proves nothing in favor of the legality of the Quit Rent reservation in *our* Grants.

There is, however, another most cogent argument against the position assumed by Mr. Know-nothing,—that although in the Province of Nova-Scotia, the Quit Rents had been not only demanded, but actually paid, from the year 1764, according to the tenor of the grants, yet the right of His Majesty to the absolute disposal of these Rents, had not been fully recognised; for in 1771, "The House of Assembly addresses the Governor on the subject of the Quit Rents, and prays that their proceeds may be applied to the use of the Colony." This, be it remembered, was done at a time when the whole Civil List of the Province was paid by Parliament. What answer was returned to the address, we can only conjecture from collateral facts; and in 1783, we find by Mr. Haliburton's Chronological Table, that "Governor Parr appoints John Cunningham, Collector of Quit Rents, and informs Lord North that no Quit Rents had been colleeted since 1772; from which we may reasonably presume that more than due attention had been paid to *their* prayer. And we further discover, from the same document, that *great reluctance* had always been manifested in Nova-Scotia to the payment of this Rent; a fact, for which we can account only by supposing, that the Legislature of that Province did, and had believed it to be either an unconstitutional or an oppressive measure. In 1811, "The Governor, in an address from the House of Assembly, is requested to solicit from His Majesty *a suspension* of the Quit Rents." In 1812, "The Governor communicates to the House, that His Majesty will suspend the collection of the Quit Rents, if the House will make a suitable provision for the Clergy of the Church of England;" and in the same Legislative Session, "The House inform the Governor that they *decline* to make a provision for the Clergy, *and request* HIM *to suspend the collection of the Quit Rents.*" That this latter request had also been complied with, is evident, from the fact, that in 1827, Lord Bathurst's order for collecting the Quit Rents to accrue subsequently to the 1st January, 1827, contains a special remission of those which had previously become due; but the Legislature, with singular pertinacity, and, as Mr. Know-nothing has it, *ingratitude*, in 1828, address His Majesty, praying him to suspend or *relinquish* the collection of Quit Rents. Whether this prayer did procure a suspension or a remission of the King's claim, I cannot at this moment determine, as I have not access to the proper documents; but, from various circumstances, I am inclined to believe that the question of *right* remains yet in abeyance in that Province; possibly His Majesty's Ministers may be desirous to ascertain the result of their attempt at coercion in this Colony, ere they risk a contest with the population of Nova-Scotia.

In 1812, the Secretary of Nova-Scotia reported that the annual amount of Quit Rents, *if collected*, would be £3500; and at the same time the Receiver General reports that he had *in three years* received only the sum of £559: 19: 1 !—Assuming, therefore, the probability, that no Grants had issued subsequently to 1812, containing no pecuniary prestations, the amount of Quit Rent in that period would be about £52,500, which was *munificently remitted* to the Province. Will Mr. Know-nothing give me a satisfactory solution of the causes which induced the House of Assembly so frequently to *solicit* from His Majesty a *remission* or a suspension of the Quit Rents?—but I refer him to the communications of "*Mentor,*" and desire him to answer the arguments of that writer.

He says, that the attempt to prove the identity of the Quit Rents to the requirements of the ancient Feudal System, are too glaringly absurd to elicit any refutation. This, Sir, is an excellent mode of dismissing an argument; but, with due submission to the wisdom of Mr. Know-nothing, I take leave to inform him, that *the payment of Quit Rent* is not only similar to the requirements of the Feudal System, but was itself actually one of those requirements. This is a fact which may have eluded the researches of Mr. Know-nothing, but it only proves his ignorance of the history of that country where William the Conqueror reigned, and introduced, or at least improved, the Feudal System. So soon as he shall have proved that I have now advanced a false fact, I shall be prepared to produce my authorities for the allegation.

I can readily discover that Mr. Know-nothing is at least a partizan of the powers that be, by his sage proposition to the Legislature of this Colony, "that a certain specific sum might be granted annually for the use of the Crown, in lieu of the Quit Rents."—Excellent politician! Who is there that will not admire the wisdom which framed such an *advice*? Will Mr. Know-nothing refer to the Journal of the House of Assembly in the Legislative Session of 1830, *and he will find that his proposal has been anticipated;* but it is the misfortune of some people to perpetrate the same follies for which they pass a liberal share of censure upon other people.

Mr. Know-nothing also endeavours to extenuate the actions of a certain Officer, in such language and in such remarkable terms, that I can scarcely believe him to be an advocate for the prosperity of that gentleman. He says, that I, after painting the Scoto-Hibernian "black as hell, couple him with an Officer of Government, whom I distinctly point out, and brand with the epithet of a *brother traitor.*" The subsequent part of that paragraph, I am perfectly unable to comprehend, and as it may be understood as well in the nature of a charge against that Officer, as an exculpation of his conduct, I pass it over in silence; but I will tell Mr. Know-nothing that treachery does not of necessity include the crime of betraying our Sovereign or our Country, but may very properly be extended to a manifest and criminal direliction of public duty: I conceive that the Officer who continues to support, in a public and responsible station, one who has been more than suspected of *innumerable crimes*, in his official capacity, is guilty of a species of treachery to the powers by which he has been appointed to his office. I may add, Sir, that the Officer in question is supposed to have other protegees, whose hands have not always been free from pollution.

Mr. Know-nothing's next passage, I presume is intended as a compliment to the Officer whom he mentions. Possibly Mr. Know-nothing has not yet learned to distinguish between the climax of satire, and the excess of folly; but when he tells us that a Public Officer, *who endeavours lo do every thing for the best*, is sometimes hurried, by his peculiar temperament, into measures, without due consideration, and that it causes him to decide upon impulse—and tells us also that *some of his measures* CANNOT BE JUSTIFIED; I am induced to believe that Mr. Know-nothing is his most inveterate enemy. I certainly was not assured that any of his measures could not be justified by the instructions which he had received from the Government; but Mr. Know-nothing, who doubtless advances nothing but truth, has declared, that one of the principal Officers of this Colony does occasionally perform actions, *which cannot be justified.* Were I vindictive, or did I feel any degree of hatred towards that Officer, I could not desire a *better* advocate for him than Mr. Know-nothing; but as I do not happen to have *a particular* spirit of enmity to him, I can only regret that such a champion has entered the lists in his defence.

The allusion to the "Stamp Act," seems to give Mr. Know-nothing a mortal offence. I am sorry that it should have so happened; but perhaps he can discover that a caution is not a threat: the test of rational liberty is not *passive obedience;* —but Mr. Know-nothing may, in my humble opinion be properly addressed in the language of Swift:

"If meagre Gildon draw his venal quill,
"I wish the man a dinner, and sit still."

I know him—but I will not draw aside the veil which conceals him from public view: I leave him and his friend *John Gape* to settle matters between themselves, when a convenient season shall arrive; but as a direct charge of *treachery* has been alleged by Mr. Know-nothing against a gentleman now resident in Fredericton, for making improper disclosures to Mr. Gape, I would suggest to him the propriety of defending that gentleman against such a calumnious aspersion, *if he be innocent.*

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

[FOR THE COURIER.]

MR. EDITOR.—While perusing, in the *Courier*, of late, the several communications of "*John Gape,*" "*A New-Brunswicker,*" "*X. Y. Z.*" "*Mentor,*" &c.—I concluded that the secret satisfaction of doing good, by exposing existing vices and by pointing to the view of the world, in its true colours, the villainy of some who have attained to offices of trust among us, was a sufficient compensation to those truly patriotic writers, and that any applause from the people was unnecessary. But when I find that many, whose loyalty and attachment to the Government of England, and whose zeal for the prosperity of this Province, run parallel with their own interests, and increase or diminish in proportion to the amount of the public funds which they receive, and who are secretly endeavouring to influence the minds of others, by asserting that those writers are factious and disloyal individuals, and that their sentiments are only calculated to influence the minds of the ignorant and vulgar part of the community; I can no longer withhold my sentiments upon the subject, but would, in behalf of that liberal and enlightened portion of the people with whom I have conversed, tender to "*John Gape*" and his colleagues, a vote of thanks for their spirited exertions for the public good.

The good people of New-Brunswick are not a disloyal or factious people: perhaps no appendage of the British Nation is more strongly attached to the Sovereign and Constitution of England than New-Brunswick; had not this been the case, not one spark of loyalty would be found among her sons at the present day,—for a more direct method could not have been invented to alienate the affections of a people, and to lessen their attachment to the Government under which they reside, than the late conduct of an individual who has been placed in an important situation in this Province, and who has, through the medium of undue influence, usurped to himself a power which enables him to set up and cast down whom he pleases; and it is evident to every individual who possesses the least degree of discernment, that his sole aim is to enrich himself and his favourites at the public expense. At the shrine of this individual, the general interests of our once flourishing Province, have been sacrificed;—at his mandate, the poor settler has been driven from his humble dwelling and that small cultivated spot which he had, by his industry, under many privations, prepared for the residence of his destitute family, and where he had hoped to enjoy the fruits of his labour in his old age; —at his pleasure, the settlement of our wilderness lands, and the cultivation of our fertile soil may be suspended, and the staple article of export from our Province, cease to be manufactured and transported to market;—and before whom even the streets of our villages have not remained unmolested. The business of "*The Department,*" or as it may more properly be termed, in its present state, "*The New-Brunswick Inquisition,*" at the head of which this individual has been placed, is conducted by a host of parasites, who are all eagerly grasping for a portion of the public treasure. And, I would ask, have the public received that attention which they had a right to expect from those who were lavishly sporting on their earnings? They have not: for it is notorious in every part of the Province, that the general conduct of those who have conducted the business of that Department, has been imperious, disobliging, and in some cases, treacherous in the extreme. I have observed persons entering the Department with dejected countenance and trembling step, as if they were entering a *Burking shop*, and with faultering voice, attempt to make known their request—when they were suddenly interrupted by one of the public spoilers, with that degree of arrogance which little becomes a menial of a public office, in language like the following—"Have you any money—you must recollect, Sir, that you must give us the sum of 2s 6d. (research fee,) before we can listen to your suit." If the persons were so fortunate as to have the "one thing needful," they were allowed to proceed, if not, their suit was immediately rejected.

In the communications before mentioned, the late expenditure of our public revenue upon the Royal Road, near the Seat of Government, and the great philanthropy displayed by certain individuals, in the employment of a number of poor emigrants upon the said road, have been occasionally alluded to; and I assure you, Mr. Editor, that the whole transaction has been a farce so complete and well acted that it deserves much of the public attention. Those emigrants were induced to leave their native homes and embark for New-Brunswick, by the promise of receiving high wages and constant employment;—and how long have they been employed? I answer, just so long as they could be made the instruments of conveying the public revenue from the chest to the pockets of—I leave the public to determine—who. As soon as those men were employed, they were informed that they must receive all their supplies from a certain mercantile establishment in this town, (in which the individual before alluded to, is suspected to be deeply interested,) at whatever rate that establishment chose to charge; and, until the public funds become exhausted, they were bountifully supplied,—even casks of spirituous liquors were sent upon the spot and retailed out to them, by which means, habits of dissipation and extravagance were encouraged among these deluded people, who little thought of what awaited them. They are now discharged from employment, and are generally in debt to those from whom they received their supplies;—whether they will be sold for bond-men and bond-women, for the payment of those arrears, or whether the said arrears will be paid from the Casual Revenue, we have not yet been informed. Those wretched individuals are now to be seen strolling through our streets, pennyless and destitute of one particle of food for the support of their starving families; and when applying to those who had received the benefit of their earnings through the summer, to know what they should now depend upon for sustenance, they were inhumanly told that they must *suck their paws as the bears do;* and they are, therefore, now left with nothing to depend on but the charity of a liberal public, or to become paupers on our parishes.

That the loyal people of New-Brunswick are really oppressed, few will dare to deny; and is it not now time for them to awake from that state of apathy which has too long sunk them beneath their sister Colonies, and let their united voices be heard in a proper quarter for redress. We are fully convinced that our present Lieutenant-Governor will be ever ready, as far as in his power, to redress the grievances of the people, although we are sorry to find that the prejudices of some have driven them to a different conclusion; and who, perhaps, have been led to this opinion from His Excellency's notice in the *Royal Gazette*, requesting all persons wishing to communicate with him, to direct their petitions to the Secretary's Office—many supposing that the Secretary's Office in New-Brunswick is, in miniature, what the Colonial Office in London is at present, viz. an almost impenetrable barrier against a hearing at the Throne, relative to certain abuses which exist in this Province. I acknowledge that I would rather have seen a notice from His Excellency similar to that of his predecessor, Sir Howard Douglas, viz. that all persons having business to transact with His Excellency, were requested to call at certain hours on certain days.

I will not, Mr. Editor, intrude any further on your columns at present; but request you to give the foregoing remarks publicity, and oblige

Fredericton, Dec. 22. S. T.

[FOR THE COURIER.]

I SAY MR. EDITOR—My *friendly foe* Mr. Know-nothing is a genuine bruiser,—he strikes with such extreme violence that nothing can resist the force of his weapon.—Bless me, Sir, I was really afraid, *on reading his conversation*, that I could not possibly survive the shock; the fabric which I had been so long endeavouring to erect was shattered by a single blow; oh dear! oh dear! what a literary Hercules we have got among us: a Demosthenes in embryo, a Cicero in breeches;—verily he must be a perfect treasure to his Master,—and then his acute penetration in discovering at a glance by my *peculiar Hem!* that I was the true John Gape; the extraordinary dexterity with which he canvasses, and refutes the arguments, the weak and futile arguments of *X. Y. Z.* (whom I leave to defend himself)—the intuitive perception by which he has discovered that my new political light proceeds from two discontented, treacherous, and factious *persons*, who, for certain reasons, have *honoured* me with their notice! His compassionate and eager desire to *disabuse* me:—his eloquent description of our Rulers; and the prophetic sketch which he gives us of the consequences to be apprehended from their present career, together with his inimitable prosaic episode upon the fame and character of *Junius;*—heightened as all these are also by the ingenious manner in which he has contrived to make me profess sentiments which to me are entirely novel; and to exhibit an irascibility of temper which is wholly foreign to my natural disposition! Really, dear Mr. Editor, I do confess myself *immeasurably* indebted to Mr. Know-nothing, and would gladly endeavour to repay the obligation—but, dear Mr. Editor, how shall I, a mere worm of the dust, a grovelling insect, a kind of nondescript animal in the scale of creation—how shall I meet this *only* champion of a Party, and force him to confess that the meek and humble John Gape stands not in the need of assistance from traitors, or *spies*, as he seems to have a peculiar antipathy to the epithet of traitor: —but such is the fact, and John Gape feels it his duty to declare solemnly and publicly, that he has never received information, either directly or indirectly, upon any subject which has appeared in his communications, from the gentleman who appears to be the particular subject of Mr. Know-nothing's honorable suspicions; and further, dear Mr. Editor, I declare my belief that the gentleman alluded to (which I learn by an intimation from *a friend* who will accept my thanks) is utterly incapable of betraying any confidence that may be reposed in him in a high quarter.—John Gape willingly bears this honorable testimony to the integrity of that gentleman, to whom he is *at present unknown;* and he therefore cannot be suspected of adulation. John Gape and Mr. Know-nothing must join issue about the posthumos fame of Junius; but John Gape does not subscribe to *all* the tenets which Mr. Know-nothing has taken the liberty of ascribing to John. Some of them he readily avows; others he utterly renounces; and returns them to the source of their origin: but John Gape begs the public to observe, that although Mr. Know-nothing, in his *peculiar way, attempts to ridicule several matters which John has recorded*, and to insinuate that they are wholly false and absurd, yet he wisely refrains from endeavouring to *prove by credible testimony* that they are not true. Ah! Mr. Editor that same Know-nothing does indeed know a thing or two—one of which is, that he will rather hold up his friend to public scorn, than pass an opportunity of venting his spleen against his *fortunate* competitor, but as the people may not understand the allusion, I forbear, and wish him success *in his profession.*—John Gape presumes that Mr. Know-nothing will speedily receive a rich reward for his labours—and would advise him to avow himself the author of that *inimitable colloquy*; from a Scribe he may be elevated into a *Pharasee* of modern times, and nature has fitted him for the transition. Farewell to you good Mr. Know-nothing; as you dismissed John Gape so uncourteously at his last interview, he will not require you to drink *a parting cup*. Farewell and farewell.

To his very good friends, the public, John Gape must make some species of apology for omitting in this letter the "*Extracts*" which he had promised; and he must also presume upon their kindness to delay his "Recapitulations" until next week. John Gape will hereafter explain the causes which led to the delay, but lest he should be suspected of ingratitude to the public officers, he will now record a few saving Acts; and as he has uniformly professed himself an impartial judge, he feels a degree of satisfaction in being able to contradict some of his own statements.

PASSING EXTRACTS FROM MY JOURNAL.

Found that the Government had anticipated my remark in the last Courier, respecting the custody of public monies, which is at present ordered to be paid over to the Receiver General. *Mem.* Wonder who may claim the merit of this regulation—have they *seirs* among them, that have discovered what John Gape was thinking?

Heard that a new regulation has been adopted in a certain Office, *that none of the Clerks shall be permitted to write a Petition which is required to pass through that Office;*—*Mem.* Dear me, how wise some people are; they prate and clamour about trifles, and suffer weighty offences to pass unnoticed.—Wonder who ever objected to a Clerk writing petitions.—they must be prepared, and why deny any man the right of employing his spare moments to any honorable purpose that he may consider to be correct and proper:—heard also that a certain great officer has declared that if a dozen or more respectable persons will present a petition to him, praying that the aforesaid regulation may be annulled, he will grant their request. Indeed! wonderful condescension!—but John Gape hopes to hear that such regulation will speedily be annulled without a petition; the mere preparation of a memorial or of a petition can form no just cause of complaint, and when the public shall complain of the act, methinks it will be time enough to prohibit the practice. *Mem.* Wonder whether this is not intended for a species of covering to positive abuses, and designed to divert the public attention from matters of great importance. John Gape says, *be cautious!* If you wish to show the people that a reformation is intended, commence with radical errors—examine the foundation; let it be first repaired, and *then* proceed to view the superstructure.

Heard that the allowance to the Deputy Commissioners (the working bees) is reduced from 20s. to 15s. per diem, while they are actually employed. —*Mem.* Cannot help admiring the spirit of economy which originated this regulation, and would recommend as a necessary concomitant to that rule, that a corresponding reduction be also made in the salaries of the Clerks employed in the Office, the Deputy Commissioner, and last, (which ought to be first) the Commissioner himself,—think it is a poor evasion of *even handed justice* that the smallest salaries should be made still less, while the mammoth sinecures and salaries are left untouched.

Hear that a certain great officer laughs, *in the simplicity of his heart*, at the strictures of John Gape. *Mem.* Wonder whether that Officer has ever considered the power of the Press, and the influence of the public voice.—John Gape has repeatedly declared that he is *inimical* to no man; but he cautions his antagonists against a recurrence of such ridiculous attacks as that made upon him by Mr. Know-nothing.—*That* is suffered to pass without *due* recrimination,—but another such publication will bring down the rod, and it will not fall without a degree of force which some people may find it difficult to sustain, without writhing under it.

John Gape has a few peculiarly delicious morsels in reserve for the great ones of the Land, and these he will serve up to the public as opportunity shall require; and he gives Public notice that his Ring *may perhaps* carry him unseen through the Arcana of some other Offices, besides the one to which his attention has heretofore been directed; and although he avows his decided partiality for the highest personage in the Province, yet even he shall not escape censure, whenever he shall depart from the proper line of duty; and as John Gape does not feel any pleasure in the infliction of mental punishment, he also candidly declares, though at the hazard of losing his popularity, that he will ever be ready to recant his errors, and to contradict his own assertions, so soon as he shall be satisfied that he has committed errors, and alleged falsehoods—he is no party man, and therefore his censure is the more to be feared, because the lash will never be laid upon acknowledged innocence, and he will never spare reputed guilt.

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

MR. CHUBB,—

SIR,—Your paper of the 5th instant, is now before me, and in it I perceive a Communication signed "*A Merchant,*" stating, amongst other matters, "that no enquiry was ever made respecting the comparative prices of the goods sold by me during the last summer, to persons employed on the Royal Road, and the prices charged by other Merchants;" "that the money payable to persons labouring on that road did not, except in very few instances, pass out of my possession, that a positive understanding subsisted among the conductors of the work, that I alone was to furnish supplies for them or for the persons employed." He also stated, as somewhat remarkable and suspicious, that I purchased Road at ten shillings per rod, as mentioned by X. Y. Z., and he ends by asking, "Have I now spoken truth, or have I advanced falsehoods."

Now, Mr. Editor, what will you say, what will the public say, when I pledge my character as a man and a Merchant, that I can prove every item which I have recapitulated, to be a tissue of falsehoods. You may, Mr. Editor, say my language is warm; but, Sir, would you have a man respond in a lackadaisical tone to the anonymous calumniator, who, under the mask of public zeal and patriotism, endeavours to filch from him his good name. Who says he is prepared to adduce evidence of matters which only exist in the imagination of the envious and the backbiter; and who dares attempt to deter him from repelling the attack, by a threat of unveiling more important facts, should an exculpation be attempted. So far, Mr. Editor, from such a threat being a damper, I should be happy were all my transactions relative to the Royal Road investigated by a Committee of the Imperial Parliament, with the redoubted Mr. Hume, as Chairman.

Now, Sir, for the chapter and verse:—The Secretary of the Royal Road, in June last, asked me if I would act as Treasurer, for expenditures to be incurred in opening a road towards the Great Falls. That weekly cash advances must be made to the married emigrants, and that all wages must be paid in Cash, as often as they produced certificates from the overseers; and not less than once per month.

I undertook the task, and a most troublesome one it turned out. The immense profits you may conceive, when I inform you that the workmen found themselves;—that the Axemen were mostly young men of the country, who were induced to spend a few months on the road, for the sake of realizing some money; they received £5 per month. Some of them laid out from 10s. to 30s. per month, with me, for provisions.—and some found it more convenient to purchase their provisions elsewhere, as there was no condition expressed or implied which required them to expend one shilling with me.

The emigrants who came in June, received £4 per month; the married ones having weekly cash advances, it was optional with them whether to buy from me or from others. The single ones, of course, would expend but a small proportion of their wages in food, from any quarter; and after the first month they had money to expend where they pleased. Those who came late in the season had but £3 5s. per month, as the days were getting short, and there would not be time for them to become at all acquainted with the nature of the work, before the winter set in, and they were strongly advised to look elsewhere for employment. Such of those poor people as were burthened with families, could not, from those low wages, save any money.—After the middle of November, when the other workmen were dismissed, they were continued at contract work on fair terms; but being awkward in the use of the axe, they could not make both ends meet, and seven heads of families applied for parochial relief, to assist in supporting their families through the severity of the winter, as what they could earn by their contracts would not suffice till the days were longer; when in lieu of obtaining such assistance, they informed me that they were directed by the Commissioners of the Alms House, to billet themselves upon the Commissioners and Secretary of the Royal Road, and I actually saw