

Tight Binding

Government. In 1857 the decision of 1856 upon the constitutional question was reversed. If in 1857 when the Fisher Government resigned His Excellency had not been able to find another Government to accept the responsibility of dissolution there would have been no dissolution, and he would have been obliged to go home. When a dispatch from the Governor was placed upon the table of the House there should be some one in the House to assume the responsibility of that dispatch. In the case of the dispatch on the College Bill there was no one to assume that responsibility; that was the difficulty. The strongest proof of the existence of a responsible body was the necessity for it. If the Executive Council had asked to see the dispatch, and been refused, and had asked for the evidence upon which that refusal was grounded, then the House could have now had the evidence before it; but as they had never asked and been refused, they could not give the House the evidence upon which such a refusal might be based. It was very rarely that such a case as this occurred; Bills were generally allowed to go into operation as a matter of course. But this was a special case, and required that special reasons for the allowance of the Bill should be assigned. The question was whether the Government had taken proper steps to have this Bill carried out; the Government might not have taken any special steps in the case of the Liquor Law to obtain to it the Queen's consent, and might not have been blamed for neglecting to do so, simply because as the Bill was allowed all that was required by the Legislature had been obtained.—But if the Liquor Law had been rejected by the Home Government the question whether our Government had done its duty towards having it properly represented would have arisen. If the College Bill had been allowed the House would have never seen such a discussion as this; the dispatch itself which caused such commotion would never have been asked for, they were told that this right to see dispatches did not exist in Canada or Nova Scotia; he (Mr. S.) could not believe that; he did not believe that Mr. Howe in Nova Scotia would have taken such a course as that pursued by this Government.

Throughout the whole debate the Government had tried to dodge the question of the right of the Council to see the dispatch, and to turn the question upon the right of seeing the remonstrances. The Colonial Secretary in his reply to the Governor's dispatch says that had the subject of these remonstrances entered into the formation of the decision by the Imperial Government he should have considered it right before coming to that decision to have submitted them to the Executive Council. The fair inference from this was that the Governor should have shown them. And if there was reason for showing the Council these remonstrances there was much more reason for showing the dispatch; for, in the words of Earl Grey, "there can be no exercise of the Crown's authority for which it must not find some minister to be responsible," and if the minister is responsible he must be acquainted with the acts of the Crown, or of the Governor.—The Government said that they had commenced a negotiation for the purpose of obtaining the right to see dispatches; but he (Mr. S.) thought that it would be found that any step which they had taken for this purpose had been subsequent to his moving the address for these dispatches at the commencement of the session.

The Solicitor General had said that this discussion would do good: it would lead the people to inquire into the principles of the constitution. But the people would also inquire into the cause of this discussion, and if the Government were found wanting in their duty they must be prepared to take the consequences. He (Mr. S.) was never elected to support or to oppose any set of men; he was elected upon the policy and the doctrines which he enunciated at the hustings.

He had a few words to say to his honor the Speaker. He was surprised that the Speaker could not have discovered a reflection upon the Government in the resolution. The language of the resolution was the language of the Political Primer; it was the language which Messrs. Johnson and Fisher had used in 1854. As for the arrangement of the resolution, it just suited him.

The Attorney General—"No doubt; you intended a shot at the Governor."

Mr. Stedman.—No: he did not intend a shot at the Governor. The Governor did all that he could do; he invited the Council to send home a representation in reply to the remonstrance of the College Council and he waited from April to July in order to give them time to do so. If the Government had resigned, they would have been in a pretty position; for the Governor could have said to them: I

could do nothing else than write and forward the dispatch, for I invited you to furnish me with your arguments or representations against the Bill, and had you furnished them I would have transmitted them to Her Majesty; but you gave me nothing of the sort. The Speaker said that he could not see how the Conservatives could with any consistency support this resolution. If the Speaker could see their inconsistency why could he not see his own. He (Mr. S.) was very glad that he had succeeded in getting the Conservatives to support the resolution, and he would ask the hon. Speaker, who ridiculed the "grave remonstrance" made by the Government of 1851 whether the present Government had even gone so far as to make a grave remonstrance against the infringement of the rights of our Legislature?—The Speaker also said that the right to see dispatches had never been claimed until claimed by this Government. But he (Mr. S.) could not see the slightest token of their ever having claimed this right.—(He meant the remonstrances—from Mr. Smith.) The Civil List arrangement was made for our benefit, not for that of the Crown; and to tell us that we are for ever barred from altering or modifying it is a proposition perfectly monstrous. If the Government had shown the Colonial Secretary that the grant was mainly wasted, and not applied for the purpose, and with the results contemplated; the Bill would have been sanctioned. (Atty. General.—Prove it.) There was an instance in the reduction of the Judges' Salaries; was not that an alteration of the Civil List Compact? (Surveyor General. It was no alteration. Lord Glenelg was willing to reduce salaries in futuro.) If the Judges' salaries could be reduced for a reason, they could show that the College had failed to perform its part of the contract, and in that case the Colonial Secretary would have agreed to the Bill.

The Speaker had said that the Government did not know that any special reasons for the passing of the Bill were necessary. If the Bill had been allowed to go home without any opposition they might not. But the dispatch was written in direct opposition to the Bill, and then it became necessary for the Government to show the Home Government the special reasons for the passing of the Bill. The Speaker called him (Mr. S.) an extreme man. If he was extreme he was only giving the opinions expressed by the speaker himself in 1854. But he (Mr. S.) was called extreme on account of his opinions as to the subordinate officials not meddling in politics. He found his opinions upon this matter supported by those of Earl Grey. In his work on Parliamentary Government, upon the removal of subordinate office-holders, he says:

"These considerations lead me to regard with great alarm some few examples which have of late years occurred of persons who hold permanent offices under the Government. Meddling in political contests by being concerned in party newspapers or writing in the newspapers on the disputed political questions of the day. Whether this is done in order to support or oppose the administration for the time being is not very material; in either case such conduct is a departure from that strict neutrality in party contests which it has hitherto been considered the duty of the permanent Civil Servants to observe, and which is the only condition on which they can hope that their present secure tenures of office will be allowed to continue. On the appointment of a new Government after some great party struggle could the ministers who succeeded to power be blamed if they regard as political offices, and therefore liable to change, those places which they might find in the hands of men who had through the newspapers been taking an active part in the contest?"

These were the doctrines which he had always propounded; and he believed that they were wholesome doctrines. As to his opinions upon the question before the committee he was but enunciating those announced by the Speaker in 1854; he (Mr. S.) had stood fast; the Speaker had receded.

The Postmaster General was the origin of this whole debate. Last session he had taken charge of the College Bill with an apparent determination to carry it through. He was surprised that when the hon. gentleman went into the government he had not made the passing of this Bill one of his conditions; and he wondered that when the Postmaster General found that the Government had so neglected the Bill he should have gone into the Government at all.

If the Attorney General, when he rose to reply to him, had stated that the Government would bring forward the College Bill again and put it through the House, and endeavor to obtain the Queen's sanction, he did not know but that he should even then withdraw his resolution. But the carrying of this amendment moved by the Attorney General would sweep away the very foundation stone of our system of Government. Was the Attorney General going to make them vote that the dispatch stated the reasons and occasion for the passing of the Bill? If they voted for the amendment they would vote for that. He thought that it was wrong to vote decidedly that they had not the right to see the dispatches, even did they doubt having it. It was a most dangerous thing to do. He could fancy the members of the present Government discussing this question, had the Conservatives instead of themselves been in the Government and guilty of this conduct. The Hon. Mr. Smith would have hurled his denunciations at them in a voice which would have been heard as far as Government House.

The great argument used by the Government in this debate was that if they went out of office Messrs. Gray and Wilnot would come back. He did not think that followed at all. There were men in the Liberal party able to conduct the Government other than its present members, or the present members of the Assembly. They might cut down the very trunks, and the young branches would grow again.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Woodstock Journal.

Sir,—The remarks made in my letter in the Journal of the 28th April appear to have hurt the feelings of the *Sentinel* very much. If they did I regret it, as my object was not to annoy him or any one else, but to counteract the evil tendency of his article. But I might suggest to him that to abuse is neither reasonable nor useful by way of reply. If a man puts on a shoe that pinches it is ridiculous to storm about it—the only thing to be done is to put it off.

I do not intend to reply to the *Sentinel's* long tirade of vituperation; it only shows ill feeling, without point or argument. His biliary organs are out of order—let him physic. Yet are some of his phrases ludicrous enough. He speaks of a man rushing into print "regardless of birth and country." What possible connexion there can be between a *regardlessness of birth and country* and exposing in print the sophistries of the *Sentinel*, would puzzle a Philadelphia lawyer to discover. But he gives an instance in point, he says; and of course there must be a connexion.

As to his advice at the end of his article, it would be very good if it were applicable to the circumstances. It is excellent to pay attention to the proprieties in writing.—But where are the improprieties? The advice comes strangely from one from whose writing you cannot tell whether he meant that 6 or 4 students have been educated in King's College during 30 years, or 3 or 4 each year of the 30. It is highly necessary to adhere to strict accuracy in statements—why not point out the errors?

But the chief matter is that he does not get credit for sincerity. Why, sir, before one receives credit for sincerity it must be seen, either in actuality or in appearance. His bitterness and insincerity are seen in this—that while professing to desire the prosperity of the College he is really endeavoring to hinder that prosperity—to injure the institution. He expresses the hope that future years may afford an answer to the College question—well settled. And yet what is the manifest tendency of his remarks but to foster the distrust that exists among many in regard to it, and to extend that distrust? If he wished to remove that distrust would he mention it without showing at the same time its unreasonableness? He admits that a reform has been effected. To continue distrust after a reform, merely because the institution was not torn down, and a spick-and-span new one created, is unreasonable—as unreasonableness because it is an old religion reformed. But where does the *Sentinel* attempt to remove that distrust? Is it by mentioning it without disapprobation? Is it by exaggerating the expense, and depre-

ciating the results of the expenditure? Is it by assuming that the education afforded even to the three or four is valueless? If he is sincere in his friendship all that can be said is that he has a queer way of showing it. No one expects to see bitterness in such a case sprawling about on the surface; it then disgusts. It is powerful only when somewhat concealed. Until the *Sentinel* shows more signs of sincere love for the College his credit for the possession of it must be at a considerable discount.

The Baptist Seminary and Mount Allison Academy are both doubtless good institutions and useful—I have nothing to say against them. But while probably serving the purpose for which they were established they do not profess to give a high class—a university—education. And the usefulness of these institutions is no reason for depriving the youth of New Brunswick of the means of a Collegiate education. It is folly to compare the numbers attending these, and similar schools, with the number attending a university; in all countries the great bulk of the people are satisfied with a common school education; only a small minority seek for the education given by such schools as the Mount Allison Academy; while but a very few indeed try for a Collegiate education, such as is afforded by King's College. It is mere nonsense to contrast the large number of students at the Wesleyan Academy, which is only an extensive Grammar School, with the small number which attend King's College, as a ground of complaint against the latter. High schools are necessary, but so also is a College. The tendency of the opposition to the College has been to substitute denominational and inferior High Schools for an unsectarian and superior national university. That this has been one of the motives of the principal opponents of the College has not of course been acknowledged, but is pretty well understood. The Hon. C. Connell formerly strenuously opposed the support by Government of sectarian schools. But he turned a complete somersault in this as in other matters, and now supports and advocates denominational colleges aided by Government, and opposes bitterly King's College, the only perfectly unsectarian institution in the Province. Did Mr. Connell's principles (his latest, I mean) prevail the consequence would be that our only national and unsectarian College—our only institution in which all creeds, all classes, all colors, all opinions, can meet on perfectly fair and equal grounds—would be destroyed, and the country would be filled with denominational High Schools, not one of which could give a first class education, and which would be a much heavier burden upon the revenue of the Province than an extensive and well ordered Provincial University of the highest rank. If Mr. Connell to secure his own petty, selfish ends desires such a consummation, no intelligent and patriotic New Brunswicker does.

For the information of the *Sentinel* I may state that the total revenue of the College last year was precisely £2561 2s., of which £350 was paid for the support of the Collegiate School, which is, I have reason to believe, the best High School or Academy in the Province, and which is attended by about eighty or ninety students. The number of students at present in the College is, from the best authority which I have been able to get, nineteen, a large number of which, it is stated, entered since there opened a prospect of the institution being preserved.

But I must not trespass further on your space. I would just add that if as much earnestness and persevering endeavor had been shown in trying to improve the College as have been in attempts at its destruction fears for its success would have been needless. Both fears and complaints concerning it are mostly groundless; and they lie at the door of the Hon. C. Connell and his colleagues. For these complaints and fears they are chiefly responsible; and now that a reform has been initiated they should endeavor to remove them. If after the Legislature has, after a lengthy and most searching discussion, solemnly decided that the College shall not be destroyed, but shall be remodelled and improved, Mr. Connell and the *Sentinel*, at *hoc omnes* genus, persist in fostering the prejudices against it, people will come to the conclusion that their opposition rises from feelings and motives which honest, candid, patriotic men never entertain.

May 9, 1859.

FROM CALIFORNIA.—The recent California papers give the most harrowing and appalling accounts of the cruelty and barbarity of a Maine shipmaster, Capt. Pendleton, on a voyage from Cardiff, in Wales to San Francisco. His crew was composed chiefly of Norwegians, and according to the statement of Mr. Atkins, the mate, were orderly men, well disposed to do their duty. But the master seems to have been a truly fiendish being, who manifested itself in personal violence and in putting them upon a wretchedly short allowance of water and provisions, by which their strength was greatly reduced, and they were indeed brought to the verge of starvation. One of the men named Williams, was so savagely beaten by him, and afterwards treated with neglect, that he died. Three others of crew were put in irons by the orders of master, and kept in the hold on top of cargo of coal. When the vessel arrived at San Francisco, and the hatches were taken off, the appearance of these poor creatures filled all who saw them with compassion, horror, and indignation. They were reduced to the last degree, covered with filth and vermin, unable to speak, and of them was insane. When the facts became known, it was with difficulty that Capt. Pendleton was saved from summary justice at the hands of an excited populace. He was immediately arrested and lodged in goal, for want of bail, which was put the sum of ten thousand dollars. We trust that he will meet the retribution due to the atrocities of which he has been guilty. The U. S. Marshall refused to have any notes taken by the reporters for the press the exposure of the facts might prevent the empanelling of an impartial jury.

THE SWORD OF WALLACE.—A correspondent of the Glasgow Gazette complains of the neglect with which this historical relic is treated. The writer went to visit the sword at Dumbarton Castle, and was shocked at seeing a piece of emptiness as regards one single stand of arms to uphold the name it bears. No arms were there but two Highland dirks, a Lochaber axe and on the wall, carelessly hung and irrelevantly exposed, without a covering or the least thing to protect it, the sword of Scotland's great martyr patriot. But this is not all as respects the sword, with its thrilling associations. Some awkward creature, taking it down from the wall, has apparently let it fall, and there it is, about to break in two; and further, the iron nail all over it is doing its work of destruction silently and surely.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—There is a disease which has no name, yet is exceedingly common. It consists in a relaxation of the whole vital system. The appetite is poor, the spirits low, the body feeble, the nerves unstrung, the eyes lustreless, the chest wan and pale, the whole physique in a state of prostration. The sufferer, though perhaps in the morning or meridian of life, is feeble almost to decrepitude. To restore the system from this syncope, there is a medicine comparable to Holloway's Pills. They recruit the appetite, the spirits, the strength, the nerves. In fine, they rejuvenate, so to speak, the entire corporeal system, and, as a natural consequence, improve the condition of the mental energies.

The Forty second Anniversary of the Saint George's Society of this City was celebrated at the Waverly House on last Wednesday, on which occasion the Company and their guests sat down to an excellent dinner prepared by Mr. Scammell. Speeches and singing were freely made and the Anniversary passed off very satisfactorily.—[Freeman.

NEW PROJECT FOR ATLANTIC TELEGRAPH.—Col. T. P. Shaffner says that "during the coming summer, with engineers already engaged, he intends to travel over and examine the route, via Greenland, Iceland, and the Faroe Islands, which, in his opinion is the only practicable one for a telegraph between Europe and America."

Mrs. Anderson, an accomplished lady of London, C. W., insured her life for \$5,000, for the benefit of her son, who last week administered strychnine to his mother from the effects of which she died.

Joe Porter, known as the Kentucky giant, died at Shippingport, Ky., on the 25th ult. His height was 7 feet 9 inches—his coffin was 9 feet 1 inch in length.

The Journal

Thursday, May 13, 1859.

Mr. Vernon Smith on the Pacific

(Continued)

Mr. Smith goes on to the present available material between Canada through British territory 400 tons can now go to the head of Lake Superior and forward to Red Lake which the Northern Company proposes to do, the distance is which will be a wagg train remainder water communication running in continu 000 miles, to the Mountains. Forward the Pacific, by Frazer's route, but 200 of which. "In all previous (Smith.) in another 3,500 miles from Quebec following the course of streams, nearly 3,200 with steamboats, and able without any additional facilities than those reach Frazer's River ten days without usually incurred in of that duration."

The advantages of this route as this over a from 1000 to 1400 m. parched desert are rest glance. The road could be comm land portages between water communication at once; and the supplies and materials hand, while over the the work would have from the extremities of the road as finished carrying forward construction of another

Mr. Smith enters calculation and estimates superiority of St. the trade which Pacific Railway on not follow him, but at which he arrives (he says) then, w the Riviere du Louperior, to that of N ing point for the A if not superior for these calculation summed on the B mense improvement the Canadian can duce the cost of f route brought a project that h commenced mus of the through lakes." Mr. Srdence to show th could compete from Montreal t

A Railway to follow the exact ter and portage the trade now f Smith has just do better than to the trade for w new and superi words of the le

"Starting from John and the Be railway, available the shortest land avoiding as much and embarking rope; through t wick to the St. Trunk Railway wa valley to lak the heads of lak to the Great N catchwan, the Pacific, makes a to the harbor of