UNITED STATES.

Extract from Captain M'Kenzie's official narrative of the mutiny on board the U. S. brig of war Somers.

"When Spencer first reported himself to Commander Mc Kenzie for duty, at New York, the latter gave him his hand and welcomed him on board the Somers; but Commander Mc Kenzie subsequently heard that Spencer had been discharged for drunkeness from the Brazilian squadron, and this made him desirous for Spencer's removal from the vessel, particularly for the sake of the young men who were on board. When on the eve of sailing from New York, two other Midshipmen came on board the Somers which made the number seven, and as Commander Mc Kenzie heard that Spencer wished to go on board the Grampus, Mc Kenzie said he would second his application on the ground of promoting the comfort of the officers, but the commandant declined acceding to it.

When the conspiracy was discovered Commander Mc Kenzie ordered Spencer on the quarter deck, and addressing him said, "I understand you want the command of the Somers." To which Spencer replied with a smile, "Oh! no, sir." Lieut. Mc Kenzie then said, "Did you tell Wales that you wanted to kill the officers and take possession of the ship and make her a pirate." To this Spencer replied that he might have said so, but that it was only in a joke. Mc Kenzie then told him that it was a joke which might cost him his life, and asked him to remove his cravat. Spencer did so and nothing was found. Com. Mc Kenzie then asked him where was the paper he showed Wales, and he replied that it was an account of his day's work, and that he had destroyed it. Com. Mc Kenzie said that it was a queer place for him to keep it, and told him that he could not accomplish his ends without walking over their (the officers) dead bodies. Commander McKenzie then ordered Lieut. Gansevoort, to put him in irons, and his sword was taken from him, and he was put in double irons. Lieut. Gansevoort was ordered to watch over him, and put him to instant death if he saw him have any intercourse with any of the crew. But Com. McKenzie when giving the order, said that the prisoner was to have every comfort, and Lieut. Gansevoort assured Com. McKenzie that his orders should be attended to, which was done accordingly.

As soon as Spencer was confined, the officers were ordered to quarters, and armed with cutlasses and pistols, and arrangements were made to prevent anything improper occurring on the deck.

The next day, being Sunday, when the crew were ordered to divine service, and while Commander McKenzie was addressing them on the duty which they owed to their God and their country, he perceived many stealthy but meaning glances pass between the prisoner and some of those implicated in his crime.

On that evening, after it was dark, Commander McKenzie thinking it dangerous to leave Cromwell at liberty, he called him to the quarter deck, and he was ironed, as was also Small, and increased vigilance was ordered on the part of all the officers; on the ensuing day two crimes of theft were committed on board, and the perpetrators were both punished, and the Commander on this occasion addressed the whole crew on their duties to their country and kindred, to which they would so shortly return, that many of them wept, and he thought the crew were then tranquilized.

The Commander now ordered that Spencer should get no more tobacco, as it was only a stimulant which injured him; but that he was still to receive every necessary comfort. The day after Spencer's tobacco was stopped from him he became quite mournful and his face was in tears, and he told Lieutenant Gansevoort that he was not then in a state to say any thing, but would when more composed.

The 29th of November had now arrived, and various acts of insubordination were exhibited by the crew, and Mr. Wales detected one of the men taking a handspike out of its place, and when he spoke to him about his doing so, the man offered a very lame excuse for doing it or being where the handspike was. Several of the crew now absented themselves from muster, which could only have been done intentionally, as they gave no reasonable excuse for doing so.

All those occurrences impressed Commander McKenzie with the necessity of taking farther measures. Hitherto he had only consulted his first Lieutenant, and was fortified in every thing he did by finding his opinions similar to his own. But it was so grave a case that he was desirous to have the opinions of all his officers, that no shadow of doubt might remain of the prisoners' guilt, if their execution should be necessary. He therefore submitted the case in writing, to all the officers but the Midshipmen, and addressed them a circular, saying that the time was come when he was desirous to avail himself of their counsel, as commander of the vessel. They were aware of the circumstances which resulted in the confinement of Spencer and others, and he had determined to address himself to them, and ask their united counsel as to the best course to be pursued, and therefore asked them to consider the present condition of the vessel and all the circumstances of the case, and enlighten him as to what course should be pursued.

On the first of December he received an answer to it from the officers, stating that the evidence which had come to their knowledge was of such a nature, that after dispassionate reflection they were unanimously of opinion that a mutiny existed of the most ferocious nature, and in the uncertainty of what one hour might bring forth, they thought it unsafe to carry the prisoners to the United States, and thought that after giving them time to prepare, they should be put to death. The communication closed by saying that they (the officers) gave this opinion, bearing in mind their duty to God, their country and the service.

Commander McKenzie at once concurred in this opinion, and the necessity of carrying their recommendation into effect. There were two others almost as guilty as the ringleaders, and to whose care the attention of the officers was invited. But those persons could be kept in confinement without any extreme danger to the safety of the vessel. The three chief conspirators were the only ones able to navigate the vessel, and by their removal the motive for a rescue or capture, or carrying out their design of piracy, would be taken away. Besides which their lives were forfeited, and the honour of the flag required that the sacrifice should take place.

Commander McKenzie was then disposed to arm the petty officers, but was urged not to do so by one of the officers, as in the then state of the vessel no one could tell who was to be trusted, and therefore they ought not to trust them. He however thought that they could be trusted, and ordered the Lieutenant to arm them, and when it was done, he addressed them and told them to look at him and obey his orders. He then gave orders to make preparations for executing the prisoners. The officers were then stationed around the deck, and the petty officers were ordered to cut down all that refused to obey orders. Commander McKenzie then put on his uniform, and announced to the prisoners their fate.

He told Spencer that he, Spencer, had been about to remove him speedily and in the darkness of the night without murmuring a prayer for his wife or children, and that his, Spencer's life, was forfeited, and that it was necessary for the safety of the crew that it should be taken. But that he, McKenzie, would not follow his example, and that if he had any words to utter, or had any thing to send his parents it should be attended to. Ten minutes were then given him to prepare for death, which intimation seemed to overcome him. Spencer then said that Cromwell was innocent, and Commander McKenzie immediately sent for Lieutenant Gansevoort, who said there could be doubt of his guilt, and it was confirmed by the petty officers, and this was the man who trained Spencer to it.

When Cromwell was ironed, Spencer had also pleaded with Gansevoort for his release, as being innocent. He also interfered for Small, by endeavoring to make out an alias for him, saying that was not his name.

Small received the announcement of his fate with composure, and said that he had no person to care for him but his mother, and he did not wish her to hear how he died.

Spencer afterwards said that he deserved death for that and other crimes, and that the only fear he had of death was that repentance might be too late, and that he had wronged many persons, but especially his poor parents.

Commandant McKenzie told Spencer that he had asked the opinion of all the officers and what it was, and he said it was just. He then asked what was to be the manner of his death and asked to be shot, and McKenzie told him that he could not make any difference between him and the other criminals. He then asked at the end of an hour to have his face covered, and it was done so. The other criminals also asked the same thing, and it was done. Spencer then asked to have his irons removed, which could not be done. He then asked was it too late to be pardoned, and McKenzie reminded him of the penitent thief on the cross, and told him that God was all merciful and could extend him mercy. He then asked McKenzie's forgiveness, and McKenzie gave him his hand.

More than an hour had now elapsed and the officers were ordered to bring the prisoners to the gangway. In going there Cromwell and Spencer met together, and Com. McKenzie ordered Spencer to stand and let Cromwell pass, and Cromwell passed, almost touching Spencer, and not a word was said by Spencer of Cromwell's innocence, nor did Cromwell ask him to do it.

Spencer asked Wales to forgive him for tampering with him, and Wales did forgive him, and went away weeping.

At the gangway Spencer met Small, and in a calm manner presented his hand to him and said "Spencer, forgive me for bringing you into this trouble."—"No, by G—," said Small, "I can't forgive you." Com. McKenzie then spoke to Small, and he relented and put out his hands to Spencer and said, "I forgive you."

Small then asked forgiveness from Com. McKenzie and he gave it.

Spencer now sent for Lieutenant Gansevoort, and said that he wished him to see that he died like a brave man, and asked Com. McKenzie what was to be the signal for execution, and was told that the colors would be hoisted at the mast head and a gun fired. He then asked to be allowed to give the order for firing the gun himself, and Com. McKenzie said he would let him do it.

Small then asked to address the crew, and cautioned them to take warning by his example, and particularly cautioned them never to sail on board a guinea man, as it was doing so brought him to that.

Commander McKenzie now waited for the word to be given, but was told that Spencer said he could not give it. The word was then given by Commander McKenzie, and the execution took place.

The narrative was wound up by mentioning the names of the officers of the Somers, who had so essentially assisted in quelling the mutiny, and it expressed a hope that government would promote them for it.

MOB LAW.—The Springfield (Massachusetts) Republican contains a report of the trial of Belcher for murder in stabbing Howe, and a body of men, who attacked a house with intent to destroy it. Mr. Choate, council for Belcher, addressed the jury in a most elegant and forcible argument which occupied *five hours and a half!* The following are the principles for which he contended:

"He remarked that the case before the jury was a novel one—this was the first time a jury in the Commonwealth had been called upon to decide whether or not a person has a right to defend his person and dwelling house from the violence of the mob by taking life. He rejoiced that the time had come for trying that question, and he trusted that the jury would meet the question manfully, and by their verdict put down the mob. He considered it a question of public liberty—our free institutions were at stake if the mob should rule. It would be better for the people to take refuge under a despotism like that of Prussia, rather than be left to the tender mercies of the mob. Then they would be safe from the violence of the mob, and the attacks of the ruffian, and would only be plundered by the Emperor.

A dwelling house, said Mr. Choate, is a man's castle, a sanctuary for himself and family—the law covered it as with wings, and a man had a right to defend it from all violent assaults, by taking the lives of the assailants. The law would not allow the health and lives of the inmates of a dwelling house to be put in jeopardy by an assault upon it. This right of defence was even stronger than the right of defending the person. Whether the character of the house and its inmates be good or bad, makes no difference—the law is the same for both. If he have reason to believe that a felony or some great atrocity is intended, whether or not the belief be well founded, he has a right to shoot the assailant and the act would be justifiable homicide. The owner of a house, or the soil on which it stands, cannot give authority to any person to tear it down if it be occupied by another—the tenant who occupies is the owner for the time being and has all the rights of defence.

In case of danger a man has a right to call in his friends to aid him in defending his house, and while there for that purpose, they are entitled to the same protection as himself, and may do whatever he has a right to do."

Belcher was acquitted, and the editor of the Republican remarks on this result, that the trial of Belcher, and the verdict of the Jury, will probably teach one salutary lesson—that is, that whoever enlists in a mob, or engages in a riotous attack on a dwelling house, takes his life in his hand, and if he is killed in the act, the law will hold it to be *justifiable homicide!*

AUDACIOUS ROGUERY.—We suppose that nobody who reads a newspaper is ignorant that one of the publishing establishments of the Harpers was considerably damaged by fire, some months ago; but some may not know that strong suspicion existed at the time, that the fire was not accidental, but was wilfully caused to hide the theft of a copy or copies of a new work then just printed and ready for publication. An occurrence on Saturday evening tends strongly to confirm this suspicion.

The Harpers have received, lately, a new work from Sir E. L. Bulwer, in manuscript, and its speedy publication has been announced. Of course great care has been taken to prevent a copy from "leaking out;" but on Saturday evening, when Mr. F. Harper went to the ware room to set loose the dog, he found a light burning in the office, a man's hat upon the desk and on the floor a hammer, which had been used in breaking open the desk.

The burglar had evidently been startled from his work by the noise of Mr. Harper's approach, but as all the doors and windows were closed and fastened, it is presumed that he did not break in but concealed himself on the premises sometime during the day.

His object is supposed to have been a copy of the new Bulwer novel; but it is believed that he did not succeed in getting it—at least not a perfect one.—We believe that a reward will be offered for any disclosures that may lead to the detection of this daring plunderer.—*New York Com. Adv.*

STELLWAGON'S SOUNDING APPARATUS.—Lieut. H. S. Stellwagon, of the U. S. Navy, has invented an apparatus for bringing up samples of the bottom at sea, which appears to us to exceed anything of the kind that has been used by mariners. In general, dependence has been placed on the tallow stuck at the bottom of the deep sea lead. This mode though frequently correct, was liable to deceive; the finer mud would wash off in its passage upwards through the water, and, of course, a false report would be made of the character of the bottom. Nor could a sample be obtained sufficiently large for preservation and exhibition. The French have an apparatus, by which two valves are brought together with a spring, when they reach the bottom, and a sample of the *soil* is scooped up. This machinery is liable to get out of order, and, at best a pebble may keep the edges from closing tight, and the mud or sand will escape.

Lieut. S's is a cup placed below the lead, over which leather valves fall, which keep all tight as it is drawn up. The invention is well worthy the attention of all shipmasters, as simple, cheap and entirely practicable.—*Phil. U. S. Gazette.*

LUCKY VESSEL.—The brig Cordelia, Capt. Clapp, cleared yesterday for Trinidad de Cuba, for her seventy-second voyage, and her thirty-second in the last six years. The sixty-two passages out and home for the last six years, averge nineteen days and a half. She has never lost a topmast, nor sustained any damage sufficient for a claim on the underwriters. For the last eight years she has lost but one man by sickness, and none by accident, and has never had a man sick at Trinidad. Of the last thirty seven voyages, she has had but one passage from Trinidad to Boston over twenty-four days.—*Boston Atlas.*

ENGLAND.

(From the London Evening Sun, Second Edition, December 3rd.)

The copy of the Act passed by the Canadian Parliament for levying a duty on grain imported from the United States, makes it perfectly clear in what sense Lord Stanley's dispatch has been understood in Canada.

Either the Ministers have really resolved to propose the free introduction of wheat and flour from Canada into this conutry, or they have so loosely written their despatches, as to make the Canadians believe they had. They are either deceiving the country gentlemen of England or the Canadians. Against which of the two their arts are directed, we must wait for time to prove. If they do not repeal the duty on Canadian corn, they will deceive the Canadians. If they do, they will give they consumer here tolerably free access to the western States of America.

The Canadians seem to rely implicitly on Lord Stanley. The difference between the cost of sending flour to England from Ohio by the Hudson or by the st. Lawrence is very small; and in order to secure and force the trade to themselves the Canadians have taken another most important step. A special Committee of the Legislative Assembly of Canada has passed a series of resolutions, and founded an address on them to the Queen, one of which is the following:—

Resolved,—That with a view of securing the transit of the western States of America through those waters, it is indispensible to allow a drawback on all grain and flour shipped to Britain from the ports on the St. Lawrence, whenever the price of flour exceeds 30s. sterling per barrel, at the ports of Montreal and Quebec.

On the one hand, then, there is to be duty in compliance with the wish of Lord Stanley, but on the other there is to be a drawback; so that betwixt Lord Stanley and the Canadians, if he does not deceive them, and betwixt corn legally imported and smuggled into Canada, a pretty fair trade in corn through that colony may take place between England and the United States. But if that be the object of the Ministers, they have taken a most roundabout and cumberous mode of accomplishing it, calling into being a new sinister interest in Canada, and creating another obstacle to ultimate free-trade, which, if they be not deceiving the Canadians, they must wish to accomplish.

RARE SURGICAL OPERATION.—A child six months old, was brought to Dr. Cotton labouring under the most distressing symptoms of water on the brain, for which he subjected him to the usual and most approved treatment in such cases—but without success. He therefore determined to perform the operation of tapping the head as the only means of saving the child, which would have soon died from the pressure of so much fluid on the brain, and did perform it successfully, abstract, from 17 to 18 ounces of water, to the indescribable relief of the little suffering patient—without causing much pain or uneasiness, and without the loss of a single drop of blood.—*Cork Constitution.*

We have reason to believe that Lieutenant-General Sir Hugh Gough, G. C. B., with the greater part of the troops at present employed in China will forthwith return to India; and that the command-in-chief will be entrusted to Major-General Lord Saltoun, G. C. H., C. B., at least until the payment of the 21 millions of dollars stipulated in the late treaty. The force under his lordship's orders will consist of a brigade at Chusan, a small garrison at Amoy, and two battalions (British), with artillery, at Hon-kong, where it is expected that the head quarters will be established.—*Post.*

The two companies each of the Grenadier and Coldstream Guards, disembarked from the Pique frigate on Monday, and proceeded by railway, the Grenadiers to London and the Coldstreams to Winchester.

On Monday se'nnight, 207,000 letters passed through the General post-office—nearly a quarter of a million of letters in a day through an office!

The illness of Lord Melbourne is more serious than the first accounts led the public to believe. He has two paralytic strokes, but considering the severe affliction, he is doing as well as can be expected.

Immediately after the receipt of the glorious news from Affghanistan, Major Howeden, of the Madras army, had the pleasure of communicating the same to the son of General Sir Robert Sale, a fine spirited youth about fifteen years of age at school in Edmanton. Nothing can describe the youth's feelings to hear of the gallantry of his father and the prospect of the release from captivity of his dear and noble spirited mother.

THE CROPPING SYSTEM IN FRANCE.—According to the Parisian journals, it appears that the wholesale dealers in human hair have had a most successful harvest this year, not less than 200,000 lbs. having been procured. Brittany is the province of France in which the traffic is mostly carried on, and all the fairs are regularly attended by purchasers, both male and female. The Breton peasants have particularly fine hair, and generally in great abundance. Their beautiful tresses they are perfectly willing to sell, and it is no uncommon sight to see several girls sheared one after the other like sheep, and many others standing ready for the shears, with their caps in their hands, and their long hair combed out and hanging down to their waists. Every successive crop of hair is tied up into a whisp by itself, and thrown into a large basket placed by the side of the operator. The highest price given by these abominable hair-merchants for a fine crop of hair is 20 sous, but the more frequent consideration is a gaudy but trumpery, cotton handkerchief, worth about 16 sous. The profit thus netted by these hairmongers must be enormous.

Communications.

[FOR THE CHRONICLE.]

"RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT" UNMASKED.

To the People of New-Brunswick.

In every age there have been those, who, for their own selfish purposes, have raised a popular cry, and deceived the people. They usually begin by laying down some proposition, which, in the abstract is perfectly correct, and from which, therefore, no one can dissent; and from that proposition they slyly draw false conclusions. They assert a principle, the truth of which, in the abstract, no one will deny, and then, with intent to deceive the people, they wickedly make a false application of that principle. Hence it is always of the utmost importance to examine the character of those who raise the popular cry.

Now, who were the first to raise the cry of Responsible Government in the British Provinces? Papineau and M'Kenzie, the traitors! Are those who have, for their own ambitious purposes, raised the same cry in the Lower Provinces, at all more loyal than they? Let the people determine.

What, then, is meant by Responsible Government? The advocates of it tell us, it is the British Constitution. Why do they tell us that? Because they know that the loyal people of this Province are devotedly attached to the British Constitution. In order to deceive the people, they prate about "the blessings of responsible government," and they loudly ask 'who can object to what is British?' certainly no one. 'Who would deprive the people of their rights as British subjects?' certainly no one. 'Why then object to responsible government?' Only because the Constitution of the empire is not applicable to a *Province* of the empire—Only because the Constitution of the empire, when applied to a Province, is *not* British—Because the right of the British people to be governed according to the British Constitution, is the right of the whole people of the empire collectively, not of a subordinate *Province* of the empire—the right is that the *Empire* shall be governed according to that constitution, not that a subordinate *Province* of the empire shall be so governed—Because responsible government, when applied to a Colony, is fraught, not with 'blessings,' but with mischief—Because Responsible Government being applicable only to an independent State, the assertion of the right to it, by the people of a Colony, is *rebellion*—it is a declaration of INDEPENDENCE.—How is this? Let it be explained. Responsible government is the government of the people through their representatives in Parliament, the officers of the government being liable to be turned out of office by a vote of the popular branch. Now, either we are under the government of Great Britain or we are not. If we are governed by Great Britain, how can we, at the same time, be governed by ourselves? Responsible government can exist only where the will of the people is supreme. If the will of the people of this Province is supreme, then we are no longer under the government of Great Britain: we are no longer a Colonial dependency, but an independent state.

As this is a matter of vast importance, let us inquire, what is responsible government in England? It is this:—the Ministry are appointed by the crown, but they cannot carry on the government without a majority in the House of Commons; for whenever they have not a majority in the House of Commons they must resign office. Hence the executive government of Great Britain is responsible to the representatives of the people in the House of Commons, and the House of Commons is responsible to the people themselves.

Now this is what a few dishonest, disloyal, and designing persons wish to see applied to this Province. Let us see how it will work. The British Parliament are the supreme government of the empire. The Ministers of the Crown are the Executive government, and responsible to Parliament. They appoint the Governor of the Province, and give him his instructions, for which *they* are responsible to Parliament, and *he* is responsible to *them* for the manner in which he executes them. They appoint, also, the Executive Council of the Province, and this Council is responsible both to the Governor and to the Crown, and may be displaced by either. Now the advocates of rebellion, under the name of responsible government, contend that this council should also be responsible to the House of Assembly, and liable to be turned out of office by a vote of that House! why the proposition is absurd on the face of it; for how can they serve two masters at the same time who may differ in opinion? If they do one thing the House of Assembly turns them out; if they do the other the Colonial Minister turns them out.

Again—if the British Ministry propose a measure to parliament, and that measure is rejected, they must resign; but if the Colonial Minister should direct the governor to recommend a measure to the provincial legislature—or if the governor, without such directions, should so recommend a measure, and that measure, though supported by the Executive Council, should be rejected, are the executive council to resign? Certainly not. Such a step would be perfectly ridiculous; and if they should resign for such a cause it would be the duty of the governor not to accept their resignation.

Suppose, again, that the House of Assembly and Legislative Council should pass a Bill, and that the Governor, by the advice of his Executive Council should reject it: Suppose, upon this, the House of Assembly should pass a vote of want of confidence in the Executive Council—what now? Upon the principles of Responsible Government, either the Executive Council must resign, or the Governor must dissolve the House and appeal to the people. Suppose the latter, and that the people return the same members, or a House which adopts the same measure which the previous House did. Now the Executive Council must resign, and a new Council be appointed which will advise the Governor to pass the Bill: and he does pass it. Upon this, the British government disallow the Act, recal the Governor, disallow the appointment of the new Executive Councillors and reinstate the old ones—What have we got now? The people of the Province in direct collision with the Crown—and what is that but Rebellion? Will the people yield? or, like the old Colonies, declare their independence? If they do yield, what becomes of "Responsible Government"? If they do not yield, IT IS REBELLION.

Such are the results to which the principles of Responsible Government, when applied to a Colony inevitably lead. Let the loyal people of this province look to it, and not suffer themselves to be deceived or led away by ambitious traitors and demagogues!

The truth is, that those principles are applicable only to the government of an independent State, not to that of a subordinate Province. There is no parallel whatever between the two cases. The British Constitution says "the Queen can do no wrong": she is not answerable for the acts of her government: she has not the constitutional power to do any act of government without the sanction of one of her Ministers. But how stands the case with the Governor of a Province? Can he do no wrong? Is he not answerable for the acts of his government? On the contrary, he, and he *only*, is responsible, and may not only be recalled by the Colonial Minister, but impeached by the House of Commons for misconduct. What defence would it be to him, in such a case, that he had acted with the advice of his Local Council? When Warren Hastings, Governor-General of India, was impeached, who ever heard of his setting up as a defence that he had acted with the concurrence of his local advisers? The reason is plain. *Responsibility* must rest upon those who exercise the *power*. In England the power is placed in the hands of the Ministry, and *they* are responsible; in the Colonies the power is placed in the hands of the Governor, and *he* is responsible: not indeed, to the people under his government, but to the crown and parliament of Great Britain. His local Council have merely to give him information and advice, and he is bound to reject that advice if clearly wrong.

But the principles of Responsible Government are based upon the supposition that the Governor is *obliged* to follow the advice of his Council, otherwise it would be ridiculous to hold them liable for the acts of the government. Now if this were so, it would relieve the Colonial Minister of much trouble. Very few despatches would be necessary; and upon sending out a new Governor the "Instructions" would be very laconic:—"You will find an Executive Council in the Province, whose advice in all things you are implicitly to follow."—This, certainly, would look *something* like governing ourselves, and with such instructions to the Governor we might, with some *shadow* of reason, talk of responsible government; but it is hardly necessary to say that any Minister who should give such instructions to a Governor would be liable to impeachment.

When the Conservative House of Assembly of Upper Canada addressed Lord Sydenham, to know what Instructions he had received on the subject of Responsible Government, he replied that "he had received Her Majesty's commands to govern these provinces according to the well understood wishes of the people as expressed through their representatives." Not long after this his instructions were laid before the House of Commons; and it then appeared that when he made the reply to the House of Assembly of Upper Canada, he had Lord John Russell's despatch in his possession, directing him to "discountenance those who clamour for Responsible Government"—and to do nothing to encourage them. This Despatch was written by Lord John Russell immediately after the subject of Responsible government had been discussed in the House of Commons, and its applicability to a Colonial dependency, without one dissenting voice, denied. Now it must be obvious to any man possessing common sense, that Lord Sydenham's answer was in direct violation of his instructions. It was untrue in fact, and, as experience has shown, disastrous in its consequences; for in the same degree that it discouraged and depressed the loyal, it encouraged and elated every rebel in British North America. So far, indeed, from "discountenancing those who clamoured for responsible government," it was the greatest encouragement which they had ever received. Nor have they failed to turn it to good account: for it has been constantly quoted with approbation by every traitor and demagogue in the British Provinces ever since. But the time is now arrived, I trust, when the subject will be more perfectly understood, and when, in this Province at least, the advocates of "Responsible Government" will be called by their real name—REBELS. For I hesitate not to declare, that any man who understands the subject, and still advocates "responsible government" is, at heart, a REBEL.

I offer these remarks to the good sense of the loyal people of New-Brunswick; I beseech them to remember that Responsible Government in a Colony is REBELLION; and, in the language of Lord John Russell, I call upon them, as they value their dearest rights, to "discountenance those who clamour for Responsible Government."

January 5, 1843. LOYALTY.

[TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHRONICLE.]

Sir,—The account given of the Election at Fredericton in the *Sentinel* of the 6th inst., is so grossly incorrect, to use a mild term, and is so evidently intended to place the conduct of one of the Candidates before the public in an unfavourable point of view, that I conceive it to be the duty of any person who may have it in his power to do so, to give the public a *true* statement of those proceedings. Having been an eye-witness to the transactions of the last two days, I am enabled to make statements without the fear of contradiction, and in which I feel satisfied I shall be borne out by any impartial observer of the proceedings.

The first charge made by Mr. Ward is against the special constables "several of whom he says "were employed rather more beneficially for the "official party (by which I take him to mean the "friends of Mr. Botsford) than in the preservation "of order." Where he got his information I am at a loss to know—for as far I could observe (and I suspect my opportunities of knowing were better than Mr. Ward's) there was nothing unfair or improper in the conduct of any of the special constables on that occasion. The next charge—that against the Sheriff of partiality in opening the poll at 8 o'clock, is so absurd in itself, that it is scarcely deserving of any notice: for it is afterwards admitted, that in doing so he acted according to law: then why was the fact noticed at all? The law requires that the poll shall be kept open seven hours each day, and that it shall be closed on the last day at 3 o'clock: then how I would ask could the Sheriff comply with the law but by acting as he did? Mr. Ward seems to think, or wish the public to think, that the hour of opening the poll is discretionary with the Sheriff, for he says that under ordinary circumtances it would have been a judicious measure—but a moments consideration of the law will show that the Sheriff could not legally have acted otherwise than he did, which is alone a sufficient answer to the charge. What the *extraordinary* circumstances in this case were which should have prevented the Sheriff from obeying the law, I am a loss to know: If it was the want of notification to the candidates, I would merely say, that if they did not know the law they ought to have known it, and it seems Mr. Fisher did, for he was present before what Mr. Ward pleases to term "the usual hour" of opening the poll.

The next charge is, that the friends and supporters of Mr. Botsford obstructed the passage to the poll. This is wilfully false and unfounded; for until about 10 o'clock the special constables succeeded in keeping the passage for voters tolerably clear, and they were indiscriminately admitted to vote as fast as they could be polled. After this period the voting was almost entirely suspended for nearly two hours, or until the Military arrived, by the "friends and supporters" not of Mr. Botsford, *but of the opposite party*, crowding to the poll and effectually preventing voters of any party from getting up. The charge of partiality in preventing voters of a certain party from coming within the line of troops to vote, is also unfounded as far as my observations went.

It is insinuated by Mr. Ward that the Military were called out for the purpose of accomplishing the ends of the "official party"; but had he taken half the trouble to learn the truth that he has to collect base slanders, he would have known that the requisition made for the Military was made by six Magistrates of the County, in consequence of depositions taken before them of outrage and violence committed upon voters on Monday, and that an application was made to them to take measures to prevent bloodshed the next day; and it is a notorious fact that a body of men, supporters of the Responsible Government party, very few of whom I believe were freeholders, came to the poll armed with clubs with a full determination of putting a stop to all voting contrary to the interest of the party they professed to adhere to. Many of these men were known to attack and beat peace officers in the discharge of their duty, and to knock down and keep back voters on their way to the poll, whom they knew or suspected to be opposed to their party.—On the other hand the supporters of the other party were peaceable and orderly, and did not resort to any violence, unless driven to it in self defence.

It is also alleged that bribery, management and rum, were resorted to for the purpose of securing the election. To this I would only say, that the less the opposite party say upon either of those subjects the better. Let him that is without sin first cast a stone.

Mr. Ward has called the result of the election "the triumph of principle"; but can that election be considered as deserving the name of a triumph when the two Candidates who opposed Responsible Government, had a majority of votes over those in favour of it? It seems to me that the Responsible Government candidates came in at the wrong end of the poll to talk of triumph; and it will also be seen by a reference to the state of the poll* that Mr. Botsford who was opposed to Responsible Government had a greater number of votes than Mr. Minchin, who it appears is *now* in favour of it.

I have only one further remark to make with respect to Mr. Ward, and that is, that he appears to think that he is the only true criterion in the Province by which political principles are to be tested, and that to differ in opinion from him, is in itself quite a sufficient ground for stamping any man as an enemy to his country, and an opposer of the principles of the British Constitution.

I am, sir,
St. John, 11th Jan. AN OBSERVER.

*Allan	13	49	126	192	262	294	425	741
Taylor	15	43	114	169	217	276	413	739
Wilmot	23	35	50	77	125	196	351	662
Fisher	17	35	56	103	122	164	285	536
Botsford	4	20	79	135	138	153	244	453
Minchin	17	33	66	83	113	167	282	445
Coy	4	6	7	11	29	76	167	274
Pickard	13	36	78	118	178	188	256	460

TO THE EDITOR OF THE CHRONICLE.

Dear Sir,—You may probably have heard by this time that the election for the County of York has terminated in the official return of the old members. How this return will satisfy the people, I am not of course to express any opinion further than my own, founded on the whole transactions of the two last days. A great excitement was laboured up on those days, and the watchword was *Responsible Government*, of which I am happy at last to be able to give you a definition. Well then, Mr. Editor, from all I can see and learn it is *the club law of the* RABBLE *in opposition to the whole weight and respectability of the County!* Urged on by the political renegade James Whetmore, and the inflammatory mobish effusions of the very *Major* himself, a certain portion of the people of this hitherto peaceful Town got crazy, and on the least intimation of sobriety or decency in the looks of a voter, they took the alarm and refused to let him pass. The consequence was that Mr. Botsford's men could not come to the poll, and thereby lost his election. The only good that has resulted from the whole affair, is, that Mr. Wilmot felt himself obliged on the first day to read his recantation concerning his conduct on a former occasion towards the Hon. Thos. Baillie.

I am, sir, yours, &c. PINK.
Fredericton, Jan. 6, 1843.

[FOR THE CHRONICLE.]

Mr. Editor,—In the *New-Brunswicker* of Tuesday last, there is in the shape of a communication another bootless effort made to bolster up a system of Rebellion in embryo. The production doubtless is from one of the little knot of COMBUSTIBLES, who, writhing under recent bitter disappointment in their attempt to obtain place and popularity, can scarcely find words to express their ire. I am aware sir, that to such men as compose that Clique, who would have their persons pass for respectable, and their words for prophesies, it must be truly humiliating, to find themselves so scurvily treated by a "stupid" public, especially when they had boasted that they had at length brought the people to their senses; which meant, that the New-Brunswicker was to have been the *Oracle*, and the *Clique* the god of the People. "Oh! Hamlet what a falling off was there." Mr. "Teazer" must have teazed himself more than a little to have discovered something at which to cavil in your last Editorial on the "*Spoils System*," when after a great deal of beating the bush, he has the luck to stumble on a "Mare's Nest," in which he discovers that Daniel Webster and you are both "tar'd with one stick" because Mr. Webster is honest enough to state that altho' Responsible Government and Republicanism are one and the same thing, yet he is convinced that it leads to demoralization and despotism. Now for the information of Mr. "Teazer," in courts of law when your opponents evidence goes to favour your claims, it generally operates doubly on the Jury in your favour; now so I take it is it with respect to Mr. Webster's opinions. He, a Republican, strongly in favour of Republicanism, is yet, after trial, reluctantly compelled in common honesty, to acknowledge the baneful influence of Responsible Government; hence I conceive his admission a double proof of your position. Mr. "Teazer" states that the ground taken by the anti-Responsibles is that they do not understand its meaning.—Had this assertion come from any other quarter than it has, I should have recommended the party, making the assertion, to read the last two or three Chronicles where he would have found the most lucid description of the system. But as the New-Brunswicker is not particular as to assertions, so as they suit the occasion, I shall allow it to go to the public for what it will fetch. Under the hope that impertinence chastized may produce caution and humility. I remain, sir, yours. A SNEEZER.

THE CHRONICLE.

SAINT JOHN, JANUARY 13, 1843.

We are without later dates from England than those received by last steam packet. It is quite probable that in our next number we shall be able to present our readers with the contents of English files by the January Mail.

The Court of Oyer and Terminer was opened in this City on Tuesday last, by His Honor Judge BOTSFORD. In his opening speech he congratulated the Court on the circumstance that there was not a criminal case on the Calendar, the more especially so at this time when so much Commercial depression prevailed. His Honor then reverted to the conquest recently achieved by the British arms in India and China, and spoke of it adding strength and permanency to the Empire, as well as being a means of brightening, as well in the Colonies as in the Parent state, the whole of our commercial prospects, and finished by saying that there was yet in store for this Province brighter days than she ever had experienced. The city of St John he said was destined at no very distant period to vie in magnitude as well as commercial wealth, with the largest of the cities of the neighbouring Republic, and that it wanted nothing but oblivion of the past and a determined perseverance for the future to render us again both prosperous and happy.

THE WEATHER.—"As fickle as the weather" is a trite but true axiom; a tangible proof of which we have been experiencing for the last eight days.—The weather which before had been extremely cold, with the mercury fluctuating between zero and 5 or 6 below that point, suddenly changed, and the wind shifting round to the Southward and Eastward, brought us a heavy thaw with rain and dense fog, which has continued up to this time. The warmth of the atmosphere is both unnatural and uncomfortable for this season of the year, and such as we never remember to have experienced before. Many of the smaller rivers and streams are clear of ice, and if a change does not take place very soon, we may confidently look for the opening of the main river, travelling on which is at present extremely dangerous.

CLOSE OF THE POLL AT FREDERICTON.—We have been kept completely in the dark with respect to the riotous proceedings at the close of the poll in York County. We have read Mr. Ward's version of it in the *Sentinel*, but knowing his proneness to garble statements to suit the party who pays him best, we did not feel warranted in giving his account of it to the public, but waited until we could receive an account of the proceedings in which we could place reliance. We have received and published under the signature of "An Observer," a true statement in another column of this impression, and to which we would direct the attention of the reader.—It is much to be lamented that the Press should ever fall into the hands of unprincipled and designing men; yet such will occasionally be the case, and when it does occur, an endless string of both private and public evils follow in its train. Mr. Ward's statement, however, we are not without hope, will be taken with many grains of allowance, as he is pretty generally known in this Province, and it is also known *why* he had to leave Halifax, Bermuda, and some other places.—We have only to say in conclusion, that his statement of the affair is wholly untrue, and was manufactured under the sanction of the revolutionary party, who were themselves the planners and executors of the disgraceful scenes that were enacted on this occasion.

RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT AGAIN.—In this impression will be found a communication on Responsible Government, in which the impossibility of its application (Constitutionally to a Colony,) is fully pointed out.

PATRIOTIC.—We learn that it is the intention of some of the newly elected members of the Assembly, to oppose paying the Members; their reasons for which is the depressed state of the country.—We think the fairer way would be, to mulct of their pay the old members, as they are the parties who have brought us into our present bankrupt state.

MILITIA BALL.—The Officers of the Saint John Militia intend giving a Ball on the 27th instant, in honor of the recent successes of the British Arms in China and India. It will doubtless be a brilliant affair.

The following is a complete list of the Members returned from the different Counties at the recent Elections:

CITY OF SAINT JOHN.
Hazen,* Burns,*

COUNTY.
Partelow, Payne,* Simonds, Jordan,

KING'S.
Earle,* Freeze,

QUEEN'S.
Earle* Gilbert,

YORK.
Allen, Wilmot, Taylor, Fisher.

GLOUCESTER.
End, Alexander,*

RESTIGOUCHE.
Barbarie, Stewart,

KENT.
Weldon, Wark,*

SUNBURY.
Barker,* Scoullar,*

WESTMORELAND.
Smith,* Hannington, Palmer, Botsford,*

CARLETON.
Perley,* Connell,

CHARLOTTE.
Thomson,* Hill, Boyd, Brown,

NORTHUMBERLAND.
Rankin, Williston.*

☞ Those marked with a *star*, are new members, numbering fourteen.

Scrutinies have been demanded at Queen's, and Northumberland, and city of St. John.

REPORTING.—There perhaps never was a time when the sayings and doings of the House would be more acceptable to the public than at the present time. With fourteen new members, and as many new measures to be introduced, it becomes a duty which the public owes itself to obtain a faithful report of Legislative proceedings. But how is this to be done? No one printer can afford to pay for the Reports for his individual paper, but as many hands make light work, even so many printers, with many of their friends, might contribute the trifle that would be necessary to effect the desideratum. We throw out this hint for consideration.

HOUSE BURNT AND THREE LIVES LOST.—At about 2 o'clock on Sabbath morning last, the Dwelling House of Mr. Alexander Fisher, Glenelg, St. Mary's was destroyed by fire; and, awful to relate, his eldest child, a girl 6 years old, and a young woman named Mc Kay, from Indian Harbour, perished in the flames. The second daughter, a girl 4 years old was at the same time so much injured that she died this morning. Both parents are severely burnt. The Father in his endeavours to rescue his children, rushed, three times into the flames, and a great part of the surface of his body is now literally roasted. The mother, in escaping with the youngest child, the only one that survives, had her hands so much injured, that many months must elapse, before she can resume the care of what remains of her household. But the fearful story is not finished; no sooner had they escaped the fury of the flames than they began to suffer from the intense cold, and before they could reach the nearest house (distant about one eighth of a mile) their bodies partly burnt, and completely exposed, were severely bitten by the frost. Their condition now is truly deplorable. Deprived of three members of their family, two children and a servant—left houseless and homeless—the father in a very dangerous state—and the mother quite helpless—all this so sudden and unexpected, who can tell what they feel. The neighbours will do a good deal for them; but all they can do will not remove their sorrow. How soon may our best earthly comforts vanish: "Boast not thyself of tomorrow, for thou knowest not what a day may bring forth."—*Pictou Banner.*

SYDNEY, C. B., Dec. 21.—A melancholy accident occurred on the north side of St George's Channel, on the 1st inst., the family of Mr. John Mc Kenzie having gone from home to pay a visit to some of their neighbours, left their father (an aged man who had lost the use of his limbs) at home sitting by the fire side; he unfortunately fell into the flames, and distressing to relate, was burned to death in their absence. He has left a widow and several fine children to lament the loss of an affectionate and tender parent.

[From the Halifax Times, January 3.]

While the people of Nova-Scotia permit the Executive to fill the Assembly with officers implicitly bound to do the will of the Administration, upon pain of dismissal from their situations—while they allow public officers who have the collection of the revenue to have a principal voice in its management also—and while they permit the unconstitutional practice of bestowing appointments upon Members of Assembly, without reference to popular acquiescence in such appointments,—so long will they live under an unjust domination—so long will they give their consent to a system of corruption,—and so long will they become the willing tools to promote the interests of ambition, and serve the designs of men who prostitute talent for their own advancement, under the fictitious plea of using it for the public good. We know that all these enormities in government are sanctioned and upheld by the admirers of the Responsibility which has been introduced, who bring forward their sophistical arguments, utterly unworthy of serious consideration to show that such practices will not lead to the demoralization of society. We find among these, to their shame be it spoken, men who openly boast the power of government to appoint Representatives to office, without constitutional check on the part of the people; and who in the insolence of a newly acquired strength, assure their constituents in the language of despotism, that the liberty of passing a judgment upon the acceptance of office by their Members will not be conceded. We see an individual holding the high station of Executive Councillor, bound by oath to be responsible to the Executive, and holding at the same time the Speakership of the Assembly, an office which if rightly filled, gives him neither eyes to see nor ears to hear, except at the dictation of that body. We see the same individual, adding to this enormity by accepting two offices of emolument, one of them among the most lucrative in the Province—and holding these and various other offices dependent upon them, against all constitutional precedent, and without once expressing a desire to appeal to public opinion for its sanction to such strange proceedings. We see the Executive, apparently at the suggestion of this man, appointing Members of Assembly to office upon the same principle that governs his own tenure of power, and evidently with a view to establish a system of government with the name only of being Responsible, and to neutralize all opposition to its iniquity. The thin web of sophistry is also used by a scurrilous press in the Premier's interest, to give to these appointments a colour of impartiality, such as they do not deserve—as if fourteen Judges, &c. of Probate, could be found nowhere but in the Assembly, and their appointment to that office was not an attempt to keep them in leading strings, and practice upon the independence of the Legislature,—as if it were necessary or proper to give to a Legislator the office of Excise Collector, or the Commissionership of Indians to a member of government,—as if it were a matter of extraordinary congratulation to the country, that the Governor should take measures to enforce from its officers a punctual performance of their engagements, a duty laid upon him by his imperial responsibility. What we ask is the cause of this recklessness in the conduct of the members of the Administration? The question is answered not so much by their real power, as by the apathy of the people, who appear to be careless of the value of their privileges as British subjects—or will not assert them in the face of the controlling influence that is brought to bear against their liberties. The attempts of a Member of the Imperial Parliament to hold a seat in the cabinet without appealing to his constituents—to fill an office of emolument without a similar appeal—to join the Speakership with a place in the cabinet—or to introduce himself as a Collector of Excise within the arena of St. Stephen's—would startle the nation like an electric shock, and his temerity would be punished in a way that would be a warning to all future generations. Here, in Nova-Scotia, where it is said we have a *fac simile* of the British Constitution, these enormities are perpetrated with impunity—nay, we expect some day to hear it trumpeted as an act of magnanimity on the part of the patriotic Hon. Executive Councillor, Speaker of Assembly, Collector of Excise, Indian Commissioner, &c &c.&c. that at length impressed with the unconstitutional tenure by which he retains these offices, he has determined, of his own free will and accord, to make a *virtue* of resignation. The peculiar modesty that distinguishes his nature, will no doubt shine conspicuous in this sacrifice of honours and emolument—one condition only being imposed—to wit, that he shall be allowed to claim them if re-returned, as a right awarded to him by the voice of the people. We could be content with such a condition were the whole Province to be taken as the field of judgment, and we hope that under it there would be as much virtue found in the county of Halifax, as would, at least, oppose his return if such a scheme should be attempted. We cannot resist the impression that its success would be used to gull the Government into a belief of the Speaker's omnipotence: though it would not convince the country, which is fully aware of the combination, religious and political, in the county of Halifax, against Conservative principles, and in favour of democracy.

ST. JOHN'S, N. F., DEC. 28.

The return for the representation of this District having been made up since our last and formally declared, we are enabled to record the unwelcome, degrading and disgraceful, truth that this, the most important District in the Island is, for the next four years, to be represented, or rather to be *misrepresented*, by three persons in whom no gentleman of property, influence, or character, reposes the slightest confidence. The Priests and the rabble have

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