

“the event of your abandoning the same. I will publish the foregoing
“in the *Mirror*, and call the attention of the public to the same, in a
“short editorial.

“C. DONLEVY.

“OGLE R. GOWAN, Esq., Brockville.”

Since then, the matter has not, so far as I am aware, come before the public, until lately; when it has been again brought up, in the shape of a Report of Mr. Benjamin's Grand Orange Lodge, published at the office of Mr. Edward Taylor Dartnell. A day or two after my return from a tour to Eastern Canada, I addressed the following letter to Mr. Benjamin, upon the subject of that publication:—

“TORONTO, 19th September, 1853.

“SIR,—A Pamphlet has issued from the *British Canadian* office, containing fifty-eight pages, and purporting to be a Report of the ‘Proceedings of the Grand Lodge of the Loyal Orange Association of British North America, at its General Annual Meeting, held in Kingston, on Tuesday the 21st of June, 1853, and, by adjournment, on the two succeeding days;’ together with a ‘Preface,’ an ‘Appendix to the foregoing Report,’ and an ‘Index;’ the whole purporting to be issued under your direct auspices and sanction.

“Should the contents of this Pamphlet and its appendix be true, you and your friends can have little difficulty in satisfying a jury of the country of that fact; but should the allegations and insinuations rest upon no other authority than malice, I think I may fairly claim, at the hands of such jury, compensation for the injuries sought to be inflicted upon me.

“To test this matter, I now write to ask, if you are willing to avow the publication of the said Pamphlet, in order that my counsel may be enabled to proceed against you, and to test the truth or falsehood of the statements it contains.

“Awaiting your answer, I remain, Sir,

“Your obedient servant,

“OGLE R. GOWAN.

“GEO. BENJAMIN, Esq., Belleville.”

Mr. Benjamin having been the Chairman of the Meeting from whence the Report in question purported to emanate, and presuming that he would not sign a Pamphlet, or be privy to its circulation, the truth of which he was not prepared to stand by, when called to account, I waited eight days for his answer; when, not having received one, I addressed the following letter to Mr. Bethune, who was the Vice Chairman of the meeting authorizing the publication:—