Weekly Chronicle.

THE

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Weekly Almanack.

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First Quarter, 20th. 1h. 48m. morn.

Public Institutions.

BANK OF NEW-BRUNSWICK.—Thos. Leavitt, Esq. President.—Discount Days, Tuesday and Friday.—Hours of business, from 10 to 3.—Notes for Discount must be left at the Bank before 3 o'clock on the days immediately preceding the Discount days.—Director next week: C. C. Stewart, Esq.

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Miscellany.

A BIT OF THE MARVELLOUS.

(From Scenes and Characters from Life, at Out and Head Quarters.)

Between thirty and forty years ago, you could not pass through Holborn, during a certain portion of the year, without observing a string of carriages drawn up near a large house, the upper floors of which appeared magnificently furnished; and the groups of well-dressed people seen going in and coming out could not, if you had a grain of Eve's curse in your composition, but make you ask who it was that received so many fashionable visitors in such a dingy district.

You were informed that the celebrated Mrs. Williams, the renowned caster of nativities and teller of fortunes, honoured Holborn by residing in it; and if you were lucky enough to meet amongst your male friends one who had paid the lady a visit, you heard that she was a very handsome, though somewhat dark woman. The females differed on the subject of her beauty, influenced, doubtless, by the good or ill fortune foretold to them.

Amongst the numerous applicants to this dusky Lilly in petticoats, she had the honour of numbering the Prince of Wales; and, although his Royal Highness endeavoured to preserve a strict incognito, he was hailed by his title on entering the abode of astrological research. The Prince did not scruple to tell the result of his visit.

"The lady informs me that I shall live to be King, although my stars decree that I am not to be crowned."

In the autumn Mrs. Williams usually visited the various resorts of fashion, Bath, Clifton, Hot-wells, Brighton, &c.; and it was during her sojourns at the two former places that what I am about to relate occurred.

No sooner was her arrival known in the city of Bladud, than her doors were besieged by persons of all classes; as it had been duly announced that a simple consultation was within the reach of the humblest, whilst an examination of the heavenly bodies to ascertain whether or not your star was in the ascendant must be remunerated by a price too exorbitant for the superstitious in the middle walks of life.

Amongst the first who found themselves confronted with this awful personage were two young ladies of family; the largest douceur was tendered; and our Cassandra commenced turning over the leaves of the mystic volume. Suddenly the book was closed, and she started abruptly from her chair. Then, leading one of the girls aside, she said impressively to her—

"I am too ill to take any trouble for that poor dear child to-day; you must leave me now, but only on this condition, that you," and she grasped the hand of her auditor, whilst her dark eyes seemed almost lit up by supernatural fire, "you must solemnly promise to come to me to-morrow, let what will have chanced. 'Tis well, now go!"

Faithful to her word, the terrified girl returned the next day.

"I ask not for your companion of yesterday," exclaimed Mrs. Williams, "she is dead."

A burst of tears from the afflicted friend confirmed the fatal sentence. This fearful tale was speedily told, and hundreds flocked to look upon and consult the same mysterious oracle.

The late Countess of M——— conceived it possible by a simple artifice to puzzle the conjurer; and accordingly attired herself in humble garb, taking with her the well-dressed governess, on whose finger her ladyship had placed her own wedding-ring. A guinea was tendered by Miss ———, whilst her mistress, trying to assume a rusticity of manner, dropped a courtsey, and offered a crown piece. Their separate palms were scrutinised by Mrs. Williams, who, after a brief investigation, turned to the matron, saying—

"Why do you suffer that woman to wear your ring? is it not enough that she has already usurped your rights? Ay, blush and tremble, girl."

Mrs. Williams was right.

An elderly maiden lady lost many articles of plate, jewelry, and wearing apparel. The unac——— appearance had caused the most serious uneasiness to her housekeeper, a trusty creature, who never left the house, except on a Sunday evening, to attend Lady Huntingdon's chapel: but whose stay-at-home habits were broken through by the sudden determination of her lady to visit Mrs. Williams, in the hopes of obtaining some information respecting the missing property. The pious domestic talked about tampering with Satan—Saul, and the Witch of Endor, in vain.

Miss F——— had made up her mind to go; and, what was more, to take her good Sally with her, as spokeswoman on the occasion; the excellent spinster being of a nervous and timid temperament. They reached the dwelling of the Sybil; Sally gave the fee, and a list of the lost articles, adding—

"We shall be happy to pay you twice as much if you will assist us in finding them."

"*We* and *us*, woman!" said Mrs. Williams. "I wonder how *you* ventured to come to me," then turning to the alarmed mistress she continued, "there stands the thief."

Down dropt Sally on her knees, confessed the fact; and, in consequence of this information, the house of the pew-opener of her favourite chapel was searched, the property found, and restored.

At Hot-wells was the next scene of action.

Amongst the various extraordinary circumstances which occurred during her residence on Dowry Parade, one will suffice. A gentleman, holding a situation of considerable emolument in the Custom-house of Bristol, determined to procure, from so celebrated a votary of the planets, his horoscope; and, on presenting the usual guerdon, was desired to call on the following day for the important and scientific document. He did so, and found the lady in a most perturbed state. She appeared to be nearly overcome with strong emotion, as she bade him take back his guineas, and never, if he valued his happiness or respectability, look on her again.

Mr. O——— was a young man, certainly ten years younger than the handsome woman who strangely forbade him her presence, and he was withal a nervous man. Apprehending that sickness or death were to befall him, he besought to know the worst at once.

"Neither ill health nor dissolution is threatened; enough that disgrace, misfortune, and misery hang over you, unless you fly this moment, and pause not till you have placed half the world's distance between us."

"Why, what have I to fear from you, gentle and beautiful as you are?" demanded O———.

"Leave me, leave me," replied the equally agitated fair, "and for once defy the malign influence of the stars, whose aspects now threaten destruction to both of us."

"At least inform me what shape the impending evil assumes. I will not quit you till you have so far satisfied me."

"Listen, then, and tremble! All last night was I engaged in casting your nativity; in vain I endeavoured to persuade myself that I had miscalculated a most important event. Still there it was, as plainly written by the hand of Fate as was your birth and mine; and thus it stood—that before the moon waned *you were to become my* HUSBAND!"

Her prediction was fulfilled. In three days Mr. O——— was married to the widow; and, in less than six weeks, he found himself in jail, loaded with the debts of his wife, who had deserted him, and resumed her former name.

I now come to the fact known only to one or two who were in the immediate confidence of George IV., and which was related to me by Sir Henry, to whom the remark was addressed; his official duties bringing him close to the person of his monarch at the coronation.

No sooner was the crown placed upon the royal head, than, turning to his old and faithful servant, his Majesty said, exultingly,

"Cipriani, Mrs. Williams was a false prophet!"

[FOR THE CHRONICLE.]

TO THE HIGHLAND BAGPIPES.

By a private of the Scotch Volunteer Company.

Thou well canst rouse a highland heart
And hand to play a hero's part.
When o'er the field of battle sweeps
The mighty whirlwind, and in heaps
While lie the dying and the dead
Boldly through streams of blood he'll wade
Disdaining while the notes he hears
To yield to foemen's swords or spears.

Oft did the martial strains resound
In chieftains' halls, and oft around
The hills where our forefathers lived
The pibroch shrill was heard to raise
The clansmen true, some fend revived
Might call them forth to end their days
In deadly fight, 'mid claymores' clang,
While through each glen the war-cry rang.

When Wallace and the Bruce led forth
The kilted warriors of the North
Their country's freedom to defend
'Gainst Southren foes who would extend
Their vile oppression o'er the land
Then thou didst cheer the gallant band
Who fought for Scotland's liberty,
And made her sons for ever free.

In later times on Egypt's strand
Where Abercromby did command,
The "Black Watch" thou to conquest led
While glory round their name was shed,
And later still at Waterloo
The Caledonians did prove true
Though ten to one the foemen were
The "ninety-second" conquer'd there.

May Scotchmen Still thy notes revere
Which their forefathers held so dear
May future generations be
To fields of glory led by thee.

St. John, N. B., May 4, 1839.

An American Judge.—There he sat, with his hat on, a cigar in his mouth, his arms folded, and his feet over the rail, looking as sour as an unripe lemon. "Bring up them culprits," said he; and when they were brought up he told 'em it was scandalous, and only fit for English and ignorant foreigners, that sit in the outer porch of darkness, and not high minded intelligent Americans.—"You are a disgrace," said he, "to our great nation, and I hope I shall never hear the like again. If I do I'll put you on your trial as sure as you are born. I hope I may be skinned alive by wild cats if I don't."—*Sam Slick.*

A Curious Widower.—In a village of Picardy, after a long sickness, a farmer's wife fell into a lethargy. Her husband was willing, good man to believe her out of pain, and so, according to the custom of that country, she was wrapped in a sheet, and carried out to be burried. But as good luck would have it, the bearers carried her so near a hedge, that the thorns pierced the sheet, and waked the woman from her trance. Some years after she died in reality and as the funeral passed along, the husband would every now and then bawl out. "Not too near the hedge, neighbours!"

A drunken fellow being asked by a publican "to pay his score," amounting to ten pots of beer, replied, "No, no, wait till I've had 20 and' then it will be a score indeed."

Irish Wit.—An English officer, who was called to suppress a riot in some part o'Ireland, upon arriving upon the ground commanded the mob to disperse, when one of the number stepped up to him, and said—"you want us to begin, to be sure don't you?" "Yes," answered the officer, "and you had better go quick, for you won't like the smell of gunpowder." "The smell of powder, did you say? the divil the bit do we care for that—it's the balls we fear."

The porter of a Dublin grocer was brought by his master before a magistrate on a charge of stealing chocolate, which he could not deny. Upon being asked to whom he sold it, he pride of Patrick was greatly wounded?"

"To whom did I sell it?" says Pat "why does he think I took it to sell?"

"Then sir," said the magistate, "what did you do with it?"

"Do wid it?" says he, "since you must know, we made tay of it."

A REPLY TO THE REPORT OF THE EARL OF DURHAM.

BY A COLONIST.

LETTER V.

It happens unfortunately, that those persons who favour us with theories are seldom practical men, and that the result most frequently contradicts the prediction. That which is probable does not always happen, and that which ought to be a result, and that which occurs, are by no means identical. Hence your merchant regards with rational apprehension your political economist, and the practical statesman deprecates the adoption of the dreamy innovations of the theoretical politician. What succeeds in one country is frequently found to fail in another, and it is not sufficient that the machinery of government be perfect in its mechanism, but it must be adapted to the moral, intellectual, and political condition of the people who are to be subjected to its action. We have seen enough of rash innovation, of reckless change, and of dangerous experiments, of late years, to tamely submit to follow the prescriptions of speculative men like your Lordship. Mankind are the same every where, my Lord, and your Lordship's Parliamentary experience might have taught you that all legislators are more or less operated upon by passion, by prejudice, and interest, and that it is necessary to know the extent, the origin, and direction of these influences, if we desire to bring our plans to a successful issue. But, though mankind are all alike actuated by these impulses, they are operated upon in various degrees, and by different objects in different countries. The prejudices of Europe are not the prejudices of America, nor are the prejudices of the Colonies identical with, though somewhat similar to, those of the United States. Overlooking or disregarding these obvious truths, your Lordship's schemes have been concocted according to the political creed of a certain democratic party in this country, whose favour it was necessary to conciliate, and although you have disregarded the feelings and wishes of the loyal colonists, you have paid a reverential respect to those of the movement party in Great Britain. Of that party your Lordship may flatter yourself you are the leader, or, to use a more intelligible term, the *precursor*; but the very language of their invitation to your Lordship to accept this enviable situation, conveyed so distinct an avowal of their having consulted only their own convenience in that offer, and that they valued your station and influence more than your talents and stability, that your Lordship very properly rejected, in the first instance, the proferred honour. It is deeply to be regretted that your pride had not overcome your craving after popularity, and induced you to adhere to a determination which would have compensated in character for whatever you might have lost in notoriety. Your Lordship talks of a Government of the Colonies, responsible to the people of the Colonies, and of a Governor ruling by heads of departments, amenable to the Legislature. However this theory may apply to Great Britain, it is sheer nonsense as regards a dependent state. Your Lordship has lost sight of the incidents of a Colonial dependence. The power of a Governor is a delegated power, and if it be designed that it shall have a useful and independent action, it must be held responsible to the authority only that delegated it, and not to the parties governed. He is an officer of the metropolitan State; if the control over him be relinquished, or transferred to the Assembly, then the Assembly is no longer subordinate but supreme, and he ceases to be an officer of Great Britain, and becomes an officer of a foreign country. If a Governor is to be controlled by his Council, and that Council amenable to the Assembly, then the Assembly controls the Governor, the character of its political relation is changed, and it is no longer a dependent but an independent state. Such doctrines, my Lord, so subversive of the supreme authority of the mother country, were never broached until the "discontented party" advanced these claims as precursors of rebellion. By adopting their views, your Lordship has placed yourself in a very awkward dilemma. If you are sincere in the recommendations you have made, we must believe either that you are not aware of the consequences of your own schemes, or if aware of them, that you have not dealt fairly, in not candidly placing the result before us, that we might know the extent and true character of the proposed changes. Physicians sometimes withhold from a patient a knowledge of the medicines they intend to use, lest the violence of their action might deter him from taking them, or the dread of suffering might be superadded to actual pain. In general it is both prudent and humane; but if the existence of the patient is to be endangered by the dose, the medical adviser is bound to state the risk, that he may decide whether he will incur the hazard, or bear with his disease.

Your Lordship is pleased to say that a Governor should conduct his administration by responsible heads of departments. This, my Lord, may tickle the ears of the English Radicals, because it adopts the cant and phraseology of the sect, but such puerile twaddle can only excite the risibility of Colonists. Does your Lordship mean such heads of departments as the Minister of War, the Lords of the Admiralty, the Master of the Mint, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Secretary of the Dependencies, or the Post-master-General? Of these they annually read a list in the English almanacks, but that is all they know of such responsible heads of departments; nor have they any officers whose titles or duties in any way correspond to such terms. The revenue of the Colonies is the great object of attention, as it is by that alone the resources of the country are developed, and works of internal improvement effected. This is collected by the Excise or the Custom-house Officers, and by them paid into the Treasury. In the Eastern Provinces (for Lower Canada is now without a Legislature,) the accounts of those who collect and those who receive and disburse this money are audited by a joint committee of the Assembly and Council, the monies are voted by the Legislature, expended by commissioners of their own recommendation, and drawn by warrants of the Governor, in most cases after the services are performed. What more of accountability, my Lord, would you have? The Treasurer, the Executive officer, and their subordinates, give security for the faithful performance of their duties, are paid by the Legislature, and would be instantly removed upon any complaint of malversation in office. Is not this responsibility? The Custom-house officers are appointed by the Board of Customs in London, and are under their control for this obvious reason, that it is their duty to enforce the Acts of the Imperial Parliament, and because they are Officers of Great Britain, and not of the Colony. Against them, I am happy to say, there are no complaints: but if there were, they are amenable to the Board that appoints them; and will your Lordship undertake to say that that Board would not entertain the complaints? If you are prepared to make this accusation against their justice, you must have received your facts from the same person who gathered the tales of the abandoned nouses of Nova Scotia, for we know of no instances to warrant such an injurious suspicion. The Militia is commanded by the Governor, officered by people of the Colony and regulated by temporary laws of the Local Legislature. Is this no control, my Lord? The Road service is provided for by grants of money from the Assembly, expended under regulations made by themselves and by Commissioners of their own nomination, or else by statute labour, the accounts of which are audited by the Courts of Session. Is there no efficient control here? All township officers are amenable to the General Sessions of the Peace for the county, from whom they receive their appointment, and to whom they annually account. Is not this control sufficient? When your Lordship therefore, talks of an officer ruling a province by means of responsible heads of departments, you speak of a state of things so inapplicable to a Colony, that it is perfectly unintelligible. As a theory this is, doubtless, very captivating; but as a practical measure it amounts to nonsense. By one of these strange inconsistencies that disfigure this report, and that can be only accounted for by supposing that there were several compilers employed upon it, your Lordship suddenly quits this train of concession to the "discontented party" and recommends that all money votes should first receive the Governor's assent before they are proposed to the Assembly. I will not enter into a consideration of the question, my Lord, whether this might not have originally been a wise measure, if adopted in the first American Legislatures, although I entertain very strong doubts about it, and rather incline to the belief, that with all the evils attendant upon the present mode, it is less objectionable than the other, but will ask whether it is possible that your Lordship can know so little of the feelings of the Colonists upon this subject, as to suppose for a moment, that they would submit to such a fundamental change in their privileges? If there is any one recommendation in the Report more than another that betrays a total want of knowledge of the feelings and prejudice of these [illegible] it is this, and no man but one who had never [illegible] Legislature could entertain an idea that either persuasion or force could ever effect that change. As well, my Lord, might you attempt to force back Niagara, as the stream of public opinion on this subject. It is uniform, universal, irresistible. I do not wonder at this flagrant instance of ignorance, for it is natural: it was to be expected that you should fall into error, but I wonder indeed, my Lord, at the coolness, the self-possession, nay, at the self-complacency, with which your Lordship discourses upon matters of which you know so little, and the vanity that leads you to suppose that that little enables you to frame constitutions to demand their immediate adoption, and to treat with indifference or contempt the less presumptuous, but more solid information of others.

The exhilirating gas which your Lordship has inhaled and caused others to imbibe, in the Colonies, has given rise to an extraordinary exhibition, in which grave and serious men have been so elated as to render themselves eminently ridiculous. Imagining their dimensions enlarged in proportion to their ideas, they have talked of a National Congress, international rail-roads, ship Canals, responsible Governors, dignified heads of departments, representation in Parliament (for that, too, was promised them,) ministerial Viceroys, imperial body-guards, and similar absurdities, until, like the frogs in the fable, they have well-nigh burst with the unnatural inflation. It is full time my Lord, that this hallucination ceased, 'and that we recovered our senses, and sat ourselves to work in the business of life like practical men. It is time that we rejected these delusions of a heated imagination, and called in prudent and experienced men to aid us with their advice.

There are evils in the Canadas that require prompt and firm treatment, and the constitutional societies of Quebec and Montreal, composed of men of character, property, influence, and tried loyalty—men who have given numerous and convincing proofs that they know how to defend their own rights and respect yours, are the safest and surest guides. In the lower provinces we are better without your interference.—"Laissez nous faire," was the prudent answer of the French merchants to speculative philanthropy like that of your Lordship. Be content to enthrone the diseased part, and leave that which is sound exempt from experiment. It has not yet been ascertained that it is necessary or advisable to physic a whole family because one member of it requires medicine. But if this theory be worth a trial, begin my Lord with your own. The experiment can be conducted under your own eye, and if it should succeed you may indulge the hope that these aberrations will not be hereditary.

LETTER VI.

The most redeeming part in your Lordship's Report, is the zeal it displays in the cause of religion. The space devoted to this subject is so much larger than we had reason to expect, and so much greater than that allotted to your chaplain on your outward voyage, that it has somewhat taken us by surprise. It was feared that "the still small voice" would not be so audibly heard amidst the din of arms, or listened to with such devout attention at the Court of the Viceroy, and I apprehend it may still be doubted whether it has found that favour so important a subject demanded. Manufacturers wisely suit the texture and quality of their wares to the taste of their customers, and the compilers of your Lordship's Report have not lost sight of this worldly maxim. Men of all shades of belief and of disbelief, except the Church, and of every gradation of politics except Loyal Conservatives, have received their due share of commendation and encouragement. How is it, my Lord, that they have incurred your displeasure, and merited the rebuke? Have the Clergy with ill-directed zeal, joined with the Premier in expressing "their surprise and regret" at your Lordship's disregard of their feelings in your official appointments, or have cold averted looks supplied the place of benedictions? Have your Lordship's compilers sought the opportunity to ingratiate themselves with the enemies of the Church here, by denominating their favourite opinions under the sanction of your name, or did your unexpected return preclude your Lordship from calling upon the Clergy for their defence against those slanders? In this instance as in most others, your Lordship has been too credulous and too hasty, but, like every ingenuous man will rejoice, no doubt, in being corrected. Your Lordship commences by an eulogium upon the Catholic Clergy of Canada, extolling their exemplary lives, their loyalty and many virtues. In this you do them no more than justice: they deserve this commendation, and I am happy to add my humble testimony in their favour. Had your Lordship's compilers exhibited in their Report any proof that they really valued these qualities which they extol so highly, and expressed their approbation of other persons equally conspicuous for possessing them as the French Clergy, their impartiality would have proved their sincerity, and enhanced the value of their praise. As it is, I fear it was not so much designed for Canadian as for European circulation, for French edification as for Irish conciliation. Your Lordship next turns to the Dissenter, and alludes "to the position he occupies at home, and the long and painful struggle through which alone he has obtained the imperfect equality he now possesses," and again to "the strife from which he has so recently and imperfectly escaped." Whether this condition of equality in England be perfect or not I do not stop to enquire; I merely ask your Lordship what this has to do with a Report on the state of Canada, and what other motive could have induced your compilers to introduce it, than a desire to make that Report acceptable to a party in this country, to pander to prejudice, and to add fresh fuel to the war of dissent against the Church, by enlisting sectarian sympathies against her? If is your Report my Lord, and not the Colonial Dissenter, to which I object—I war with no man's creed: but if we appeal to England, let us appeal to its judgment, and not to its passions. Having thus attempted to conciliate favour by expressing your belief in their "imperfect equality" in England, your Lordship descants on the universality of the voluntary principle in America, and proclaims one of those discoveries that is to astonish the people of this country, not merely from its importance but its novelty—that they have no Established Church in the United States. From this your Lordship argues there should be no Established Church in the Colonies, and then very wisely leaves your readers to draw any further inference they please as to England from "the *apparent* right which time and custom give to the maintenance of an ancient institution." Here your Lordship's spirit of conciliation departed, and having made up your mind to an assault upon the Church and the Clergy, you declare, as manfully as if you were resisting the rebels, instead of that loyal and truly English body, "that you will not shrink from making known the light in which it has presented itself to your mind."

When you said "you would not shrink," my Lord, you evidently meant to convey the idea that you were about to do something unusual, something that would deter ordinary men, and required an exercise of moral courage. The word was appropriate. Most men would revolt at the idea of presenting an *ex parte* statement, would shudder at the thought of doing an act of injustice, and shrink from an attempt to alienate the affections of a people from their Clergy. Most men, my Lord, on meeting in the wilds of America with an English clergyman, would have been touched with far different feelings from those which appear to have affected your Lordship. Is it nothing to leave the home of his fathers the friends of his youth, and the refinements of life, to encounter privation and toil in a foreign land in the service of his master? Was there nothing in the mutual recollections of your common country to call up a sympathy for his exile, or awaken a respect for his sacrifice? Could you listen to his ministration, to the well known liturgy of your own Church, the prayers of your youth, and the devotion of your riper years, so far from home, without emotion? My Lord, I envy you not the nerve that enables you, "without shrinking," to represent these services as unsuited to the country, to state your preference of casual, uncertain, and irregular missionary visits, to the regular, stated, and certain offices of the Church; to exalt all other sects over it; to awaken the prejudice of all against it; and to recommend the division of its property among other denominations. When you first began to feel a preference for itinerancy, which, in the beautiful language of Scripture, "Leaveth her eggs in the earth, and warmeth them in the dust, and forgetteth that the foot may crush them, or that the wild beast may break them," did you ask the Clergy to solve your doubts? Did you enquire whether the Church had its missionary as well as its parochial clergy, or whether they did not frequently unite the labours of both? Had you done so, my Lord—had you read the affecting reports of these faithful and zealous men, you would have found abundant evidence that the Church visiting missionary in a new country is the pioneer of a stationary ministry—"The voice of one crying in the wilderness, prepare ye the way of the Lord."—that he is found on the outskirts of civilization, where he clears the field and sowes the seed, and, advancing with the march of migration, leaves his appointed fellow labourer to garner up the harvest in the house of the Lord. When you extol the benefits of a French priest to a French community, how could your Lordship assert that an English Clergyman conferred no benefits on an English congregation, when you every where found the flock of one disobedient to their pastor and traitorous to their Queen, while the great body of the parishioners of the other afforded the pleasing contrast of respect for the laws and fidelity to their Sovereign? With this fact before you, now notorious to all mankind, your Lordship has been made, by your disingenuous compilers, to peril your character by asserting, "I know of no parochial clergy in the world whose zealous discharge of their clerical duties has been productive of more beneficial consequences than the French Canadians." I know of none my Lord, who are more zealous, more exemplary, or more deserving of praise, but I know of none who have been more signally and deplorable unsuccessful. When your Lordship speaks with complacency of their tithes of their having been retarded in their labours from want of means, and of the policy of a better provision for them in future had you no remorse of conscience when you assailed your own Church, represented it as having too much of the public money, as comprising none but the opulent, and lauded the policy of stripping it of its lands, to appease the craving appetite of others? More just, my Lord, as well as more generous, than those who cast lots for "the garment without a seam," you consent that it shall be rent to pieces, and distributed to each according to his necessities. Not content with making your Lordship appear in the unamiable light of acting unfriendly, your compilers have represented you as willing to act unfairly. You are made to say, when speaking of the Church Clergyman, "though he 'may' have no right to levy tithes, for even this has been made a question, he is," &c. The evident intent of this artfully-worded clause that dares to hint, but fears to assert, was to insinuate that a question exists in Upper Canada as to the right of levying tithes, and to convey an idea that your Lordship does not concur in the claim. If such were not the case, the misstatement would be superfluous, and your compilers are too acute and too subtile to hazard such assertions unnecessarily.

Can it be believed my Lord, by those who value truth, that your coadjutors in preparing this Report were not actuated by a malignant spirit of misrepresentation, when they are informed that a law exists to remove all doubts from jealous and rival sects upon this subject, renouncing all claims to such a right, and precluding slander from even insinuating the desire for an impost, when the power to levy it, if it had a legal existence, was annihilated for ever? Why, I may ask, was this ambignous and deceptive clause introduced at all? and if there be sufficient reason for its introduction, why was it not accompanied by the explanation I have just given? The cause, my Lord, is obvious the word "tithe" is too familiar a topic with agitators not to be connected on every occasion with the Church, and if the declaratory act were to be mentioned, it would be impossible to conceal the still more important fact that the seventh of land, or the clergy reserve, was given in lieu of tithes; that the Church was otherwise provided for, and it was deemed proper it should not have two endowments of so extensive a description. On the argument against the policy of establishing a dominant Church in the Colonies, where not only none exist, but where no one that I have ever met advocates its introduction, and on the insidious application of the word "dominant" to the Church of England as now constituted in the provinces, I shall not comment. I conceive it to be addressed rather to the movement party of this country than to the Legislature or the Government. I cannot believe that your Lordship was aware of those injurious aspersions when you signed the Report, but it was your duty, my Lord to have examined it minutely before you adopted it. The publisher is held responsible in law as well as the author. Such things may be popular, but they are not respectable. Gross food like this, my Lord, excites but never satisfies the appetite of the populace, and he who ministers to its wants will soon find that he fills both a dangerous and a thankless office.

LETTER VII.

A GREAT observer of human nature has informed us, that misery derives consolation from having associates in the same unhappy condition with itself; but he has omitted to notice the propensity inherent in us to implicate others in our troubles for the sake of their agreeable fellowship. That your Lordship should desire the company of Sir John Colborne in the political shipwreck you have encountered was, therefore, quite natural, and your compilers have endeavoured to make him a fellow-passenger and joint sufferer, that you might not be deprived of the comfort arising from condolence. "The last public act," say these ingenous men, "of Sir John Colborne before quitting the Province in 1835, the establishment of fifty-seven Rectories, has completely changed the aspect of the question. In the opinion of many persons, this was the chief predisposing cause of the recent insurrection." Had your Lordship been contented with having this distinguished but criminal man arraigned at the bar of public opinion with yourself, you would have doubtless succeeded; but, in your indiscreet haste to secure other persons, you have loosened your hold of him, and suffered him to escape. This is much to be regretted, for, by distracting attention and dividing responsibility, your own position would have been less painful as well as less perilous. Your compliers were desirous of involving the Law Officers of the Crown in their indictment, in the hope, no doubt, that legal ingenuity would discover one of those numerous devices by which the guilty so often escape "Last summer," continue these agreeable and conciliatory gentlemen the compilers of this ponderous report, "the controversy was revived with more heat than ever by the most inopportune arrival in the colony of opinions given by the English law Officers in favour of the legality of the establishment of the Rectories."

In another part we are informed that Sir Francis Head "entrapped them into rebellion;" we now learn that Sir John Colborne baited this ingenious instrument, the rebel trap, with a Rectory. Sir John Colborne then provoked an insurrection, by defining the limits of parishes, in obedience to the law of the land! But this is absurd. Then it must have been the Law Officers that gave the opinion who were to blame, not for giving an unsound opinion, for that is not questioned, but for giving it "inopportunely." Here again is disclosed one of those recondite discoveries that was to astonish mankind, and the parturition of the mountain has rewarded us with this secret in return for our anxious attendance upon it during a trying and protracted period of gestation.

Had your Lordship seen as much of the American forests as I have, you would have learned that a man who loses himself in those interminable wilds generally travels in a circle, and after exhausting his strength, and his spirits, has the mortification to find himself on the same spot from which he started. Your Lordship is in a similar situation of distress in your bewildered search after "the predisposing cause of the rebellion." You commenced with the Church, and successively encountering Sir John Colborne, the Rectories, the Law Officers of the Crown, and Sir Francis Head, returned, after great toil, to the Church again. Common humanity, my Lord, requires that we should put a man in the right road who has lost his way, and if you will give me permission, I will undertake to perform this friendly office. "The predisposing cause" of the first rebellion is to be sought for much nearer home than your Lordship is aware of, and it was unnecessary for you to traverse the seas, at such great inconvenience to yourself, and such enormous expense to the nation, to institute these interesting and laborious investigations. It consisted in a correspondence carried on in London by persons of influence and political station with certain "intelligent, able, and respectable men" of the "discontented party" in Canada, in which the mild, liberal and paternal government of the parent State was called "a baneful domination," and in which they were advised "to resist the Parliament," to agitate continually, and to keep constantly before their eyes "the glorious example of the United States." This advice was followed by promises of Parliamentary support which should sanction their conduct and embarrass the Government, and a certain portion of the press, conducted by "intelligent, and respectable men" of the "discontented party" here, by disseminating the grossest misstatements and calumnies of the local authorities led them to believe that they had the ability as well as the disposition to render them valuable assistance in their patriotic endeavours. Prompted by this advice, and relying on these promises, the "discontented party," who had nothing to lose, and every thing to gain by a revolution, boldly followed their instructions, and drew the sword.

This my Lord, was the "predisposing cause" of the first outbreak; the second found "a predisposing cause" in a certain imprudent, ill-judged and inflammatory proclamation issued by a certain Governor-General, in which he accused the Government that employed him, of all that the rebels had accused it; complained that Parliament legislated in ignorance and indifference on Canadian matters and declared that, as a man of honour, he could no longer continue to hold office under it. This "able and intelligent man," but "discontented man," repeated, "without shrinking," this edifying language before the delegates of the other Colonies in a manner so touching as to draw tears from the eyes of those who listened to the affecting catalogue of his wrongs, and at a military festival, which of all places was the most appropriate for such a recital, as it is the special duty of soldiers to canvass the orders of their superiors, he adverted in strong language to the same topics. A Lord High Commissioner defying and denouncing his Government to the rebels he was sent to quell, informing the exiles that no impediment existed to their return, and