

character, great independence and remarkable cleverness. Although he used handle me pretty roughly at times, yet I always respected him, believing that he was honest in his utterances and sincere in his convictions. More than once in the midst of our warfare I came to his rescue. While I was willing to strike Mr. Laird as heavy blows as I could, I didn't want anyone else to do it. In the issue of *The Argus* of Nov. 29 1870, the following editorial appeared. "We entirely disapprove of the savage attacks made upon our neighbor, Mr. Laird, by a writer in the "*Islander*." Notwithstanding some little difference of opinion that exists between Mr. Laird and ourself on political matters we know him to be an honest and upright man, and we respect him as such, etc."

For some years *The Argus* was published in a building adjoining *The Patriot*. During that time there was an incessant political fight between both papers, but never an angry word between the proprietors. Indeed, we borrowed from each other and bought of each other, and never had a word of disagreement. At one time we purchased a power press together, and for over a year it turned off both *The Patriot* and *The Argus*. After a time I sold my interest in it to Mr. Laird and purchased a new one for myself. This would not have been done but for the reason that *The Argus* moved into a more commodious building.

I remember an episode that occurred when we were printing our papers on the same press and in adjoining buildings. It always furnished a subject for laughter when we referred to it afterward. It was this; I was presenting the readers of *The Argus* with a series of political portraits—that is I was showing up the peculiarities and characteristics of the members of the House of Assembly. In touching up Mr. Laird, who was then a member, I said that some people accused Mr. Laird of not being over particular in the observance of the Seventh Commandment; I should have said the Ninth Commandment. The Ninth Commandment refers to the habit of bearing false witness against thy neighbor. But the paper went to press in that way. Mr. Laird, luckily, happened to be in the press room at the time, and picking up *The Argus* began to read his "portrait." "Why," he shouted, "what is this he has said about me? He accuses