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In England, newspaper editors are a race of beings of whose existence the reading public cares nothing whatever. In Nova Scotia, on the contrary, Editors are commonly invested with an importance to which they have no real claim whatever. This unenviable greatness is thrust upon them, not by the reading public but by rival editors. In more advanced communities newspaper opinions are quoted with reference only to the journals wherein they are published; in Halifax, published opinions are too often quoted with reference to some individual writer. The absurdity of this is manifest to everyone possessing a grain of common sense. It often happens that an argument is lost sight of in order to impute motives to him who argues, and the value of argument is thus considerably weakened. The private character, or means, or position of a writer, are matters with which the general public have no concern, nor do such matters necessarily influence published opinions. Half starved authors have written with seeming pleasure about details the most luxuriant, whereas opulent men have written in a strain of envious parsimony. An habitually self indulgent man may pen an excellent treatise upon the luxury of self denial; a drunkard may argue ably in favour of teetotalism; an infidel may set forth the beauties of the Christian religion. Such men should be publicly judged only with reference to their opinions as publicly expressed. Has such a measure of common fairness been awarded to opinions made public in the Halifax Press? Assuredly not. Examples are close at hand. A paper publishes an article favourable to the policy of the existing Administration, and we are forthwith informed that the writer is in Government employ. No sane man will accept this fact as any argument whatever. If it be a man's pecuniary interest to advocate a certain policy, the chances are he will argue with all his power: if then his arguments be disproved, so much the better for those opposed to his views—they have probably heard the worst that can be urged against them. But what in such a case, cares the reading public regarding the individuality of the writers upon either side? Nothing whatever. A man's published opinions are public property—his motives belong to himself. If an argument be sound, nothing that can be advanced against the arguer will in any way lessen its soundness. Such are our views regarding personality, a system, the baneful effects of which degrade journalism, and silence those most competent to guide men's minds. We belong to no Provincial party, and we come before the public resolved to speak the truth, unbiassed by any consideration save the honor of this Province as a territory of the British Crown. The truth may at times seem harsh, here as elsewhere, but its effects commonly tend towards the welfare of a community, whereas wholesale and unmerited laudation has a directly contrary effect. We invite literary support, in all honesty and good faith, and with this brief notice, let the *Bullfrog* take its chance with the Halifax public.

OUR POLITICAL CONDITION.

Although British Colonists may at times entertain no very kindly feelings towards the Colonial Office, their liking for England rarely wavers. The former may blunder now and then

but this latter is something to be proud of. England, fully conscious of this fact, has granted to her Colonies the fullest powers of self government wherever the infusion of British blood has been sufficient to warrant such a course. The experiment was however attended with no little risk as regarded Canada. Long after the unhappy insurrections of 1837-1838, it was clear that there existed in Canada a powerful party almost openly hostile to the interests of Great Britain, and wise men were not slow to declare that under such circumstances it seemed little short of madness to confide Canadian interests to a people at war with themselves. In this Province, the Home Government had to contend with no such difficulties. The people, taken en masse, were eminently loyal, and as fully qualified to govern themselves as any set of Colonists could be. But in this Province as in the Canadas, the people had been insensibly educated in American rather than English ideas, and such an education, irrespective of situation or institutions, men never get over. We may with the utmost sincerity toss up our caps and cry "God save the Queen," but in manners, in customs, in accents, nay—even in slang—we show signs of an American education which, almost imperceptibly to ourselves, tends to be in a state of continual warfare with the customs, the pride, and the love of distinction, which are the inalienable offspring of the monarchy, the aristocracy, and the social system of England. This is not our fault. We cannot alter our geographical position, nor shake off that tinge of nationality that all large communities impart to small ones adjacent to them. It was but natural that as men conscious of latent strength we should have desired to develop our strength by that course of training which seems best suited to our peculiar organic structure. We wanted self government and we obtained it. We wanted to govern ourselves, and we deemed the English form of government best suited to our capabilities. A vast power, hitherto unknown in Colonies, a power analogous to that of the ministry in England, and known by the name of Responsible Government, was thrown among the British North American Colonists to be scrambled for. This power, always held in England by the heads of great parties—by men of lofty intellects and great character—by men who were literally invested with the moral worth, the intelligence, the rank, and the honour of millions—this mighty power was tossed up like a cap in a crowd, to fall upon the head of whosoever it might chance. The vast power thus scrambled for, is that what in England must be from the very nature of things, a guarantee for all orders in the state being preserved and protected under it. No ministry in England could be formed without the nobility, the gentry, the wealth—all that owed its all to the preservation of the institutions of the country—being represented in it. How is it in Nova Scotia! How does the British form of government chime in with the American Education of our people! To those accustomed to live from year to year amid the discordant clamour of local politics, the prospects of this Province may seem fair, and the political world respectable. But to men uninfluenced by local traditions and unbiassed by party feeling, the political condition of Nova Scotia must appear in a light at once ludicrous and pitiable. Of course no sane man would institute on general grounds any comparison between English and Colonial politicians, or expect to find in a new country that lofty tone which characterises the leading men of Great Britain. But, on the other hand, we have a right to expect that in the political condition of a colony governed upon forms strictly English, we should find at least the main features of English politicians, preserved intact. Such is not the case. In one important respect we differ most materially