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CORRESPONDENCE.

THE POLITICAL J. P.

No. 2.

To the Editor of the BROAD-AXE:

Sir.—Your readers will remember that my former letter concluded with an allusion to the architectural defects of the new Court House at Georgetown, and to certain treatment I therein received during the late Hilary Term of the Supreme Court. Well! I resume. Being under the impression that his Honor—pardon me—his Lordship, the presiding judge on the circuit, would expect to see the magistracy of the county well represented at his court during that particular term, seeing that several criminal cases of unusually grave and weighty import were expected to come on for trial, I rose early on the second morning, and at once proceeded to the operation of shaving,—an operation, which, for several years past, I have found excessively tedious as well as painful, the implement I use being part of a legacy bequeathed to the undersigned by a deceased uncle. In using the term part, or portion, I speak advisedly, for, the razor in question has long been minus the handle; the blade, also, is afflicted with a chronic disorder to which I believe legal, editorial and legislative, as well as tonsorial cutlery are, in this Island, occasionally subject; its diagnosis and treatment are ably laid down by the bard of Twickenham, in his erudite medical treatise, the Dunciad, to which the foregoing classes of patients—(the Broad-Axe having a grindstone attached to

his establishment, being, of course, excepted)—are hereby referred. While on the subject of shaving, permit me, Sir, to offer a few brief observations on the magisterial, hirsute, facial, descending protuberance. The beard controversy, by which polite and learned circles were, for a long while, agitated, is now, for the most part, laid at rest; and although the ladies generally, including Mrs. O'Hara (that is to be), set their faces—to use a common expression—against beards, yet modern innovation, which “creeps along with silent tread,” has introduced and established the moustache, in its various modifications, and different degrees of latitude and longitude, from the uneven stubble that disfigures the upper lip of the plodding farmer, to the gracefully curved and softly flowing down that so picturesquely beautifies the visage of the youthful exquisite; or the fierce and shaggy mane that gives its peculiarly war-like and (lady) killing expression to the countenance of the more advanced and brave volunteer major. My own practice consists in shaving, or rather scraping, the chin, from the nether lip downwards, as bare as I can with the means and appliances at my command, and being a farmer by profession, I usually, in cold weather, tolerate a moderate stubble of three weeks growth, or so, on the upper border, to ensure that peculiar expression of feature commonly designated among the vulgar “a stiff upper lip.” For the guidance of civic rulers I present three brief postulates on this subject, to which I respectfully invite the attention of all whom it may concern.

First—A beard of moderate longitude, with or without an accompaniment, where the countenance is expressive of benevolence or intelligence, and the general deportment marked by common sense, is an ornament becoming either a magistrate or layman, although by no means indispensable.

Second—A beard eighteen or twenty inches in length, with corresponding moustache, inspiring the beholder with an idea of one of Haszard's brooms in its nascent (I mean uncorded) state, requires trimming with the “Broad-Axe.”

Third—In all cases where the elegant modern synonym “hatchet face” applies to the form or expression, the moustache is inadmissible, as under this head, the countenance, when the feelings become excited, assume a ferocious aspect, calculated to produce terror among clients in a rural court, and lead to suspicions, whether well or ill founded, of a judgment biased by passion.

Having completed the shaving process, during which the foregoing reflections, with various anathemas not here recorded, passed through my mind, and escaped my tortured lips, I undertook the remaining, and, as I vainly imagined, less dif-