

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

OUR TOWN SUBSCRIBERS are requested to transmit to the office of the Expositor, the amount of the several small accounts left with them. Those accounts, when presented, will be received.

"T. L." of Quebec, is informed that the subscription, out of Montreal, is twelve and sixpence a year, and not less than a year's subscription taken. The file of papers has been forwarded as requested.

"R. S."s letter from Toronto, dated the 13th of July, and addressed to us at Kingston, reached us two days ago. The Post-office of Canada is a splendid institution. "Too late" was marked on the back. We certainly thought it was a little too late, but we shall, notwithstanding, take an early opportunity of attending to its contents.

"Ericcarts" inquires if the following does not come under the head of a public abuse:—At a certain Hotel in Montreal, which he says ought to be above a deceit of that nature, woodcocks were marked on the Bill of Fare as the game of the day. He accordingly only half finished his dinner, waiting impatiently for the "birds of promise." At length a something was placed before him. It was so minute he knew not what to make of it. It might have been a humming-bird or a bumble bee, or a cock-roach; but with the aid of his eye-glass he contrived to see something which then appeared about the size of a sparrow. He asked the waiter in astonishment what it was. The answer was "The woodcock you asked for, Sir." To this demand of Ericcarts we are not yet able to afford a positive reply.

THE

WEEKLY EXPOSITOR.

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, Oct. 22, 1846.

THE ADMINISTRATION.

"In reference to the appointment offered to Colonel Gury at Quebec, it may be desirable to say a few words, to set right, as to the nature of the offer, both the friends and the enemies of that gentleman. It was never intended by the Government that, when his late office ceased, and His Excellency did not offer him any of the analogous offices created under the new Militia Act, he should be debarred from employment in any other office which might fall vacant, and to which his well-known abilities might adapt him. Accordingly, when it was presumed that the Superintendency of Police at Quebec—an office always considered a most respectable one, and filled by gentlemen of high standing at the Bar—would be vacated by the resumption of his Judgeship by Mr. McCord, it was offered to Colonel Gury. It was offered him because it was considered an office for which he was particularly fitted, and because it did not preclude him from the practice of his profession, which he formerly practised at Quebec with so much success. It was offered him at the original salary of £300, because, though it was raised to £500 in favor of Mr. McCord, it was understood that, if the saving of a salary of a Circuit Judge could not be effected, considerations of economy would, for the present at least, compel the recurrence to the original scale of remuneration. The offer was made to Colonel Gury in the kindest and best spirit, and we have no reason to imagine it was received by him in any other. It was within his consideration, on a review of his own feelings and interests, to refuse or to accept, and he did refuse. He has preferred to commence the practice of his profession in Montreal, in partnership with Mr. Melver, and we can only wish the firm that large measure of professional success to which they are entitled."

The above we extract from a recent number of one of the Government organs of this city. It is, it must be confessed, not a little amusing, even while it affords subject for the deepest disgust, to see the petty intrigues to which the administration have constant

recourse to enable them to render some sort of explanation of the follies and inconsistencies into which they are almost daily led by their extraordinary acts.

A few days ago the *Montreal Herald*, which has ever supported the Government while the slightest shadow of consistency or common rectitude and firmness in their political conduct remained to afford a justification to that journal, which has a public character to lose if they have not—we repeat this paper, hitherto so warm a supporter of the Government, was compelled, a few days since, how reluctantly may well be understood, to record its veto against the contemptible "the miserable petty larceny attempts" which have for ever sunk the Government in its (the *Herald's*) estimation, as well as in that of all honest and reasonable men.

This was certainly a severe blow to the Administration, and created no little astonishment in the public mind which had not been prepared for this severe denunciation by the *Herald*; yet it was scarcely to be expected that, although the Administration had been weak enough to commit themselves in the manner denounced by that journal, the latter would be betrayed into similar inconsistency, by expressing approbation of its course. So long as it could do so with honor to itself, so long did the *Herald* lend the shelter of its protecting wing to those it must have so often blushed to uphold, but when it clearly perceived that further defence was not only an insult to its own honor, but a public insult, it very properly refused to lend its countenance to that which made the Government a byword and a jest.

Under these circumstances, what was to be done? Something certainly, for after the strong declaration made by the *Herald*, it was impossible that the public mind could be expected much longer to slumber in the inaction which had so long and so strangely crept over it. Their tried—their best—their most powerful ally having deserted them—and deserted them solely because they had not the tact or the ability to aid themselves, or to make themselves respected—it was indispensable that some other journal should be got to attempt a justification of their conduct, in reference particularly to the extraordinary offer to, and the humiliating rejection by, Colonel Gury of the office of Police Magistrate, at Quebec.

Among the whole of the Conservative press of Montreal, however, there was but one paper that could be expected to undertake the defence of so bad a cause. The *Times and Courier* had abandoned them, long before the *Herald* read its recantation, and they had recourse to the only remaining Administration journal from which we have taken the extract which heads this article—and now let us see the nature of that defence.

We are told that, in dispossessing Colonel Gury of his office of Adjutant General of Militia, it was never intended not to employ him in some other capacity where his "well-

known abilities" might be successfully displayed. Thus, in the very outset of this defence, the public are given to understand that Colonel Gury's abilities were not of an order to qualify him for the office of Adjutant General of Militia, but they are informed on the contrary by implication—and that implication is conveyed in the offer made to him of the Police Magistracy—that his ability is confined to a familiarity with the details of his own private profession, which is that of the Law. Very flattering to Colonel Gury truly, particularly when it is known in what estimation his services as Adjutant General were held by the late Lord Metcalfe.

Unfortunately, in their desire to extricate themselves from one dilemma, the Administration, like unskillful drivers, plunge more deeply into another. The attempt to show that a sense of justice induced the offer of the Police Magistracy of Quebec to Colonel Gury, is vain.—It was not likely that this gentleman would take three hundred a-year, after having been compelled to give up six hundred in favor of one who, we must be permitted to say, with all the personal regard we entertain for him, was far less qualified, from his inexperience, to the office than the party deprived of it.—Let the Administration not then lecture on justice, but admit that the course they have pursued has been adopted with a view of sustaining their own tottering power.

Why was the present Adjutant General of Militia appointed from the ranks of the opponents of the Administration? Shall we not say that that impolitic leader—that clever lawyer but execrably poor tactician—had so offended many of his best friends in the House, that he distinctly saw his only chance of a majority, in the ensuing Parliament, was to take some step which should detach from the opposition some half dozen votes to neutralize those which he well knew he had lost wholly through his own insufferable arrogance—hence the offer to the present incumbent, whose friends in the House would, it was expected, acknowledge the mark of favor which had been bestowed upon one of their set. This was the feeler to those overtures which were subsequently made by Mr. Draper to the French party, and which were so indignantly rejected by them—covering the proposer with shame.

Had that nice sense of justice to those whom they remove from office, actuated the Administration, as they would vainly insinuate to the public, why was it not manifested in our own case? Like Colonel Gury, we had been dispossessed of office, admittedly without other cause than that alleged in his case, the expediency of the public service.—The salary attached to the Police Magistracy at Quebec was one which could with much more propriety, and with this charming and highly commediable sense of justice in view, have been offered to ourselves, inasmuch as it involved a higher salary than what we had previously enjoyed, while, as compared with Colonel Gury's, it was in an inverse ratio. Did we bring out