NEW BRITISH MINISTRY.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

From the London Times.

The arrangements of the Derby administration are now complete, and a new household has started into existence with the same readiness as the Cabinet. It is difficult to be particular as to the special aptitude of this or that minor official for his new duties without exagerating the importance of the office itself. There are figure parts in the State as well as on the stage, for which a very average amount of personal recommendations will suffice. Leaving, therefore, most of the respectable walking gentlemen in the list before us to speak for themselves, we will single out those which may call for a passing remark. We have no objection at all, then, that our old friend Mr. G. F. Young should take a few lessons at the Board of Trade, and acquire in that school a better stock of commercial statistics, as well as a better disposition to apply them to the general good of the public. The best things we can wish for chaos are order and light, and we shall not despair of seeing even the honorable member for Scarborough methodical, lucid, and sound. The household seems very much like other household, and, so long as due regard is paid to the dignity and convenience of the crown, as well as of the privileged few that are admitted to the presence of royalty, the great mass of the people has little to do with the matter, Ireland is a more important affair. The Earl of Eglington is chiefly known by his tournament, which would have gone off admirably but for the rain. If he could persuade the Irish to settle their quarrels in the same bloodless fashion, he will considerably eclipse the glories of that mimic chivalry. Chief Justice Blackburne, if he accepts Lord Derby's offer, will make an excellent Irish Chancellor. Lord Stanley, the new Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs, probably enjoyed as much direct preparation for that office as the distinguished excavator of the Assyrian marbles. Sir F. Thesiger is Attorney General, it is said, with a view to the Speakership of the House of Commons in the new Parliament, should the fates be so far propitious. Lord Lyndhurst declines office, but promises his support, as also, it is rather superfluously added, does the Duke of Richmond.

The note of preparation has already been sounded for the forthcoming war. The electors of Marylebone and Finsbury—that is, the very snug parties of gentlemen who somewhere or other, assemble now and then to pass resolutions, publish manifestoes, and terrify ministers—have met, as usual, to protest against a change which seems, from their tone, to have come rather suddenly upon them. As they place the whigs and the conservatives under a common anathema and are far more horrified at the ghost of the new reform bill than at the presage of protection, we are not prepared to state the particular plan of operations with which they intend to recommence the session.

An evening contemporary, which seems as much astounded at these events as the metropolitan politicians we have mentioned is "pleased to hear that whatever doubt exists on this subject (that is, the future course of the new cabinet) will be dissipated immediately after the re-election of the new ministers, by the introduction of a resolution pledging the House of Commons to free trade." On the other hand, the inhabitants of Manchester, who are, at least, as thorough freetraders as those of Marlebone, or as our energetic contemporary, have resolved not to renew the league till there shall appear some occasion for it, but simply to empower the counsel of the last league to watch the proceedings of the new administration, with some very proper hints as to what may be expected, should the new Premier venture to reopen the great question. On the side of the new government and in its supposed interest, there is an equal variety of announcement. In the familiar columns of one judicious contemporary we already see the watchword "Death or Protection," and the public are assured that Lord Derby and his colleagues are prepared to risk all their magnificent prospects, as well as the safety of the empire, next week, or to-morrow, if possible, on an express demand for a good duty on corn.

To such as are still hesitating how to greet the new administration—that is, whether with a brief tolerance or with instant defiance—we beg to repeat the views we have already expressed on this subject. There are two motives for political action, and only two, that apply to the present question—the first, political feeling; the second, a calculation of the public advantage. Now, is there a peremptory call on any man's conscience to drive the new ministers at once from their places, and with that view, to compel them to declare themselves in advance of their present convictions, and months, if not years, before they are likely to compromise themselves? It may be a sacred duty to answer a question; but we cannot conceive it a sacred duty to ask one, especially when the object is to make a man belie himself or hamper himself—to do wrong either in one way or another. We see no "call" in the matter except that mission which the proverb assigns to fools—of asking question which the wisest may find it difficult to answer. A just suspicion always attaches to gratuitous measures, and nothing can be so gratuitous as to ask a question simply because it will be disagreeable to answer it, and to hasten a decision which will require time to make it as it ought to be made. The second motive applicable to the subject is the public convenience. But where is the possible adventure to the community at large, of driving the new government from power, without reasonable notice, by a species of forcible ejectment? Why should we grudge twenty or thirty new hands a little taste of office? The nation surely is not specially anxious for conferring a perpetual monopoly of power on a small clique, consisting of a few families, respectable as they are, and valuable as their services have undoubtedly been. On the contrary, it is an advantage to all parties, to the nation at large, to the whole of the Legislature, and particularly to those who have something like political prospects of their own, that all monopolies should be broken up, and that all sections of the political world should have a fair chance. If Mr. Bright would like to be chancellor of the Exchequer, he is far more likely to have it after a year or two of Mr. Disraeli than after a long and exclusive high whig or Brougham prescription. Some one has observed that there are only four men in the new cabinet who have been in a cabinet before. Why not? There is all the more chance now for those who have not been in a cabinet. If nobody is to be in a cabinet who has not already been in a cabinet, or if new ministers are only to be made at the rate of one in five years, political promotions, and, we will add, political progress, will be very slow. Give the conservatives a chance, for the sake of the public, if not for their own. But does the convenience of the public peremptorily demand a dissolution? Should Lord Derby be thrown into a minority by a factious vote, he would have no alternative but to dissolve Parliament at once, in order to pick up the government seats, and the gain which there would inevitably be in several counties and open boroughs. But would it be to the advantage, we will not say the security of the nation, that at this juncture it should be plunged into the animosities of a general election, and the great cause of agriculture *versus* manufacture once more reopened with increased bitterness? Most certainly it would not. The best thing that can happen to us just now is, that the new government should have a fair trade; and we do not know any law of political morality that should make a little wise forbearance a positive sin.

From the London Standard, Sun, &c.,

The *Standard* says:—"A number of gentlemen are at present with the Earl of Derby, at St. James's Square. At present we abstain from announcing any further appointments, until we are certain that the noblemen and gentlemen so nominated have accepted their offices. The Earl of Malmesbury called upon Earl Granville in the course of yesterday afternoon."—The above, in addition to the intelligence in fourth edition of the *Herald*, is the latest official report of the ministerial proceedings.

The *Standard* says, in a leading article:—"Possibly the reform of the law is the only department Earl Grey's government can make active progress in. This reform may proceed without embarrassment to the administration in other matters. Let us give a free scope to our friends—let us trust them. We have our sphere—they have theirs. Our sphere is, the trusting—theirs the Houses of Parliament. Let us take care to return no unfit or doubtful person—no man who we do not know to be a firm Protestant and a firm protestionist. Let us return none but such, and we shall be in a condition to have our official friends perfectly at liberty to act as circumstances and their own judgment shall direct."

The *Sun* says:—"Nothing better, even a cursory glance at the list, can be more improbable than the stability of any ministerial group, so incongruous in character, so hastily collected together, and so strangely inexperienced in some of the most important among the various departments of Downing street."

From the London Herald.

The safety of all our institutions, not excepting the monarchy itself, depends upon the result of the next general elections.

From the London News.

Earl Derby, like a bold man, has at once put the question at issue beyond doubt. His cry is "Toryism—No Reform—No Free Trade."

From the London Chronicle.

The speech of the Earl Derby, after all amounts to neither more nor less than a covert abandonment of protection. He would make the Custom House the mere instrument of monopoly, but he shrinks from giving practical effect to his opinions.

From the London Post.

Nothing could be more manly or more candid than the way Earl Derby looks his parliamentary position in the face. Nothing could be more graceful or dignified than his appeal to his opponents to forbear to interrupt the business of the country by factional opposition. The *Post* adds "That Earl Fitzwilliam did well in rebuking Earl Grey for engaging so early in ebullitions of party bitterness."

From the North American.

MR. CAYLEY'S COUP L'ETAT.—HURON AND PROTECTION.

Hon. Mr. Cayley, the rejected of Huron in a fair contest, or rather with all the advantage on his side, is apparently labouring under the same mental hallucination that afflicted the pugilist, who after crying out lustily "enough," could not "believe himself whipped." He has written a letter, which we give below, to the Mayor of Toronto, suggesting "a public meeting" for the purpose of "renewing the appeal ineffectually made to Great Britain, in 1846," for protection to colonial produce in the English markets! Mr. C. thinks that because Lord Derby, the premier of the present *pro tem.* government, has "expressed his entire approval of the policy of the United States in imposing duties on *all* importations entering into competition with *home* manufacture" there is some chance of inducing the people of Great Britain to tax themselves—to consent to eat dear bread—for the benefit of their fellow-subjects in the colonels! Mr. Cayley of course knows that such an idea is ridiculous—humbug—bunkum, &c.; but then, thinks he, how the "agricultural interests of Canada," the innocent farmers of Huron, will prick up their ears at the prospect of protection in the English market—higher prices for wheat and flour—and all to be got by "William Cayley" and his "Public meeting."

The *Colonist*, in a straightforward, manly way, which is creditable to him, tells Mr. Cayley an awkward truth—a thing he probably didn't expect to hear from such a quarter. It is very easy for Mr. C. to talk bunkum about "Protection" out of office—just as Lord Derby and his country squires did in England—but why did not Mr. Cayley, as the *Colonist* asks, "second the noble stand taken at that time (1846) by Lord Cathcart"—he (Mr. C.) being a "prominent ment member" of "his Executive Council"? "That was the proper season," as the *Colonist* truly remarks—if there could be a "proper season"—"to combat Free Trade when it was in its incipient state." Mr. Cayley and his colleagues, who had, through misrepresentation and clap-trap, and the unconstitutional acts of Lord Metcalfe, foisted themselves into office, proved recreant and incompetant at the most important commercial crisis in our history. If, instead of the insane, the inhuman demand to keep up the price of bread at the expense of struggling and starving millions in Great Britain by continuing the Corn Laws, the Canadian Government and the Governments of the Lower Provinces had taken prompt steps to represent to the English Government and people the great losses we must sustain by an unconditional repeal of the Corn Laws; that to admit the breadstuffs of the United States into the markets of Great Braitain, while the same products, the growth of our soil, were shut out of the United States by a duty of 20 per cent., was unfair; that if the ports of Great Britain were thrown open to all the world *except* the United States, and to the latter *also* so soon as they granted the like favour to the North American colonies, we would, beyond all doubt, immediately obtain *Reciprocity* with our neighbours, which would in a great measure compensate us for the loss which the repeal of the Corn Laws would occasion us; that, pending the assent of the American Government to this condition by throwing open the St. Lawrence to American vessels, and taking off all duty on wheat and flour imported from the States into Canada, and by admitting all cargoes from the mouth of the St. Lawrence into English ports, as of Canadian growth—free of duty—the granaries of the West would be drained, and the supply from this continent for English consumption not perceptibly diminished, and therefore the price of food to the English consumer, in no danger of being kept up *by the condition proposed*,—if all this had been done promptly, vigorously and with ability, does any one believe Sir Robert Peel would have turned a deaf ear to the proposal? That the American Government would have withheld Reciprocity for a single session of Congress? Or that, if they had, a splendid indemnity in canal *tolls* would not in the meantime have been received?

We believe, if *statesmen* had been at the helm of affairs in Canada when the change was made in the English Corn-Laws we should not now be begging and lobbying at Washington for Reciprocity. Mr. Cayley may as well drop this old bunkum cry of protection. Why, even the country squires—the protectionist brawlers in England—never dream of exempting *colonial* produce from the protective duty. We have read the speeches of the protectionist orators for the last year or two pretty carefully, but we never could discover that their patriotism went the length of permitting the colonial producer to compete with the heavily taxed English farmer on equal terms in his own market. Lord Derby's speech plainly shows that he and his "cabinet of curiosities" have taken office upon the genuine tory principle of *sticking to it*. He means to shirk the great question about which he and his party have turned the country upside down, until he can shirk it no longer. We dont blame him for giving it the go-by just now. The present House is opposed to his principles; a new election is at hand, and it is fit and proper that the *country* should pronounce upon his government and his policy. But we agree with Earl Grey that he is bound to declare his intentions, clearly and promptly, upon the great question of taking food. The farmer, the manufacturer, the merchant, should know whether any disturbance is to be made in their present relations. We deem the re-enactment of the Edglish Corn Laws an impossibility. If any Government were so mad as to attempt it—if any Parliament were so stupid as to consent to it—they would not remain in force six months. A Revolution would sweep them, and those "Lords" who boast of a rent-roll, swelled to the enormous sum of £300,000 per annum, from the face of the earth at one and the same time. But the proposition of Mr. Cayley to get up a meeting here in Canada, to strengthen Earl Derby's hands in an attempt to impose a tax on human food in the British Isles—where millions are so near the starving point, that a slight pressure, and a mildew, a blight, a disease in a single root, sends thousand and tens of thousands down to the grave, pale, gaunt, fleshless, to cheat the very worms of their prey—is so cruel, so cold-blooded, so heartless, so inhuman a proposition, that we are utterly amazed to find a man of intelligence in our midst who will seriously propose it. Thank God! he is not a Canadian; he is not a cultivator of Canadian soil. We would blush for our country; we should lose all confidence in the general excellence of our institutions, civil, moral, and religious—in the genuineness of the blessings and comforts we enjoy, if we believed such a wish as that which seems to find lodgment in Mr. Cayley's breast, could live in this atmosphere—could germinate and grow to fruition in the Canadian mind.

Suppose it were proposed to enact a law to compel the poor of Great Britain—not the bloated landlords with their £300,000 a-year, who are now demanding "protection"!—but to *compel* the *poor*, who must earn money to buy bread or starve, to pay an annual tax for the purpose of raising a large sum, to be divided among Canadian wheat growers! Would any intelligent farmer in the province touch a dollar of the cruel exaction? Would he not spurn the offer as an insult to his manhood? Would the matter be improved, or the real nature of the transaction altered, by offering it to him when he sold his wheat in the shape of an additional shilling for every bushel? We think not. We believe the sound enlightened public opinion of Canada repudiates with ineffable disgust those selfish schemers who are trying to obtain a little notoriety by misrepresenting our views and feelings and interests.

The *Colonist*, though in favor of the *principle* of protection, knows well that Mr. Cayley's proposed movement is not only dishonest on his part, but utterly hopeless—will only embarrass Lord Derby—and he refuses to lend himself to Mr. C.'s designs upon the unsuspecting farmers of Huron. The following are the remarks of our cotemporary:—

"In our report of the proceedings of the City Council, will be found a letter from the Hon. Wm. Cayley, to the Mayor, proposing a public meeting, for the purpose of getting an expression of the city in favor of protection; and with the ulterior view of strengthening the hands of Lord Derby's administration.—However strongly we might have felt disposed to recommend this course, under other circumstance, our conviction is, that this is not the proper time; that Mr. Cayley is not exactly the person who can consistently move in the matter; and that however sanguine Lord Derby may be, there is no manifestation yet, of a desire in the House of Commons or among the manufacturing constituencies to abandon the free trade experiment. We wish our course to be understood, and, therefore, express our sentiments in plain terms; for strongly and incessantly have we labored during the proper season, when unanimity and consistency in protectionist ranks might have produced a different result from what has since been witnessed, we cannot now approve of the course proposed by Mr. Cayley, because there are no circumstances to recommend it, and because the proposal does not comport with that gentleman's course in 1846, when material service could have been done to the protectionist cause, both here and in England, had the noble stand taken at that time by Lord Cathcart been seconded, as it should have been, by his Executive Council, of which Mr. Cayley was a prominent member. That was the proper season to combat Free Trade, when it was in its incipient stage. How Mr. Cayley can reconcile his present recommendation with his Free Trade measures, during his tenure of office, we are at a loss to comprehend. Protection is not more desirable now than it was in 1846; and there is no greater prospect now than there was then of securing it. On the contrary circumstances have changed so, that the difficulties which lie in the way of an adjustment of the respective interests of Great Britain and Canada have become more complicated, and require to be better understood, and the means of their removal satisfactorily explained, in order to entitle the verdict of a public meeting to any measure of respect."

THE BRITISH CORN LAWS.

We observe that our high Tory protectionists appear desirous of getting up an agitation here, in favour of a re-imposition of the Corn Laws in Great Britain. Mr. William Cayley, has taken the trouble to write a letter to the Mayor, recommending a public meeting on the subject. Why Mr. Cayley should address the chief magistrate of the city, in his official capacity, we never heard that it was part of the Mayor's business to look after the Tariff of the mother country. Perhaps, therefore, it was as the organ of the great Conservative party, which our civic ruler ought to be according to Mr. W. H. Boulton, that Mr. Bowes was addressed by Mr. Cayley. The Protectionists may of course hold their meeting if they so chose, but they will only make themselves ridiculous, and cannot possible do forward the object they have in view. If protection can be successfully achieved, they may depend upon it, that Lord Derby will attempt it, without the prompting of the good citizens of Toronto, and if he cannot, all their bellowing or begging, will not accomplish it. The matter rests with the English people, and what do they care about the City of Toronto? Those who really know something about us, will say that it is an absurdity of us to ask protection for our wheat in England, when we give no preference to British manufactures over American; and that it is unjust and inhuman to demand support, which we do not need, at the expense of poor English labourer. The cheap loaf has taken thousands from the workhouse in every district of England and we, with our overflowing plenty demand that they shall be sent back again for our advantage would be the proper phrase, for it can never be a real benefit to build up a trade on an unsound basis, to be tumbled suddenly down when a change of parties takes place.

How long will it be ere Canada learns to trust to herself; and not run after foreign aid, which she does not require and seldom receives?—How long is she to be known as a colony of mendicants—always begging, always grumbling, never satisfied, never knowing when she is well off?

We observe that the Colonist is opposed to Mr. Cayley's movement. Our neighbour is too shrewd not to see that the Protectionist Premier has a difficult card to play—that to force him to lead before he is ready would be dangerous, and that the matter can be safely left in his hands.—*The Globe.*

HURON SIGNAL.

THURSDAY, MARCH 25, 1852.

THE PRESENT MINISTRY.

BELIEVING that there is a heavy responsibility resting on every public journalist to write only what he conceives to be truth, irrespective of consequences; we feel no hesitation in stating our candid opinion of Mr. Hincks as a politician. He is emphatically a hard working man. There is not a lazy pore in his body,—and he is ever in working order. He is a man of clear and practical ideas,—and has an unfaltering faith in his own abilities to do anything that any other mortal man can do. He is a man of action. To conceive with him, is to execute before any who might be disposed to thwart him have had time to make a move. Like Napoleon the Great—he believes, "every man has his price," and we are sorry to say that he has found them to rate low in Canada. In Commercial reports we see pork sometimes stated as being "firm." We would like to see a little more of the same quality in our politicians. Mr. Hincks is a staunch believer in free moral agency to those who use it,—but the grand defect in his creed is the conviction, that man by well meant expediency can accomplish all or more than what he performed by strict adherance to principle. There is no man in Canada understands better than he what sound liberal principle is,—but he thinks it may be profitably set aside to suit *prejudices*. His head is right enough, but his heart is too far to the left. His fault is that of most of our politicians. His faith in the omnipotence of Truth and Right is not strong enough. Well, it might be asked, how can you support such a man?—How can you defend the Government of which he is a leading member? We answer—just because, we cannot better ourselves at present. We do not believe in the total depravity of Mr. Hincks, any more than that of others. He, as well as most human beings, must learn something from experience. We are satisfied that Mr. Hincks has a great personal object in view, and if he only connects that object with the equal privileges and rights of the Canadian people; he is capable of doing more for them than most other men. If he does not adopt that policy, he is only digging his own political grave; and the longer he is permitted to labour at it, the nearer he will get to the great central fire of perdition which is raging at the centre of this world of selfishness. We are free to confess, that we could not trust Mr. Hincks alone; but he is an excellent public servant in his own financial department; and we hope he will be willing to leave the direction of measures in which the great principles of civil and religious liberty are involved, to those who have a higher appreciation of their importance. Far be it from us to defend the principle of "doing evil that good may come," but we had to do something; and with all the rabid railery which is poured upon us by certain parties, none will condescend to inform us what we ought to have done under the circumstances. They know that we could not have done better, but it would not suit *their purpose* at present to say so.

Every body is abusing the *Globe* for its apparent inconsisteney. Now, we believe every body is wrong in this case. All material bodies and more particularly "*Globes*," are governed by the great force of attraction; and the same principle which keeps our Toronto satellite so long in the perihelion of his Governmental orbit, may account for his now looming in the distance. The "*Globe*" is a heavy body, hence the extreme latitude of swing. We confess that we do not feel much regret at the present position of the "*Globe*." Experience has taught us that if he were *with* the Government there would be much greater danger of its going astray. We consider the support the Globe gave to the late Administration, was one of the chief causes of its ruin. And if the present Government act right, the opposition of the *Globe* will not injure it. The people of Canada are not such gulls as he seems to take them for.

THE HURON CONTEST.

A certain faction is moving heaven and earth, and we might also mention the other place in order to prejudice the minds of the people of Huron against Mr. Cameron.—It is wonderful how men can boast of their religion and decry others for being infidels, &c., who do not believe exactly as they do, and yet these very men will resort to the most wicked and fraudulent conduct, in order to accomplish their selfish purposes.—The most barefaced falsehoods are promulgated and reiterated in order to defame Mr. Cameron. The Tory party have been organized for the purpose, and no doubt they are doing *their work* well—but they are only "chawing their own maw." It is no go, gentlemen—Malcolm is the man for Huron, yet—and you may just as well take it easy. Malcolm has done more for the interest of Canada in one year than Mr. Cayley ever did in his lifetime.—What can lawyers do for the country at any rate? We do not approve of wholesale denunciation of any profession. The civilized world owes much to the exertions of enlightened and liberal minded lawyers. But the profession is surrounded by peculiar temptations, The very principles of Law, as Toryism recognizes it, tends to concentrate all man's energies within a very limited and selfish sphere—and our poor country has had rueful evidence of it. It is very difficult for the best men to keep their minds unperverted, when great personal gain is on the one side of a question, and loss on the other. Hence, the great cost of the administration of law. Talk about the necessity of having many lawyers in the House, to those that know nothing about the barefaced blundering exhibition in every page of our Statute Book.—Many of our farmers would be ashamed to put such trash in the form of Bills out of their hands. And yet of course, the farmers of Huron must get a lawyer to represent them "Oh no, we never mention it." That would never do. The lawyers must not say a word in favour of Mr. Cayley.—To be sure, it is for him they are working—but they must secure his triumph by ambush fighting. Well do the Pack know that their cause would have no chance, were the people to contrast Mr. Cayley with Malcolm Cameron—therefore, the name of the former must be shaded.—Blacken Malcolm by *any* means. It wont do, gentlemen. The farmers of Huron are up to your tricks—so you may as well give up.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—We received a communication from "A Charlaton."—We must decline publishing communications without knowing the real name of the parties communicating.

☞ The weather has been cold and stormy for the last few days, with occasional showers of snow—the sleighing is good at present.

OPENING OF THE NAVIGATION.—The *City of Hamilton* arrived at Wellington Square yesterday from Toronto, and will continue to make daily trips between those places, until permitted to enter Burlington Bay. We are informed that the Propeller *Lord Elgin* will leave Oswego about the 20th of this month, for Hamilton, also the Steamer *Muzeppa* from Lewiston, at the same time, for the purpose of facilitating the transportation of goods to this port. Merchants in Hamilton, will do well to avail themselves of this opportunity, by notifying their agents to ship accordingly.

Communications.

GLENBURNIE, 9th March, 1852.

TO THE HURON SIGNAL.

Continued from our last.

I have really nae doubt, Mr. Editor, but that Maister Macqueen had been thinkin' o' his auld crony, Galt, amang ithers, when he was writtin' thae words o' caution to unthinkin' men, against bein' led astray by *impracticables*, as in anither place he ca's them; and, there's less doubt that by this time he kens John weel eneugh, and has maybe been feelin' his *bumps* noo an' than ower their horn. For, ye ken, the auld man was a wee touched i' the head aboot something they ca' frenology. I really dinna profess to understand it, Sir; but, they say that by findin' the bumps on a chiel's head, they can tell richt aff what he's thinkin' aboot. I reckon, Sir, it wadna be canny to lat ane o' thae cattle put their paws on anes pow at ilka time, for they micht maybe find out some things that it wad maybe be better to keep anes thoom on. Jamie Tamson tauld his uncle o' a funny ploy that happened at his maister's ae time, whan there was a wheen folks there; and, amang ithers, a decent worthy man o' a minister, that had some notion o' this bump business. Sae, i' their daffin' they wad ha'e a trial o' his skill, an' Maister Galt, an' his faither-in-law were selected to experiment upon; but, the minister garr'd them first wrete doon what they thocht o' themselves; and, Sir, John really wrote doon, as his candid opinion o' himsel', that if a neebour war to stand atween him and ony thing that he micht want to get, he wadna maybe be vera nice about hoo he pat him out o' the road, or that if ony body war to anger him, he wad maybe like to ha'e his revenge, or something o' that sort. And, I believe that after due consideration the minister was o' the same opinion, but he can tell ye a' aboot that himsel' for ye a' ken him weel eneugh. Frae that, it wad appear, Sir, that the callant has some notion o' his ain infirmities, but doesna seem to try to mend them, which looks to be vera wrang indeed, Sir.

I havena heard what his reverance fand aneath the auld man's grey pow, but, if I should do sae I shall tell ye a' aboot it; for, if ye only kent half o' whats concocted there, even in thae latter days, it wad somewhat astonish ye. I think it wad be a safe plan, Sir, to send for that man that the Canadian's 'aye praisin' at, to claw the bumps o' a' the candidates at the next election. Sae, ye see, Sir, there's John's ain opinion, backed by a minister's; an' surely thae should be stronger proofs than some ither half dozen folk's' stories, that he does possess a vindictive an' revengeful' speerit; but, if that's no eneugh, proof "strong as haly writ" may yet be forthcomin'; but, we'll noo try a story or twa aboot the charge o' fickleness that's brought against him. Sae first—whan the last war broke oot, Sir, wha sae ready as John to volunteer for Sarnia, just amang the vera first: but, he had only been there a day or twa', whan he minded that he had forgotten something at hame, maybe to gie his owsen eneugh fodder or something o' that sort; sae he sought leave to gang back again, an' gat it, but after a week or twa, he tired bein' at hame by himsel', an' gaed doon again to Sarnia, whare he fand out that some stramash had fa'en oot atween his men an' the body that-she had left in charge o' them. Sae, Sir, John tell't the Cornel to punish the rapscallions for't, but the auld Doctor bein' a merciful' man, wadna do sae just to please ane that he thocht should hae stayed wi' his men himsel', an frae less to mair it gaed on atween them, until John ga'e up his commission, an' left him to catch the Yankees himsel' just as he liket, for ought that he cared mair aboot it. I've heard, howsever, that after the feehten was a' ower an' anither Cornel in command, that John again applied for, an' gat anither commission, a bigger than the first ane, or than some ithers had gotten that had wrought awa' a' the time o' the disturbance—he's a lucky man John. But I canna say that he's a cooard for a' that, for ae braw mornin' langsyne, ye micht hae seen him on the flats by the "scrieghoo' day," rampuagin aboot sword in hand ready to do battle wi' the BLACK PILL o' Goderich, but the plewman's cry had gaen thro' the toon, "haud me or I'll fecht," sae there was nae bluid shed that blessed mornin', though the high Constable that-was-to-be amaist broke his neck in the *pistol* chase.

When thae schules for young Legislators, the County Cooncils first began, Sir, it wasna to be expected that a man o' John's metal could be spared out o' them, sae he was elected for his ain toonship o' Colborne an' attended pointedly for ae meetin', or maybe twa, an' tauld his auld freend Doctor Duglop (wha was Warden at the time), an' a' the Cooncillors what they ought to do, an what they really maun do if they wantit this noble coonty just to become a perfect paradise, but the Doctor couldna see through the plan, an' the Cooncillors (the thick-heads) they couldna see through it. Sae Maister Galt seein' clearly that there was nae use throwin' ony mair "pearls afore swine," resigned his seat an' left them to their ain meditations; is it ony wonder then, Sir, that this fine countra has just been keepit, as it war, i' the "dead thraw," ever since that unlucky day. But, to John's credit, be it spoken, that after twa or three years had gane by, an' whan some better men had gotten intil the Council, (I was there mysel' at that time, Sir,) an' whan he thocht thereby that he could still do some guid, he gaed and plainly tauld the Colborne folks that he had mair sense than ony ither man they could get, an' that he wad aince mair sacrifeeze his ain time an' feelin's an' attend the Council for them again; an' muckle has the twa worthy men to be prood o' that proposed an' seconded sae usefu' a candidate, an' sae also the honest tailor that voted for him, though shame to the Clerk, his name wasna putten doon; an' shame to the hale toonship that hadna anither votet in't wi' sense eneugh to see an' appreciate his wondrous abilities, an' support him.—Is it to be wondered at, Sir, after that that, their Brig shoold be ta'en frae them, as I hae just heard is the case; or, that the present Council should refuse to gie them anither ane, as Paddy says, "just to teach them better manners" whan they may get sic anither offer again.

Weel, Sir, its a real pleasure to hae a freendly twa-handed crack wi' you an' owre freend John, about auld stories; but the best o' freends maun pairt; an' as I havena yet tauld ye half o' what I gathered frae my neebour Tamson. I maun e'en bid ye baith fareweel for the present, an' trust till anither opportunity for the rest.

Your obed't ser't,

KIRSTY FORSYTH.

FOR THE HURON SIGNAL.

LETTER

NO. III.

My Dear Friend:—I think I left you in my last at New Buffalo, from this you take abou 5 hours crossing the Lake to Chicago, calling at the extreme end of the Lake, at the city of Michigan. There are good wharves, what you generally find in the West, but very little city is to be seen, however, some kind of a village may be behind the sand hills on the shore. But Chicago is equal to its name, and more rapid in its advancement than any city in North America, even Cincinnati itself.—For 17 years ago there were on the site only a few shanties, and now it is a splendid city, with about 23,000 inhabitants, and in a few years it will have its 100,000. Its central position and great navigation privilege, with its valuable back country, will ensure to it great and rapid increase. However, it lies too low to be healthy, but the muddy swampy streets will soon be covered by plank, dear as lumber is in this quarter. A Railroad is finished from the city to Fox River both at Elgin and St. Charles, 34 miles west, and another was in the course of being built last summer, and I have no doubt will soon be finished to Aurora, and in a few years will reach Galena, on the Mississippi.

These villages on Fox River are the most beautiful I have ever seen, and the country around truly enchanting, but all taken up, and is very dear by second purchase for good wild land even on Fox River 34 miles out, range from $5 to $15 an acre. However, almost every man you meet is willing to sell out but a Dutchman, a great many of them have rented and mortgaged their farms, and have gone to California. The people are generally from the Eastern States, but they are a mongeral race, from almost all places and nations. But here I must notice a great delusion that exists. Emigrants from the East are of the opinion that if they were once here, they could get pick and choice land for 6s 3d an acre, and buy land-scrip much cheaper, and little to be done but sit down and plough it up. But in going there they will find now the whole of the country taken up convenient to timber and market for a hundred miles out. Low places hardly fit for any purpose but grazing, and extremely sickly, with the centre of these great prairies, perhaps 12 miles from any fire-wood, or of fence-wood, and too often water very scarce, not unfrequently have to water even their cattle out of deep wells. So all things considered I would rather give $10 an acre for wild land than have them for nothing in any such place. Just after the fashion of Canada Land Jobbers and Speculators have gone before the emigrants, both in Illinois and Wisconsin, and nothing now is left in either States but the culls of a thousand choice. Moreover, the winter is pretty hard, the wind on the bare country having such a sweep, and very little shelter, barns and sheds being hardly fashionable, for the people will say that wheat will not pay for raising *barns* in this country. So they have a great many cattle, but they are just as poor in spring as they are in Canada, however, they soon get on in summer, the feed being good and abundant. After all that is said of their warm climate, I am convinced men and cattle suffer more here from cold than in Canada, and the heat of summer is extraordinary and very trying, something lighter in Wisconsin, but warmer east of the Lakes, from the prevailing west wind, and the effects of the south wind pushing up the whole valley of the Mississippi. The settlers who first came in here are now, if not living above their means, wealthy and well off—but new commers are generally very sickly until they are fully acclimatized, which will take some time. The general character of the country is sickly for all, but particularly the person who comes in fresh from a northern climate. Fever and ague, and various kinds of fevers are natural for the country. I have examined the burial grounds and was astonished to find the number of young persons buried there and very few of great age.

Wire fences once were thought to answer a great purpose in the West, but