

—her line on the throne, will be in a manner compelled to recognise the exclusive pretension to every local power and trust of an arrogant faction.

This must not be. We do not talk of excluding the Tories, any more than the parsons, from the commission of the peace. We know too well the difficulty of finding fit persons to act, in many situations, to think of professional or party proscriptions. Such proscriptions, besides, have never been in the least to our taste, however they might be warranted in the way of reprisals. What we contend for is, that a large infusion of Liberalism should be made in the new lists—that in every case, the studied exclusions of men of our principles, which have been owing to Tory Lords-Lieutenant, should now be corrected. And we see no chance of this being done with due universality, unless the Liberal magistrates of the counties, and the leading persons in the towns, will set about making their lists to confront those of the Tory officials, and enlighten the "religion" of a well-intentioned Administration. These lists should be forthwith made for transmission to the Chancellor, and signed with the names of such responsible persons as we have above indicated. They should state any remarkable fact, as, very large property—having stood a contest in county or borough—previous rejection on party grounds, &c. It is impossible that Government can be possessed of the circumstances which should regulate their appointments on an occasion of this kind, unless those who best know their respective localities will volunteer immediate and complete information. We need not surely say much to convince those whom we are addressing, of the importance and urgency of the duty which we call upon them now to perform. The enemy is silent, but is not asleep. They are sure of their pretensions being officially forwarded, and have no need to exercise their most sweet voices till the hour of triumph. It rests with our readers whether that triumph shall fall to them—whether their permanent and exclusive strongholds shall be fixed on the field which they claim as theirs.

We conclude, as we commenced, by saying that the Tories must be saved from themselves. If they are suffered to keep and make use of all the local machinery of that political ascendancy which has escaped from their hands, it is morally impossible that they should acquiesce in the more moderate position which they must henceforth hold in the sphere of political action and influence. They will never give up the hope of regaining their former supremacy while the instruments of that supremacy seem in their grasp; and there is a real and formidable danger to the cause of good and tranquil government in the "vain hopes, vain aims, inordinate desires" of a routed but restless party.

THE BEE.

WEDNESDAY MORNING, DEC. 27, 1837.

Our attention has been drawn to a political squib which lately emanated from a junto of worthies in the Halifax Exchange Reading Room, directed against us, and which they have been careful to have copied into all the Halifax papers. It is rather a singular feature of this production, that, though some of the files of Halifax papers on the tables of the Reading Room, of nearly the same date, contained articles infinitely more objectionable than the paragraph they selected from our publication, they should yet fix upon it as the object of their vituperation. It is probable they remembered the rough handling some of their gang got some time ago from a contemporary there; and have hence learned to treat the Halifax press with

respect, deeming it safer to run a tilt with us. We should have left these gentry with the castigation they have just been getting from the Editor of the Nova Scotian, with whom it appears they have also been moddling in a clandestine way; but their spleen at us having assumed the tangible shape of a Resolution, which might prove injurious to us in the estimation of some of our best friends, we feel ourselves called upon to make it the subject of a few remarks.

As our readers have the paragraph already before them, in our paper of the 6th instant, which has given such dire and unexpected offence, we copy the Resolution only, and shall add such explanation of the one and comment upon the other as they seem to demand:

"Resolved unanimously, that the Secretary do take immediate steps for the dismissal from the Room, of the "Boo" Newspaper published at Pictou, in consequence of the editorial remarks contained in its last number, with reference to the removal of the Troops from New Brunswick to Lower Canada, considering them, as the Committee do (without any reference to political differences) degrading and inhuman in the extreme when applied to the British Soldier, who is bound to obey the orders of his superiors, however arduous and unpleasant the duty, and that such sentiments are disgraceful to the Editor, who was born under and now enjoys the protection of the British Flag."

Promising that such language and sentiments are worthy of the men who could approve of Lord John Russell's resolutions, and the late proceedings of the Constitutionalists in Quebec and Montreal, we shall advert to the first charge that is laid against us, viz. "degradation of, and inhumanity to the British Soldier." We deny that our remarks either said or implied any such thing; it is true, we might have given our ideas in less equivocal language; but even in this respect we should be sorry to place them in comparison with the coarse language and invidious insinuations of the Resolution. We have yet to learn what connection there is between neutrality and degradation; or, that suffering a man to pass our door unheeded is tantamount to inhumanity. Our sympathies for the British Soldier are perhaps as strong as those of our accusers, though differing in their operation; but we have also learned to sympathise with our fellow subjects in Lower Canada, who have repeatedly given the most unequivocal proofs of their loyalty, in times of Britain's greatest peril, but who have at length been driven to madness and revolt, by the unwise policy of Government, and the recent outrages on their persons and properties by the Constitutionalists.

Rebellion is what we cannot, and do not justify; yet we cannot withhold our sympathies from a people, many of whom have not committed themselves, and yet may have to bear no small share of the penalty of the guilty, and all of whom having so long and perseveringly sought for redress of grievances by constitutional means; by granting which, Britain might have avoided the present unhappy crisis, and secured the affections of more than half a million of people.

We view war of all sorts as a great moral evil—in almost every instance undertaken for the purposes of promoting ambition or interest, and not unfrequently for the suppression of civil liberty or religious toleration. In the present instance, we see rebellion on the one hand, but we see also previous aggression on the other; and we deeply regret to see the British Soldier, after the lapse of nearly a century, under the necessity of jeopardising his national fame by mixing in the strife of civil war. Calmly viewing all these things, we think that every good and loyal subject in these lower Provinces, will best evince his regard for these amiable qualities, as well as for moral and religious rectitude, by abstaining from voluntary participation on either side; and thus is the sum total of what we have recommended.

Whatever amount of guilt may now be incurred by the L. Canadians, we have no participation in it, and, as it appears to us that the Military force already in

that country, is more than sufficient to restore order, we disapprove of all military array and armed pageantry in these Provinces, while they are happily enjoying the blessings of profound peace. The head and front of our offending, then, is, recommending neutrality, to which charge we plead guilty, and are perfectly content to bear all the "disgrace" which may be attached to the crime, and which is very plainly hinted at in the concluding part of the Resolution.

It appears to us, that in the wording of the Resolution, there is a design to convey the idea that we are disaffected to the Government; but we sling back this insinuation as a thing which may apply to some of those gentry themselves, but by no means applicable to us. When they want to hunt up rebels hereafter, they had better confine their labours to their own corps; at all events, they need not look to the eastward of Mount Thom. Here, we have none but loyal men and true.

It is true that political honesty has sometimes compelled us, in common with many other Editors, both in the Parent State and in the Colonies, to denounce certain measures of Government, such as those adopted for the adjustment of Canadian grievances; and who in his sober senses will assent that it is not to the operation of these measures, and not to any inherent predisposition to disloyalty, that the present disturbances in Canada are to be traced. But we approve of the general form and spirit of the British Constitution; and we are as sensible of the blessings we enjoy under the British Flag, as any of our accusers—not even excepting the individual who put himself to so much pains to get the obnoxious Resolution passed. We happen to know the source whence this squib sprung, and have only to remark on that point, that public bodies form a very convenient vehicle for inflicting private injuries, providing that the unwary can be drawn into the snare, and the assassin kept in the dark.

Were it at all necessary, we could produce very ample evidence of our loyalty, as well in our native as our adopted country; but as those high pressure loyalists of the Reading Room have produced nothing likely to call it in question, we refrain for the present.

We are aware that these remarks will be, by our ingenious and sharp sighted traducers, manufactured into fresh evidence of disloyalty; but let them raise the shout of rebellion as long and as loud as they please, we have the satisfaction to know that few will be disposed to believe them; men of such sentiments form but a small minority in this Province. The people have learned from experience that they possess a great moral power, sufficient when properly exercised, to remove every excess, and controul every abuse which may fix themselves on the institutions of the country. With this they also possess a species of loyalty far surpassing that of these worthies—a loyalty not in the most remote degree influenced by the expectation of either place or emolument under the Government,—a species of loyalty which we much doubt whether any of the gentlemen who moved or supported the innendo against us, can lay their hand upon their heart and say with a clear conscience they possess.

We might indeed have taken much higher grounds on the question before us, had we thought it necessary, such as would have unerringly conducted us to views of inhumanity, degradation, and disgrace, any thing but advantageous to our opponents; but as we believe our readers will, generally, be satisfied with the explanation we have given, we would in the mean time invite the committee of the Reading Room to the examination of the lawfulness of War, as respects professors of the Christian faith; and if they conduct this investigation with that degree of attention and impartiality which its importance demands, we feel assured, they will eventually arrive at conclusions very opposite to those which dictated their untoward Resolution.