

It should now be understood that on two former occasions ;—one, when the Newfoundland question was re-considered ; and another, when it was highly desirable to suppress disclosures touching “ a dark transaction,” detected by the minority, in which improper payments had been imperatively ordered, in spite of the objections of the Accountant, by a member of the Committee, who, having availed himself of *that* capacity to order the payment, then assumed his *other* capacity of Attorney to receive it :—on these two previous occasions, a muster of 18 French Canadian Clergymen and 1 Bishop, besides 4 sufferers—recipients and *expectants* of money and “ honestly interested in the right administration of this charity,”—had supplied an overbearing majority, and evinced an *animus*, which disgusted the British members, and must have opened the eyes of many of them to the true spirit of their former allies. Partly on this account, and partly because the 27th July was English Post-day, the attendance of English members on that day was but small ; but the proceedings on the above *three* occasions led to the step which, to the great body of the British members, appeared the only means of preserving their own self-respect, and of avoiding *powerless responsibility* to their Contributors :—They withdrew from the Committee, and communicated the fact of their retirement to that Body, and to all else whom it might concern, in the following terms :—

“ We the undersigned Members of the General Committee of Relief, in consequence of measures recently adopted in that Body, and actuated by considerations of respect for ourselves, deeply regret that we cannot any longer seem to sanction its proceedings by a useless attendance, and we therefore hereby signify our retirement from the said Committee of Relief.

Quebec, 29th July, 1846.

J. Charlton Fisher,
Jeffery Hale,
Jno. Bonner,
Wm. S. Sewell,
H. Jessopp,
Noah Freer,
W. Stevenson,
C. Gethings,
A. Gillespie,
G. H. Parke,
H. Gowen,
Charles Sharples,
Edward Boxer,
Henry Burstall,
Archd. Campbell,
J. Drummond,

H. Atkinson,
John Munn,
Wm. Walker,
Jas. Gibb,
George Hall,
Edward Burstall,
J. P. O'Meara,
M. Connolly,
Jas. A. Sewell,
Thos. W. Lloyd,
Henry S. Scott,
J. Douglas,
J. Grainger,
H. LeMesurier,
John Sewell,
R. Cassels.

This last rescinding act of the Committee brings conviction to a crisis as to the consistency of that Body. The measure now rescinded, was, pursuant to notice given on the 13th April, first proposed on the 20th, with 37 members present, and was then, after some debate, adjourned. On the 22d the discussion was resumed with 49 members present, and adopted. On the 4th May, pursuant to notice given on the 30th April, one attempt to modify it was rejected by a majority of 36 to 24, and another to evade it was defeated by 35 to 22. Again, on the 11th May, a special Committee on a petition from certain inhabitants, presented a Report containing the following allusion to the measure which has now been rescinded :—“ That the Committee adopted the Resolution in question under a deep conviction that the same was calculated to promote the

* Absent from Quebec, but since signed.