ARCTIC EXPEDITION.

The news brought by the *Asia* that a communication by water actually exists between the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans, by what is called the north-west passage, directs attention afresh to that portion of of the globe, and suggests the enquiry is such a discovery likely to prove of much avail to the interests of mankind, either in a commercial or scientific point of view. It may be interesting, in order to understand this, as well as the magnitude of the feat accomplished by Commander McClure, to take a retrospective glance at the history of the attempts that have been made during the last three centuries, to solve this great problem. Such a survey will enable us the better to appreciate the information, which the next steamer will probably bring us, regarding the Arctic region, and fit us for judging of the advantages of such a passage.

The search for a north-west passage assumed a serious aspect during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, when the renowned Forbisher, after much solicitation, succeeded in obtaining the means of fitting out two miserable little barks of only 25 tons each, and in these he performed three voyages into these Boreal regions before discovering the entrance into Hudson's Bay. In 1585, Davis entered the Strait which still bears his name, after commanding three expeditions with ability and discretion. After seeking an opening by the North of Asia Hudson, a man of well merited fame, entered the sea to which his name is attached and on whose inhospitable shores he was ungratefully left to perish. In 1616, Baffin, the most accomplished sailor of the day, made the circuit of the sea, now called Baffin's Bay, and returned, thoroughly convinced that no such passage as was sought, had any existence. Dreams of gold led Cortes and other Spanish voyagers to make a like attempt, but none of them ever succeeded in passing beyond the rocky shores of California. Captain Cook and his successor Captain Clarke lifted the veil that had long hung over the northern portions of this Continent, and revealed the fact that a transit of about 3000 miles must be effected, ere passing from the Atlantic to the Pacific—a damper to the most modest and paper voyagers. Knight an officer of the Hudson Bay Company made the next attempt, but never returned. Captain Middleton's expedition, and another proved equally unsuccessful.

In 1769 Mr. Hearne, and subsequently Sir. Alexander Mackenzie, by tracing to the northern sea, the rivers which respectively bear their names, threw new light upon the character of the coast and led men to think that possibly there might be a contiguous ocean bounding the Northern land. In this position was the state of geographical knowledge, at the close of the last century. Several circumstances conspired to awaken afresh the spirit of enquiry between 1815 and 1818, amongst which may be ranked the writings of Mr. Daines Barrington, a gentleman of considerable learning and a vast amount of faith in the correctness of his views, although Captain Phipp's expedition, sent out by his representations was eminently unsuccessful. Partly induced by the reported observations of Capt. Scoresby, a man of accuracy and scientific attainments, and partly by the appeals of Sir Joseph Banks and Sir John Barrow, the Admiralty fitted out two expeditions, each comprising two ships, one of them, commanded by Sir John Ross, to push through Davis Straits, and make their way if possible, to the Pacific—the other, commanded by Captain Buchan, was to proceed directly to the North Pole and thence to Behring's Strait. The result of these expeditions is well known. Sir John Ross sailed round Baffin's Bay, thinking Lancaster Sound to be only an inlet, and this it was overlooked after a period of 200 years. After being subjected to dangers of a most appalling character in the Spitzbergen seas, Captain Buchan and his crew, amongst whom was the ill-fated Sir John, then Lieutenant Franklin, returned without having contributed much to the knowledge of the Northern passage, which, after a search of 500 years, remained as dark as ever.—Lieutenant Parry, who had accompanied Sir John Ross, was selected by the Admiralty to assume the command of another expedition, and two ships, the *Hecla* and *Griper* were given him for this purpose. Leaving the Thames on the 11th May, 1819, he reached the entrance to Davis Strait on the 28th of June. On the 2nd of August, the ships ran into Lancaster Sound, passed up Barrow's Strait—sound Prince Regent's Inlet, returned and directed their course to the West—passed Beechey Island and on the 5th September, dropped anchor for the first time since leaving the coast of Norfolk, in the bay of the Hecla and Griper on the shores of what Parry called Melville Island after the first Lord of the Admiralty. This was more important in Parry's first voyage, a edition that had preceded it. After a second visit to the Regions, H.M.S. Griper, commanded by Capt. Lyon, sailed from Yarmouth Roads on the 19th June, 1821, but bitter disappointment was the result of this expedition. By a third voyage to those dreary regions, Sir Edward Parry made large contributions, not only to geography but to the sciences generally, and this is greatly increased by the land expedition undertaken by Captain Franklin, who left England on the 23d May, 1818, and was joined by Mr. Back, Mr. Hood and Captain Richardson, names well known in connection with this portion of North America. Franklin, Richardson, and Back, through the liberality of Sir Felix Booth, fitted out another expedition in the year 181[illegible] to explore the Arctic sea, he made many valuable discoveries.

Passing over some of the voyages of minor importance, we come to that of Sir John Ross, who sailed from Stromness, with the Isabella and Perror in May, 1829, and wintered last seen in Lat. 70° 48. Long. 66° 31. with his ships moored to an iceberg; although traces of where he wintered have since been discovered at Cape Riley, at the entrance to Wellington Channel. With this expedition terminated all voyages of discovery, properly so called—the subsequent visits to the Arctic regions, being made with a view of finding traces of this gallant, but we fear, forever lost sailor. The history of these attempts is pretty well known. During the winter of 1847 when fears began to be entertained of Sir John's safety, the Government resolved to send out a searching expedition in three divisions. Captain Kellett and Moore sailed for Behring's Straits early in June 1848. Sir John Richardson and Dr. Rae proceeded overland to the Mackenzie, and Sir James Clark Ross directed his course to Lancaster Sound. All returned but without bringing any tidings of the object of their search. In Dec. 1849 Captain Collinson and Captain McClure sailed for Behring's Straits, and news has just reached England, that the latter has succeeded in accomplishing what has been the great desire of adventurous seamen for more than 300 years, to pass from the Pacific to the Atlantic Ocean by the north of this continent. As soon as the particulars come to hand we shall lay them before our readers, meanwhile we may just enumerate the subsequent voyagers that have gone in search of Sir John. The Lady Franklin and the Sophia under command of Capt. Penny, an experienced whaler, left England on the 13th April, 1850, and in June joined Capt. Austin's ships, which had previously sailed to search the shores of Barrow's Straits. In August, 1850, no fewer than *ten* searching vessels had assembled in Lancaster Sound, including, in addition to the above, the Advance and Rescue; which the munificence of Henry Grinnell, Esq., of York, had fitted out at his own expence—the Felix carrying the veteran, Sir John Ross, the Prince Albert and the North Star. The best prepared expedition that ever left England, sailed in April, 1852, under the command of Sir Edward Belcher, who proceeded to Wellington Sound, with the view of examining its shores and islets. Capt. Inglefield has since paid two visits to these regions, making many valuable discoveries, but none in regard to the fate of Sir John Franklin. Lady Franklin has lately sent out a ship to proceed to Behring's Straits and Dr. Kane, the surgeon, who accompanied the late American Expedition, is now making a wild attempt to reach the Pole overland by Greenland, while Dr. Rae is perhaps by this time on his return, after completing the survey of a small portion of the northern shore, which he had been compelled to leave unfinished during the previous year.

ARRIVAL OF THE *AFRICA*.

Further advance in Breadstuffs.—Dreadful Shipwreck and Loss of Life.—Hostilities about to commence in Asia.

NEW YORK, Nov. 4, 1853.

The *Africa* arrived this morning, with Liverpool dates to the 22nd Oct.

The cotton market was firm and improved. Breadstuffs were reported active. On wheat there was an advance of 6d.; and on flour 2s 6d; with a rising market and large sales. Ashes in good demand, at former quotations. Provisions steady.

The Eastern question still unsettled.

The *Africa* passed the *Glasgow* near Liverpool.

The *Africa* brings 116 passengers.

The steamers *Ardes* and *Washington* arrived out on the 22nd, the latter at midnight.

Omar Pacha's summons to the Russians is published. It is temperate and manly; whilst Gortschakoff's reply is short and pithy.

Hostilities were expected to commence about the 25th October, in Asia probably.

Abd-el-Kader has been offered a command by the Turkish Government, but he awaited permission from the French Government before accepting.

The Turks are voluntarily pouring immense sums into the public treasury as a war fund.

Accounts dated London Nov. 6, state that intelligence had that morning been received at Lloyd's of the melancholy fact that the *Dalhousie*, bound from London to Sidney, was wrecked off Berkely Head on the Bremen of the Wednesday previous. The whole of the passengers and crew, except one lad was drowned.

The closing of the Preston and Wigan mills had given more confidence to buyers in Manchester.

Freights from Liverpool to the United States have advanced during the week.

LIVERPOOL MARKETS.

Oct. 21, 1853.

Ashes in good demand, at former quotations—19 0 pots, Pots 30s. Small sales Pearls at 29s.

Provisions.—Beef and Pork, a good business has been done, prices steady. Quotations as before. Prime Mess 97s 6d. Bacon dull, and has declined 2 shillings. Lard very little doing on the spot. Sales for spring delivery 5 3s.

LONDON MARKETS.

Baring Brothers' Report.—Rather more firmness in the London Corn trade during the week; but in the Colonial and Foreign produce markets great dullness prevailed and lower prices accepted for many articles. United States red wheat, 6s a 7 2s; white 7 3s a 7 8s. Western Canal flour 37s 6d a 38s 6d; Ohio 37s a 41s.

FURTHER DETAILS BY THE *AFRICA*.

FRANCE.

The applications for French generals, which is stated to have been made to the Government by the Sultan of Turkey will, it is believed, be refused, though leave of absence for a limited number may not be difficult to obtain.

PRUSSIA.

BERLIN, Oct. 13.—The semi-official *Neue* has an article in which it is stated that Prussia, although dynastically does not remain passive; that on the contrary, her position is that of a mediating neutrality. The more Prussia maintains her disinterestedness in the Russian and French strife the more will she excite herself, and the more likely she is to be heard.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, Oct. 16. The diplomatic conference for the settlement of the Oriental question has suspended its labours for some time past. Though inactive it is not dissolved. The army of Marshal Radetzky, the garrisons of the German fortresses, and the 9th and 12th corps will be exempt from the reduction of the Austrian army. That measure is confined to the provinces on the Turkish frontier, to the regiments of Borderers, and the 10th and 11th corps of the army in Hungary.

RUSSIA AND TURKEY.

The Sultan has demanded that not only shall the fleets of France and England pass the Dardanelles, but, in addition, shall cruise in the Black Sea, in order to prevent the Russians drawing their provisions from Sebastpol. It is stated that this demand has been necessitated by the reduction of the Turkish fleet in the Bosphorus, many of which are employed in transporting the reinforcements to the army of Ali Pacha in Asia.

A letter from Constantinople states that a contract has been made for the purchase of 6,000 horses in the south of Persia, for the Turkish army, with the consent of the Shah of Persia.

From Varna a despach, dated 29th September says:—"Omar Pacha has organised a regiment of Pontoniers, whose instruction was making rapid progress every day. He has nearly completed all the 'materiel' for throwing a bridge across the river, but it is not expected that he will make any movement until next spring."

It is believed that Prince Paskiewitch will command the Russian troops should they enter upon a campaign.

M. Govone, a Sardinian officer, reports in the highest terms of the Turkish army.—Prince Gortschakoff is loudly complained against by the officers in the Russian army, who state that should he not be removed before hostilities commence, the army will be ruined.

It has been stated that the commissariat of the Russian corps of occupation is most infamously managed, and that the instances are not a few that there has been no wheat forthcoming. The direct contrary is stated to be the case in the Turkish camps.—From 10,000 to 12,000 Russian troops are constantly in hospital with typhus fever and dysentary.

Prince Gortschakoff, it is said, has ordered 3,000 huts to be erected on the left bank of the Danube, and the Wallachian Government has to pay thirty thousand ducats for their construction.

BUCHAREST, Oct. 5.—Prince Gortschakoff's inspection being terminated, the camps have been broken up, and Russian troops are moving in masses on the Danube to the number of 35,000 men, with 254 guns. A rumour is prevalent that the Danube will be crossed on the 9th or 10th. The combat will be fierce, judging from the animus on both sides. The disposition of the Turkish troops on the right bank is declared by tacticians to be most masterly, and the fortresses which support their position in a formidable state of defence. We are again assured that Prince Menschikoff is about to assume the government of the Principalities.

The Hereditary Grand Duke Alexander has arrived at Dief, the centre of the armaments against Turkey.

The following is an extract from a private letter, dated the 6th, from Constantinople:—

On the 3d instant, Lord Stratford received intelligence from his Court. It did not reach him till after the departure of the courier despatched to Omar Pacha, conveying to him the order to notify to General Gortschakoff the opening of hostilities in the event of the evacuation of the Principalities not taken place in fifteen days. It is agreed that hostilities will be accepted, without much comment, by Gortschakoff. The Porte has issued an address to the troops, whom it calls on to support the honor and the rights of the nation. Those whose courage may fail them are invited to vow the fact without hesitation, and they will be employed at a distance from the scene of combat. A similar note will be addressed to the people—not, however, calling on them to do battle, but to remain tranquil, and to give their aid to those who go forth to the combat. It is difficult to give you an idea of the enthusiasm of every one here; it would appear as if war was a *fete*, and, if the Government desisted to enrol men, I do not think there is one in Stamboul who would refuse to join, and the city would be abandoned for the camp. O Servo so everything is tranquil.

I hasten to add that hostilities will commence in Asia on account of the lateness in the season, and the theatre of war will be, as I have long told you, in the direction of Batoum. Volunteers are pouring in from Constantinople. Bashi Bazouks are employed. They will be formed into a corps of irregulars. Everyone knows the valour of these cheerful of Russians, and Turkey counts on them to repulse the Cossacks of the Don. Two regiments of regular troops have arrived this day from Syria.

A deputation of Arabs has offered to the Porte all the services in their power and another deputation of Greeks is preparing to do the same.

A telegraph despatch from Vienna says that the following was the reply of Prince Gortschakoff to the summons of Omar Pacha to evacuate the Danubian Principalities—"My master is not at war with Turkey but I have orders not to leave the Principalities until the Porte shall have given to the Emperor the moral satisfaction he demands. When this point has been obtained, I will evacuate the principalities immediately, whatever the time of the season. If I am attacked by the Turkish army, I will confine myself to the defensive."

PROGRESS OF CANADA.

We have received the first report of the Secretary of the Board of Registration and Statistics on the census of the Canadas for 1851—52, a document which we hope will be very largely circulated, because it contains information which will be in the highest degree satisfactory to the Canadians, and will give the most demonstrative proof of a position we have always assumed, that Canada is increasing faster in wealth and greatness than the United States.

Many papers published in the United States circulate in this province, and all of them, without exception, are constantly bringing the changes upon the, by them, received axiom that ever the United States is the greatest nation on earth; it is not therefore surprising that our people should believe the statement so constantly reiterated in their ears.

The fact is, that in ten years the population of Upper Canada has increased 121.58 per cent. or more than doubled whilst that of the United States has only increased 35.27 per cent, or a little over one third. But this is comparing Upper Canada with the whole of the States, which includes the slave States, which increase very slowly, but even when compared for a period of twenty years with their newest States and those which have most rapidly improved, viz: Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois, the comparison is greatly in our favour. In twenty years, Upper Canada has improved at the rate of 375 per cent, whilst the three States above named, have only improved at the rate of 30 per cent.—

The population of Upper Canada in 1830	210,437
do in 1849	791,000
Increase, (375 per cent.)	580,563

On the question of comparative wealth the Report speaks as follows:—

Whilst displaying our own progress, I have thought it advisable to contrast it with that of our enterprising neighbours, and it will be seen that I have chosen the State of Ohio, as presenting in every respect, the fairest comparison with Canada,—and perhaps the most favorable one, for them, amongst her sister States. She is in fact the best State in the Union in proportion to her population; and to show this point clearly I have given the average of the whole Union, that it may be seen at a glance how very large a portion of the whole produce of the States is grown in that one State.—Another reason was, because the population and total *occupied* lands are very nearly the same in Ohio as in Canada—even if it be thought that Canada suffers by the comparison, it will not prevent our deriving benefit from the experience that Ohio's prosperity affords us, but though in some points she far surpasses this Colony, yet taking all the facts into consideration, Canada may hold up her head proudly. Her ratio of increase and progress, for the last ten years, has been much greater than that of the neighbouring State, and for the coming ten years the ratio of her increase will be accelerated far beyond her neighbours.

The occupied lands *uncultivated* are as ten and a-half millions to Ohio's eight millions. Canada's lands *unoccupied* are one hundred and thirty seven millions to her seven and a half millions; in the Upper Province alone there are nearly eleven millions of acres unoccupied.

Considering that her ratio of increase of population during the last ten years was only 33½ per cent, & that of Upper Canada 104½ per cent, may we not expect to leave her far in the shade at the next decennial Census. Even now, in wealth and prosperity, we are at least on equal footing as regards the aggregate produce of our cultivated lands, but not equal to her individual wealth, and for a very good reason—Ohio has one fourth more cleared land per individual than Canada has, having five acres to Canada's four, and the population nearly equal.

We find on examining Mr. Hutton's collation of the produce of Upper Canada, as compared with Ohio, that the value per individual of produce raised from the soil in Ohio is £15 6s. 11d., whilst in Upper Canada it is £14 10s. 5d., which is in favor of Ohio by 12½ per cent, whilst the value of produce per acre of cultivated ground is in Ohio £3 5s 4d., and in Upper Canada £3 14s 10d., being in favor of Upper Canada at the rate of 14½ per cent. And this, it must be borne in mind, is comparing Canada with the very richest agricultural State in the whole of the Union.

If we take the whole Union, we find that the annual average value per head is £14 11s 8d., a mere fraction over Upper Canada.

We shall again refer to this very valuable and interesting report, and in the mean time we would desire to express our gratification in acknowledging so useful a document. *United Empire.*

MACKENZIE ON BROWN.

TORONTO, Nov. 5, 1853.

To Messrs. John and Robert DeGlew, and John Urmy, Haldimand County.

Gentlemen,—In my first letter I have stated that when the Catholics of Lower Canada had a free legislature of their own they nobly resisted the encroachments of the church; and that it is the Baldwins, Lafontaines, Hincksses, Drapers, Blakes, Robinsons, Papineaus, Morins, Sherwoods, and Macnabs, and their satellites of the Assembly and press, among whom the Browns have been the very worst, who are responsible for the corrupt and intolerant legislation of the last twelve years, and the unequal and unjust ecclesiastical corporations placed upon the statute book.

In 1849, Messrs. Baldwin, Blake, Hincks, Price, Sherwood, Morrin, & Co., passed bills to create new bishops in the Canadas, as "corporations sole" with vast revenues and immense powers; bills to give new corporate powers to nuns and pere oblats, &c., &c., to hold immense tracts of land, and expend enormous revenues.

The obsequious George Brown puffed all this "reform" and next year (1850) in his *Globe* of Oct. 12, thus covered the executive with his adulations:

"Did it ever occur to our contemporary of the *Herald* that as to the few points on which he differs with Messrs. Baldwin, Price and Hincks—these gentlemen might possibly be right—and that at least they might be honest in the view they take? Did it ever occur to him to look at what these men have done to advance that 'complete civil and religious freedom' which he prates about, and to compare it with what in his opinion they should have done, but have not?

"If the legislation of Canada has not been too rapid during the last two years, it has certainly not been too slow. Never, perhaps, did any Free Legislature effect the amount of reform in the same space of time which the last two sessions have recorded in our statute-book."

You, my friends, and all Haldimand, will hear me witness how openly Brown gloried in 1851, at his election speeches, the very men and the very measures he now violently condemns, and will continue to denounce till he is hired again to pull them; and the newspaper will tell you that the *[illegible]* to him as a party idol. No new thing that; "the chosen people," 3000 years since, worshipped a calf because they knew no better—and Brown's poor disciples stand very much in need of a Moses now.

How deceitful it was for the GLOBE, in Oct. 1845, to invite subscribers by such professions as the following, and then come out as a violent sectarian sheet!

"No one thinks of asking what the religious views of the *Morning Chronicle* are? A political journal stands or falls by its political reputation—not by the extraneous questions which may be noticed in its columns. It is glaring folly to discountenance a newspaper because its religious opinions are Roman Catholic, Presbyterian, or Congregational.

"A political party contends for certain principles of civil government; these principles are held by rich and poor—young and old—Episcopalian, Roman Catholic, and Methodist; surely it cannot be necessary that all these component parts should give up their peculiar, religious, educational, aristocratic, or commercial opinions, in order to go very cordially together in politics.—*Message.*

THE "TABLE-MOVING."—No. 2

BY THOMAS MACQUEEN.

Presuming that our readers have bestowed a careful perusal, on the Rev. N. S. Godfrey's *very remarkable dialogue with his own table*—presuming that they have read our Tuesday's remarks on the phenomenon of "table moving,"—and presuming that they never lost sight of the fact, that the *table's* share of the remarkable dialogue consisted, simply and entirely, in the dumb, inexpressive, and unintelligible motion, of "tipping over" a little to one side and then falling back, in obedience to the physical law of gravity—presuming these three things, we shall endeavor, according to the best of our humble abilities, to knock the bottom out of the Rev. Mr. Godfrey's dangerous and truly impious theory, and thereby contribute our feeble aid in sweeping a certain amount of superstition and imposition from society. The reader will just bear in mind, that the movements of the table have no possible sympathy with the subject in hand—no possible, or even *apparent*, relation to it, or connection with it—that these movements are invariably the same on every subject—that it answers about heaven and hell, and the glories and tortures of another state of existence, and it answers about dancing the polka or about the indecencies and vulgarities of June's Hippodrome, would be *exactly the same answers!* The Rev. gentleman, who is certainly not more reverend than *extraordinary*, asks the very interesting question if the punishment of the damned is produced by actual fire and brimstone, and, in reply, the table moves three times; and had his Reverence followed up this question, by asking *if he was a better man than his wife?* the table would just have *moved up three times again!*

Now, if the reader will just bear these facts in mind, he will have no difficulty whatever, in comprehending the value of the Rev. Mr. Godfrey's remarkable dialogue with his own table. It is evident that the whole mystery consists in some kind of magnetic influence established between the mind and the table, and by which the table comes so far under the control of the mind, as to move at the word of command.—The movements, of course, mean nothing more than the mere *arbitrary* significations which the *mind* is pleased to attach to them, hence the remarkable dialogue on which we are commenting, was not between the Rev. Mr. Godfrey and his own table, as we have been ironically presuming, but, *between the Rev. Mr. Godfrey and his own mind.* To expose what we cannot call less than the *arrant scoundrelism* of the thing, we must remark, that an ignorant man, reading this dialogue, would assuredly infer that the table, or the wretched spirit which his Reverence represents as speaking through the table, had entered into an intelligible exposure of the diabolical tendencies of Wesleyan Methodism, and the unpardonable culpability of attending the Wesleyan meetings! An ignorant man, we say, reading Mr. Godfrey's narrative, could not avoid the conclusion that the *lost soul* had been lost, principally, by attending the worship of the Wesleyans. Now, what are the facts? Mr. Godfrey, with a strong, illiberal, sectarian prejudice against Methodism, asks if attending the Wesleyan worship, was one of the chief sins for which the spirit had been doomed to misery, and, at the same moment *mentally* commanded the table to "tip over" three times, which, according to his own arbitrary interpretation, signified "yes!" The table, influenced by the magnetic power, obeyed the command just as *passively*, and as *unmeaningly*, as if he had kicked it over with his foot. Had Mr. Godfrey been an illiberal Methodist, instead of a Church of England man, and asked if Church of Englandism was a certain passport to future woe, the table would just have tipped over three times in the same way and for the same reason, viz, *because it was mentally ordered to do so.*

We trust our readers are fully able to comprehend the value of Mr. Godfrey's remarkable dialogue. They may either call it arrant scoundrelism, or any other name they please, but assuredly it is *remarkable*, either for its audacious knavery, or for its contemptible silliness. According to our view of the matter, when we consider that Mr. Godfrey is a clergyman, a preacher of the Gospel, a guardian of souls—we can only regard the whole affair as a piece of wanton profanity. If Mr. Godfrey has so little faith in some of the leading doctrines of Christianity as to think that they require the evidence of a table, or of a spirit "tipping over" a table, to substantiate their truth, it is a great pity he should be allowed to earn a living by preaching these doctrines! Or, if he was so simple as to suppose, that any reasonable man would accept of such evidence on any subject, and more especially on the subject of an unknown eternity, his ignorance of human nature must make him a very worthless and dangerous leader. In short, if the truths of Christianity require such remarkable evidence, after having been preached to mankind for upwards of eighteen hundred years, the sooner they are abandoned the better; and every man who has a proper appreciation of those truths, will shudder at the thought of attempting such proof! In plain language, Mr. Godfrey's *dialogue proves simply the scepticism of its author.*

The idea of supernatural agency, in connection with the phenomena of "table moving," is simply ridiculous; and, notwithstanding the countenance which clergyman, like Mr. Godfrey, give to the absurd delusion, the wonder is, that intelligent society has not, long ere now, frowned it indignantly out of existence, particularly when we consider that it gives the negative to nearly all the Christian faith, in relation to a future state of existence, and, at the same time carries its reputation on its face. It is refuted by the fact, that, in many instances, owing to the ignorance of the "medium," the answers obtained are positively *false*. And it is abundantly refuted by the fact, that, in ninety-nine cases of the hundred, the communications or answers are of no importance whatever are, in truth mere silly trifles, like the guess-work of the children's "*nievie, nievie, nicknac.*" "How many coppers has Tom Thumb in his left waistcoat pocket?" "How many buttons are on the right breast of Sam Slick's overcoat?" "*Hoo auld was Duncan McTavish's third bairns when its grannie deed?* Or, "How many *childher* will Judy Delany have if she marries Murtagh Mulrooney?"—Now, would any man, and especially any man professing a belief in the Christian doctrines of a *future state*, for one moment suppose, that even the *devil*, or the most insignificant of the wretched spirits under his infernal control, would condescend to take up its abode in a table, for the purpose of answering such paltry questions as these? The supposition would be a libel on Lucifer, and a gross insult even to depraved humanity.

In conclusion—for we admit we are sick of the subject—it must be acknowledged, that the magnetic influence through which the table becomes subservient to the will of the operator, is a *mystery*, but not one whit more mysterious than every other kind of magnetism that has been discovered. There is no harm, and equally little good, in it, as it is not, apparently, applicable to any useful, practical purpose. The strolling creatures who make a scanty living by the "spiritual" imposition, are objects of pity, and far less culpable than the "great public" whose depraved appetite countenances, and partly believes in, and *pays* for the deception. Let the *thing* and the religious portion of society, from down, as gross profanity, every attempt to involve the spirits of departed friends or acquaintances, or to associate them with such ridiculous tomfooleries, and the the strolling "medium" and the "table moving" will speedily become very harmless amusements.

HURON SIGNAL.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 1853

THAT GREAT DEMONSTRATION."

With the great demonstration which the some half dozen Brownites of this neighbourhood thought would have converted the whole Huron to the political faith of the *Globe* has passed—and yet staid Reformers, who have ever regarded Mr. Brown as an adventurer, can still hold up their heads without recognizing either the *Globe* or its editor as one whit more consistent than formerly. Prior to this event there was great rubbing of hands and no little vaunting among the Brownites; and the words "He is coming" were repeated joyously not only by the *few* but also by many of the Tory party who were only too glad to have an opportunity to create a division among the Reform ranks and it was very evident that the Brownites and their allies placed the most implicit confidence in the success that would flow from the visit of their Champion to Goderich. But alas for human hopes! How chap-fallen and demure are these individuals now! The glory has departed and the anticipated triumph has resulted in a most inglorious defeat. No new converts have been made, and worse than all, the allies upon whose assistance they had placed the utmost confidence and who formed the *two thirds* at the Demonstration Dinner; at the very moment when triumph seemed within reach, betrayed them irrecoverably. But we are truly glad that things are not much worse.—These misled gentlemen might have had a more unsatisfactory denouement to their proceedings, as it must be obvious to every one, that it was only the irrepressible love of a joke and the preponderance of innate feelings, which could have led their Tory confederates so unwittingly to announce their true position, and thereby lose the advantage to be gained to the Conservative party by enlarging the rupture already commenced and by keeping up the delusion until it should be no longer necessary or desirable. But as the charm is now broken and they can judge of the kind of support which they would have received from their Holy Alliance friends and of the amount of sincerity which actuated the movements of their allies, we trust they will return to their true position and with the exercise of a little patience look for sympathy and support in their aspirations for reform where they are most certain to be found, viz: among its faithful friends, who, even if they have never placed any confidence in the Brown movement are fully as anxious for the settlement of the Reserves as the warmest of his supporters can possibly be, and who, if they have not arrived at the conclusion that the ministry intend to forfeit their pledges on this question, are determined to test them by it and will not suffer it to get the "go by" with indifference.

But this lack of success may be ascribed to another cause Mr. Brown as is generally the case with those who draw largely upon the imagination, considerbly over-shot his mark at Goderich, had he been a little moderate and confined himself a little closer to facts instead of allowing his vindicativeness to carry him away to such an absurd extent when declaiming against the ministry, he might probably have induced some to believe his assertions; but we pity the capacity of those who can swallow without nauseating the indigestable nonsense with which he endeavoured to cram his audience. We certainly admire the good taste, and the consciousness of superior dignity which possessed Mr. Brown, when he stooped so low as to give Mr Cameron when lecturing to that gentleman's constituents, credit for nothing, no, nothing but for a bill which was not brought before the house, "to prevent Dogs from Worrying Sheep!" He did not even mention the Bill for the prevention of the manufacture and sale of intoxicating drinks demanded by a large section of the people, and other useful measures, either introduced or supported by that gentleman, but had the hardihood to charge him with forfeiting his pledge to his constituents *more* than any other member of the ministry. We have watched Mr. Cameron very closely, but we have not discovered that he has forfeited his pledge in a single instance. In fact he pledged himself at his last election on but *one* question, that was the secularization of the Reserves and upon this point we believe him to be as sound as any member in the house, and that he will insist upon their immediate settlement.—We also believe that his exertions in the face of the fiercest opposition were mainly instrumental in securing the charter for our Railroad. And the most acceptable reduction in the price of lands to the north may also be traced to him. But there is no need to bolster up Mr. Cameron, the man who has been a consistent member of Parliament for so many years and has never lost an election, requires no puffing of ours. His conduct will at any time bear comparison with Mr. Brown's.

GEORGE BROWN AT STRATFORD.

The Demonstration, intended to honor Mr. Brown at Stratford, was a very tame affair, and resulted apparently as unfavorably to that gentleman as the one in Goderich. According to the account given by the Perth *News*, a meeting was convened at Stratford, on Friday last, at which were present 150 or 160 persons, and was held at the Union Hotel (the Sheriff having very properly refused the Court House for political purposes). On motion of Mr. Thompson of Downie, seconded by Mr. Walters of Stratford, Dr. Hyde was called to the chair. He shortly addressed the meeting, stating that he, with one or two others, had been the means of calling this meeting. He regretted the paucity of the attendance which he attributed to the hour not being mentioned in the handbills, and the shortness of the notice. Mr. Brown said that the first intimation he had of this meeting was by the handbill he received at Goderich, and he was at first undecided about coming, but upon considering that some preparations must have been made, and that his non-appearance would create disappointment, he had attended. The hon. gentleman then addressed the meeting for nearly two hours and a half, reviewing all the acts of the ministry with his usual severity.

At the close of the address, it was moved by John A Scott of Stratford, seconded by Henry Walters, "That the conduct of George Brown, Esq., M.P.P, in the house of Assembly, merits the entire approbation of this meeting, and that he is entitled to the warmest gratitude of Upper Canada."

The Chairman declared the motion carried unanimously. We are aware, however, that several persons did not vote at all, considering that the meeting was called only for the purpose of hearing an address from George Brown.

The committee had prepared another motion of want of confidence in the ministry, but some how or another, the gentleman to whom it was entrusted (Scott, Esq. Fullarton) mysteriously disappeared towards the end of the meeting with the motion in his pocket, and the meeting dispersed. George Brown strutted about the room in a perfect rage,—declaring that half the objects of the meeting had been lost.' He vented his chagrin upon the poor Chairman, who scarcely ventured a reply to the Great man:

THE DINNER

took place on Friday (yesterday) evening. John G. W. Daly, Esq., J. P. in the chair. Only 17 persons were present, although Mr. Robinson, at the request of the committee, had provided a repast for a hundred. It was an excellent dinner, and reflected great credit upon the host.

After the usual loyal toasts, the chairman gave—"Our guest, George Brown," which was drunk with great enthusiasm. George Brown, in responding, said it was quite unnecessary for him, after the lengthy speech of the afternoon, to make another long speech, but he could not help referring to the recent ministerial dinners where nothing was done but to abuse George Brown. They did not attempt to defend their own actions so much as to vilify those of himself. Depend upon it, things cannot go on in this way much longer; the ministry is on its last legs. The ministry cannot carry the Reserve bill because the priests will not let them. He was in favour of an Union of Protestants, but Protestants, but keep their pledges and adhere to principles, without any regard to expediency. He went on to show that on the general questions of the country, after the Reserves are disposed of there were few conservatives who were much more liberal than the ministry. He advised the Electors of his county to prepare for an election—if they could not be disturbed, to get not who would stick to his principle, but who would abandon them even the party."—He thought there would not be difficulty in obtaining a suitable candidate within the county, and the resources would not be doubtful as there was great unanimity among the party.

Mr. Brown in a highly complimentary speech gave "The Town and trade of Stratford."

The Chairman expressed his gratification at the hon. gentleman's attendance