

or abused its confidence in the last House, have a right to a fair hearing upon the Hustings—and to a fair construction of their conduct, founded on their acts and sentiments during that period. So far as lay in our power, we have furnished much information to guide to a right decision. By the aid of the published reports, and access to the Journals, the general bearing of every man's acts and sentiments, upon all the great leading questions that have been agitated, can be readily ascertained—and by these, and not by the opinions of any Newspaper writer, ought they to be judged.

There have been men in the last Assembly, who have been so steady in their opposition to the interests and wishes of the people—who have been the obsequious tools of the local Government, upon all occasions—who have studiously scoffed at the idea of public opinion: and voted, through thick and thin for almost every measure, without a single exception, tending to strengthen those influences which are opposed to the peace and prosperity of the country: these, the people require no ear mark to distinguish, and we trust that, at this day of reckoning, they will be brought to a sharp account. On the other hand, there are some whose course has been so devious and extraordinary—who have been vaunting conservatives one Session, and violent reformers the next—who, pursuing, no consistent line of policy tending to advance avowed and important objects, have been hugg'd to the bosoms of the officials one day, and cast out like adders the day after—with these it will be extremely difficult for the constituency to deal.—It seems hard to remind a man, who is now on the right track, that he has been straying in error's ways two thirds of his time, and may possibly lose his road again—and it is quite as unfair to overturn for two or three impolitic and unpopular acts, a life of public labour and general utility. We make these observations, because—although we desire great and important changes in the tone and temper of our Assembly—changes which can be only attained, we fear, by a change of materials—still, we seek for no crude and ill-judged alterations, which are not deliberately weighed, and sanctioned by a sound experience. The last House was chosen amidst great, and, under the circumstances, extremely justifiable public excitement. Let this be calmly and judiciously selected—and, so far as the old Members are concerned, let them neither be saved by one virtue, nor condemned for a single crime. As regards all new aspirants to a seat in the Legislature, the same should be observed.

Though we ourselves may be thought to be included in our own caution, we cannot but acknowledge, that it is not always those who are most forward in finding fault with others, who are most to be relied upon to avoid or correct the very errors they condemn. The people should weigh well, therefore, the motives of those who rush into the arena—and, with jealous care, contrast their present pledges and professions with their past lives. For the work they have to do, they want men of talent if they can be had—but, above all things, men of probity, consistency and firmness—who, whether they succeed or fail in their endeavours to reform the Institutions of the country, will lay the foundations of public improvement deep in the hearts of those, who, as they are rising in greater numbers and with greater intelligence, will have a fairer prospect of success. They should not confine their choice to those who thrust themselves upon their attention, or who are put forward by the personal regard or active zeal of friends and partisans—but, looking calmly over the Townships and Counties for whom Representatives are required, they should select those who are most conspicuous for qualities, which, while they fit them for public life, have made them loved and trusted by the business or social circles by whom they are best known.

A great deal depends upon the mode of Election. If the old practices of personal canvass and solicita-

tion, of drunkenness, intimidation and expence, are to be adhered to, why then it is in vain to talk about the people's making deliberate selections—guided by their knowledge of political and moral qualities, with a view to rational reforms.

We are back upon the old sea of profligate adventure, and may beat about in it for twenty years to come. Another system has been tried, and found to answer well. Let the Freeholders in every town and County be forthwith summoned to meet each other, by formal requisition to the Sheriff, in some public place, there to weigh the characters and claims of each person as shall be named. Let these be no party meetings, called by little knots, for particular objects, but grave and unanimous assemblings of all those interested, who meet for the purpose of despatching with courage and intelligence, a business in which the general character and prosperity of their common country is involved. There may be cases in which Public Meetings will be held to no result; or where parties, deeming such expressions of the general sentiment not sufficiently decisive, will still try their chance upon the Hustings—but, in the majority of instances, it will be found that the popular cause has gathered strength from these preliminary discussions and deliberations. Persons will be named, and characters brought out, that, but for these, might have remained comparatively unknown and unvalued; and thus the range of selection becomes widened, and the chances of a just decision multiplied by hints and suggestions which many are prepared to give. Besides, the person who in private would threaten a poor man or cajole a weak one out of his vote, dare not attempt to influence the solid deliberations of hundreds of freeholders, each one protected by the other's countenance and support, and all disinterestedly disposing of the business in which they are engaged.

CHARLOTTE-TOWN, P. E. I., Oct. 18.

A Meeting of the Shareholders of the North American Bank was held at the Commercial Inn last evening, when it being found that the number of Shares allotted to this Island had been subscribed for, arrangements were made for communicating the information to Mr Carter, remitting the first instalment, &c. The Meeting agreed to recommend the Hon. John Brecken and William Mackintosh, Esq. as Directors for managing the affairs of the Bank in this Island.—*Gazette*.

STEAM MILL JOINT STOCK COMPANY.—A Meeting took place at the Commercial Inn, on Thursday last, to form a Joint Stock Company for the above purpose, when the outline of the Constitution was submitted and a number of shares subscribed for. An undertaking so likely to be generally beneficial to the town and neighborhood, cannot fail of meeting with that liberal support, which (considering the short time it has been agitated) it has already experienced; and when the security its constitution affords to subscribers is considered, it would indeed show an apathy to the welfare of this rising Colony, if it had been met with indifference. Another meeting will take place on Wednesday evening next, for the final arrangement of the Constitution and election of officers, as there will then be a sufficient number of subscribers to warrant its going into operation. It is respectfully requested all those who feel interested in the adoption of a sound and liberal constitution for this first effort to establish a Joint Stock Company here, will meet with such support and consideration, as will show we are alive to our interests, and that small means united and devoid of mistrust, the bane of small communities, will produce great and lasting effects.—(Communicated).—*It*.

John Allerington, a passenger on board the barque Victoria, which arrived here on Thursday last, in 52 days from London, was found dead in his berth the morning before her ar-

rival. He had retired to rest the evening previous, apparently in his usual health. The deceased, who was 72 years of age, was a native of Suffolk, and had relations settled in this Island.—*It*.

The following are the particulars we have obtained of a very lamentable occurrence which took place at Montague River yesterday, and which has awakened a great deal of melancholy interest in that neighborhood. It appears that on some of the boys entering the school kept by Mr Hugh Brodie, at that place, a slate was perceived, on which he had written, that it was his intention, to put an end to his existence, and describing where his body would be found, and that he had made a Will, which would be found in one of his pockets. On repairing to the spot, the unfortunate man was found, suspended from a tree, and quite dead, and the Will in his pocket as he had described. The Coroner left town this morning for the purpose of holding an inquest on the body. We learn that he attended the sale of the Glebe Lands at Georgetown on Wednesday, for the purpose of purchasing a lot which he had long set his mind on, and that he evinced much excitement at losing it, in consequence of its bringing a much higher price than he anticipated, and this circumstance preying upon a mind of morbid temperament, is supposed to have led to the unhappy result. He was a person much esteemed by the community in which he resided, for his mild and amiable disposition; he bore an excellent moral character, and was considered very successful as a teacher. He was the author of several poetical pieces which have from time to time appeared in this paper, under the signature of 'A Stranger,' which are by no means devoid of merit, and we have some unpublished pieces now in our possession, which were lately forwarded to us by the deceased. He was a single man of about 40 years of age, and was a native, we understand, of Fort William, in Scotland.—*It*.

[The subject of the above paragraph, taught school some years ago in this Town, and subsequently at Little Harbour, where we understand, he made an attempt at suicide, before his departure to P. E. Island. A Correspondent, in the Island, who was on the Coroner's Jury, has politely favored us with a copy of the writings referred to in the Gazette, which are as follows:]

In his pocket was found a paper, of which this is a copy—

"My conduct has lately been so bad, that I am ashamed to meet with mortal man; I have a Cousin on the Island, whom I wish to heir all that belongs to me; do not wrong him, he is a poor man. God have mercy on my soul."

On a slate in the school house, was found written as follows:

"I may be found down near by Halley's place, dead, as I hope to be. Farewell, Heaven bless you and pardon me. I have written a few lines in the dark; I wish well to all mankind, and I blame none so much as myself."

On the 11th ult. a Deputation from King's County, P. E. Island, waited on his Excellency Lt. Colonel Sir J. Harvey, and presented a Petition signed by 1,300 inhabitants, setting forth a variety of grievances, under which they have long laboured, and praying his Excellency to dissolve the present House of Assembly, to which his Excellency gave a very energetic but respectful answer, declining however to comply with the petitioners' request.

On the 17th, by command of his Excellency, the Secretary published in the Royal Gazette, a Despatch from Downing-Street, dated 10th August last, stating, that the address of the House of Assembly, praying that measures may be taken for revesting in the Crown such