

ETTES. 54.

the population—are materially enhanced. Much, we are aware, may be said of advantages accruing from a Legislative Union, which would go far to remove or compensate disadvantages resulting from the local circumstances above referred to. We shall, therefore, for this, as well as for other reasons, suspend our judgment until we have laid before us a more comprehensive scheme of the "just principles" upon which Mr. Johnson intends to base his Union. With respect to Mr. Howe's idea,—for that it is all that is entitled to be styled, at present,—of Colonial Representation in the Imperial Parliament, we can only say, that it has been mooted as far back as we can recollect; and that we never heard any one good sound argument being adduced in its favor. On what principle would the representation be fixed?—On population? How many members would Nova Scotia in that case return?—How many Canada?—New Brunswick?—Prince Edward Island? In order to their being fairly represented in the whole Parliament, will it not be requisite to create a proportionate number of American Peers? We can easily conceive that this project would enable a few leading men in the colonies to elevate themselves; but that it would raise the provinces, of which they were the representatives, very much doubt,—or, rather, we are inclined to believe that it would have a tendency the very reverse of that anticipated by the certainly talented and clever proposer,—of whose judgment, however, we do not entertain very exalted ideas. But what shall we say of our friend Martin J. Williams's motion, of a Veterinary and a Colonial Hospital? Baron Fictor or Earl Mincopish would seem mighty grand in the ante-room of the Vice Regal Court; but we are rather sceptical as to its answering in countries that have abolished hereditary rights to real estates, and have made bearing an estate almost as easy as carrying a door,—though the latter operation is for the purpose of keeping intruders out, while the former is for that of letting them in. We shall resume the subject at an early day.

In giving insertion to the affidavits furnished by our friend William B. Dawson, we are actuated more from the desire of affording him the satisfaction of publicly refuting the scandalous charge made at the hearings, than from any previous belief in what might be asserted by a worthless drunken rascal. Dawson's simple denial was quite enough for us; but perhaps the charge may reach to places where Mr. Dawson's integrity and veracity are not so well known as they are in Charlottetown; and it is, therefore, but just, that where the poison has been disseminated, the antidote should follow.

TO THE EDITOR OF HASZARD'S GAZETTE. Sir,—Permit me, by means of your widely-circulating Journal, to call the attention of our Legislators to the necessity of making such additions to our Election Law, as will ensure the freedom of Election more effectually than it exists at present.

Some few years ago, it was supposed, that in Charlottetown at least, violence and intimidation could always be prevented so far as to enable voters and candidates to proceed to and return from the hearings without hesitation. Is this the case now? Let those who have calmly witnessed the last two Elections in Charlottetown answer.

At an Election in a Country District, should a half a dozen Charlottetown people show themselves, even to exercise their franchise, they were threatened immediately with violence; often have they in such cases felt their lives in danger, and the reason, as they have invariably been told by scores of persons, is, because they are Charlottetown people, and have no right to interfere with a country election. At Charlottetown, however, we now—day after day—find hundreds of country people, coming to the hearings, taking their stand there, and acting a violent part from beginning to end of the election. On Wednesday last, there were full two hundred, from various parts of the country, assembled by special request there is no doubt; and, as choice a set of ruffians as could be selected within the precincts of Botany Bay, not one of whom had the slightest pretence of right to a vote for the town. Monopolizing to themselves, the whole foreground of the hearings at the Old Court House, their occupation was to harass, whenever either Mr. Coles or Reddin opened their lips, however ridiculously either of those Candidates made themselves appear; and to howl in like manner, at whatever was said by Mr. Palmer or Mr. Longworth, however true or appropriate their observations. As the Election proceeded to its termination, the violent inclinations of these fellows could hardly be controlled; their countenances indicated more the passions of the savage than the reasoning faculties of civilized man; their large projecting mouths, low yellow teeth, low foreheads and connected eye brows, rendered them a more fitting comparison with wild beasts than human beings. Disappointed at the signal defeat of their brother "Liberals," and acting with the usual combined motion of the mob, they endeavoured to jostle down several respectable townsmen, who ventured to raise their voices against their conduct; and had those individuals fallen on the ground, they would, doubtless, have been murdered by miscreants, who were quite ready to jump upon their bodies when in such a defenceless situation. These occurrences, Sir, are becoming too frequent and too dangerous to be tolerated by a civilized community. It should be borne in mind, that if they are allowed to be practised any more with impunity, the evils attending them will speedily increase in a fearful ratio. I think, therefore, that the Legislature will early see the necessity of passing such enactments as will effectually prevent their recurrence.

I am, Sir, yours, &c., A TOWNSMAN.

March 10th.

THE BRIBERY CASE.

TO THE EDITOR OF HASZARD'S GAZETTE.

It will, doubtless, be recollecting by many of your readers, that the Honorable George Coles emphatically, and most distinctly asserted from the hearings on Wednesday last, that a Voter had just come up and sworn that he had bribed him to vote for Messrs. Palmer and Longworth. Mr. Coles was, no doubt, fully aware that the Election Law makes no provision for the administration of any such Oath—and that, consequently, the thing was not simply impracticable, but that the assertion made by him was also both false and malicious in point of fact, and one that might, possibly, have led to very serious consequences. Mr. Coles also knows that when I attempted to rebut his unfounded and wicked statement—which I did immediately on hearing it made—I was assailed by such a storm of yells and imprecations from his very enlightened and liberal supporters, that I could not, even for a moment, succeed in gaining a hearing. You will, therefore, Mr. Editor, please insert, in to-day's paper, the accompanying Affidavit, embodying, I believe, all the material facts of this extraordinary case, and thereby oblige, Your obedient servant, W. B. DAWSON.

Charlottetown, March 10, 1854.

Prince Edward Island, Queen's County.

Personally appeared before James Barrett Cooper and John Tremanan, Esquires, two of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County, William B. Dawson, of Charlottetown, in the said Island, Treasurer and Currier, who maketh Oath and saith: That John Cavanagh, of the said Town, Laborer, was in Dependent's employment since the month of December last—since which time they, the said John Cavanagh and this Dependent, have had no settlement of accounts. That on the morning of Monday last, the Sixth day of March instant, the said John Cavanagh came to this Dependent, in a state of intoxication, when Dependent asked him if he had made up his mind as to how he was going to go to breakfast. Cavanagh replied, that he had been offered money for his vote by the other party, and that as he was a poor man, whoever gave him the most for it would get it. Dependent said that the (Cavanagh) had come to the wrong shop to look for money for a vote—that he could get plenty of votes without paying for his vote, and that if he wanted money for his vote, he had better go to Mr. Coles, who had the most need of them. Dependent then left Cavanagh to go to breakfast. On returning to the Shop after breakfast, Dependent found Cavanagh there, and he immediately demanded money, which Dependent refused giving him on the ground of his being intoxicated. Cavanagh then stated that his wife had been confined the previous night, and that he wanted the money to procure necessaries. Dependent thereupon left the Shop, and told Mrs. Dawson to send Mrs. Cavanagh Ten Shillings, and to acquaint her that if she wanted anything else, to send for it, as Cavanagh, her husband, was drunk, and he (Dependent) would not give him money whilst in that state. The boy who carried the message shortly after returned from Cavanagh's, and stated that Mrs. Cavanagh was very thankful for the money sent her by this Dependent, and that she had said that her husband had been away all Sunday and Sunday night drunk, and not to give him money on any account. Dependent then returned to the Shop, and finding Cavanagh still there, informed him what had happened. Cavanagh thereupon commenced using violent language—demanding a settlement, and threatening to publish Dependent in the Newspapers; and finally Dependent gave Cavanagh one shilling and sent him to get rid of him. That the said John Cavanagh again called at Dependent's Shop on the morning of Wednesday last, when, after some solicitation, Dependent gave Cavanagh Eighteen pence, and told the Boy to give him Eighteen pence, and to charge the Boy to give him sixpence, at the same time, that he hoped the (Cavanagh) was not going to get drunk therewith. A short time afterwards, this Dependent, whilst in company with Mr. Robert Percival, of Charlottetown, Wheelwright, met the said John Cavanagh in Queen Street. Cavanagh asked Dependent if he (Cavanagh) had got a vote, to which Dependent replied that he had not, and strongly urged him not to attempt to vote on any account.

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Prince Edward Island, Queen's County.

Personally appeared before James Barrett Cooper and John Tremanan, Esquires, two of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the said County, Donald M'Kinnon, of Charlottetown, in the said Island, Currier, who maketh Oath and saith: That he is present in the employment of Mr. William B. Dawson, of the said Town, Treasurer and Currier, and was in the Shop of the said William B. Dawson on Monday last, when one John Cavanagh, a Laborer in the employment of the said William B. Dawson demanded, some money. Cavanagh said he would not give him the money, when Cavanagh became very noisy, and said that he would poll the ears out of his (Mr. Dawson's) head, and publish him in the papers. He also demanded a settlement, which Mr. Dawson said he would not give him until he was sober. Cavanagh then said, that his Mistress had been confined, and he would have to get it. Mr. Dawson then left the shop for a few minutes, and when he returned, said that he had sent Cavanagh's Wife some money, and that if she wanted any medicine, she could send the children to get it. Mr. Dawson subsequently gave Cavanagh Eighteen pence to get clear of him. That on Wednesday morning last the said John Cavanagh returned to the said Shop, and said he was going to vote for Mr. Palmer, when Mr. Dawson told him (Cavanagh) that he had no vote, and not to make a fool of himself. Cavanagh asked Mr. Dawson for a few shillings. Mr. Dawson asked him what he wanted these for. Cavanagh replied, "It is Election time." Mr. Dawson then gave Cavanagh Eighteen pence, and told the boy in the shop to give him sixpence more. Cavanagh then walked away. About an hour and a half after this occurred, and during the absence of Mr. Dawson, one of Cavanagh's children came to Mr. Dawson's shop, and took up Goods to the amount of Five Shillings and Fourpence, which were charged to Cavanagh by the boy who delivered them.

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