

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT.

From the Barbant Courier. Ma. Easton.—I have seen with much satisfaction a series of articles on Capital Punishment which appeared in the Courier...

There is a class of good-meaning men in the community, who would be decidedly in favour of the abolition of the death punishment...

Laws which are not right in the abstract may be enacted on the ground of expediency. I have already proven that the death punishment law is wrong...

The Levitical code of Laws, of which death punishment is but a part, must have been enacted either by exclusively to the Jews...

If the death punishment law were right according to the nature of things, (i. e. if it were a divine law possessing the same invariableness of action as the law of gravitation...

Whose sheddeth man's blood, by man shall his blood be shed." It is a command which existed prior to the institution of the Levitical code...

I have frequently heard objections made on Scriptural grounds, to the abolition of capital punishment: these objections led me to think on the subject...

Nice Economy.—These are temperance times we well know, but some people will drink notwithstanding. A street and a house in this city, drink the glass regularly...

We never know a scolding person that was able to govern a family. What makes people scold? Because they cannot govern themselves. How, then, can they govern others?

THOMAS STEEL, ESQ.

Poor Tom Steel! Well may be applied to him the words of Shakespeare's Mark Antony upon Brutus:— "This was the noblest Roman of them all; All the conspirators, save only he, Did that did in envy of great Caesar; He only, in a general thought, And common good to all, made one of them. His life was gentle, and the elements So mixed in him, that Nature might stand up And say to all the world! 'This was a man!'"

"Honest Tom Steel" was born at Derry, in the county of Londonderry, in 1788, and received his education at the university of Cambridge, which he obtained distinction for his scientific acquirements...

These are strange times! The Austrian Prince Metternich is now living at Brompton Park, which has been let to him by its owner, Lord Leicester. Within a stone's throw of this mansion, (by no means large), is the modest residence at present tenanted by M. Guizot...

CAUSE IN FRANCE.—It will be seen by the following extract that notwithstanding the revolution in France, the prospects are most favourable:— "THE HARVEST IN FRANCE.—At a time when France is convulsed by political struggles, and when her commerce is at such a low ebb, there is every prospect of a magnificent harvest...

THE DISCIPLINE OF JOURNALISM.—It is in the first germination of truth that civilization is born. It needs the genius of repetition to reproduce the first impression till it is indelible. Permanent impression is conviction. The journalist drills men into the consciousness of principle as the military officer drills men into the use of arms...

MR. SMITH O'BRIEN.—The history genealogical and otherwise, of this gentleman, cannot fail to be interesting to the public at this moment. He was born at Drogheda, County Clare, on the 17th of October, 1803, being the second son of Sir Edward O'Brien, fourth baronet (who died in 1837) by the daughter and co-heiress of William Smith, Esq., of Cahernoye, county of Limerick. The latter lady was a very rich heiress...

JOHN MITCHELL.—We learn from a correspondent that a person who was a steward over some public works in Bermuda, arrived in this city, on Tuesday. When he left Bermuda, about ten days since, Mitchell had a certain limit on which he could walk for the benefit of his health...

AMATEUR VERITABLES.—Perth, August 15, 1848. NICE ECONOMY.—These are temperance times we well know, but some people will drink notwithstanding. A street and a house in this city, drink the glass regularly...

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NAPOLEON'S PERSONAL APPEARANCE.

Napoleon was careless in his personal appearance. His waistcoat pockets were always full of snuff, and upon the white trousers he usually wore, he was in the habit of making memoranda with a pencil...

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A COURT SCENE.

There is a point beyond which human forbearance cannot go, and the most even of tempers will be completely exhausted at times. At the Assizes held during the past year at Lincoln in England, both Judge and counsel had much trouble to make the timid witness upon a trial speak sufficiently loud to be heard by the jury...

Now, sir, said the above named counsel, in a tone which at any other time would have been denounced as vulgarly loud, "I hope we shall have no difficulty in making you speak up."

"I hope, sir," was shouted or rather bellowed out by the witness, in tones which almost shook the building, and would have certainly alarmed any timid or nervous lady.

"How dare you speak in that way, sir?" said the counsel. "Please, sir, I can't speak no louder, sir," said the astonished witness, attempting to shout louder than before, evidently thinking the fault to be his speaking too low.

"Pray, have you been drinking this morning?"—shouted the counsel, who had now thoroughly lost the last remnant of his temper. "Yes, sir," was the reply. "How long have you been drinking?" "For ever, sir."

"And what did you have in your coffee, sir?" shouted the exasperated counsel. "A spoon, sir," was the answer, innocently spoken, and the roar of the whole Court except the English Bar. He shows the lawyers no mercy, and seems to think that in their professional career, they repeatedly commit acts which, under other circumstances, they would be ashamed to acknowledge.

LIGHTNING.—On Friday afternoon last we were startled by a report in the room occupied by the telegraph office. It was as loud as a rifle crack. The sky at the time was nearly clear, clouds indicating a violent storm being near. On examining the wire of the receiving magnet it was found melted.

These occurrences are so frequent, and in many cases so violent that great care ought to be exercised in all telegraphic arrangements. The present plan of passing the wires over the country on poles is, in the opinion of scientific men, very dangerous to the public. They are the constant conductors of electricity between the clouds and the earth, when the two points operating on each other are some miles distant. When overcharged, a flash will pass from the wire many feet, and take the first conductor it comes to and pass into the earth. It is common, fourth the telegraph wires, to see the poles shattered by discharges that have passed through them. Should a person be driving along under the wires at such a time, he would run great risk of being struck, particularly if it were raining, and his clothes were wet. In each office there is a ground wire, which the operator attaches when a storm approaches, and that conveys the charge into the ground, and it does no harm. On the above occasion, however, no appearance of a storm, was not attached, hence the spark.—Trenton Gazette.

FIRE BY LIGHTNING.—Yesterday about 1 o'clock a thunder storm passed over this neighbourhood, and we very much regret to have to record that the Barn of Mr. David Thompson, in East Zorra, 3 miles north of Woodstock, was set on fire by the lightning. Mr. T. and his sons had just harvested and housed a very heavy crop of fall wheat and other grain, which and the barn and other outhouses, were totally consumed.

WAR AGAINST THE GOOD SHOP.—A woman, in Cincinnati, whose husband was in the habit of drinking at a neighbouring tavern and then coming home and abusing her, requested the landlord to give her husband no more drink. The landlord refused the woman's request; she followed her husband, and when he was in the act of drinking, made an assault upon the glasses, decanters, and other rum conveying devices. The landlord flew to the protection of his property; a crowd gathered around, sympathizing with the woman, assisted her, and gutted it completely, and then proceeded round to the destruction of other coffee houses in the city. By this time the police arrived and stopped the progress of temperance reform in Cincinnati, where in a legal way, it seems to be most particularly needed.

A writer in the London Times states that the master of one of the London Workhouses told him that at least five out of every six of the girls educated in those institutions become prostitutes.

HON. MR. SULLIVAN.

The New York Herald passes the following encomium upon the above named gentleman, which will doubtless be some what flattering to the Canadians generally:— "We observed in the Senate Chambers this morning, the Hon. Mr. Sullivan of the Canadian Corps. He appeared to view the proceedings with interest, and we have no doubt with satisfaction. Mr. Sullivan is one of the most brilliant orators we ever listened to containing the eloquence of a Corwin, with the profundity of a Webster."

THE PROVINCIAL AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION.—We understand that the Agricultural Society of this District have only subscribed £25 in aid of the funds of the "Provincial Agricultural Show," to be held on the 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th of October, in the town of Colborne. Now if the Midland District Agricultural Society ever intended to have the exhibition held in Kingston, it strikes us that they would do well to add £25 to the sum already subscribed, and thereby set an example to other Districts to give liberally. We see by the Star that the small Districts of Huron, Talbot and Simcoe have given £30 each; now if these can give so much, surely this District, second in wealth and importance in Canada West, can at least give £50.

The Newcastle District has, we are told, always subscribed £75 per annum to the Provincial exhibition, and will probably continue to do so unless discouraged by the paltry sums proposed to be given by this and other Districts, upon the present occasion.—Argus.

ESCAPE FROM BONNOR.—While the sympathizers in the United States are sending to the world the most false stories in regard to Irish oppression and misery, and the most ridiculous fabrications about great victories over the British forces, it is gratifying to report that from forty to fifty slaves have lately gone in a body from Kentucky; they not being satisfied that they were living in a land of liberty; a most unwarrantable thing, when the world is so often told that all liberty is in the United States. But these wicked sceptics won't believe it. The poor fellows were pursued and fired on, and several of them killed. A considerable number, we believe, have got safe into Ohio, where they have friends, and when once they get into what should be called the "People's Line," they are safe from pursuit. It is a strange thing for property to run off on its own legs.—Globe.

DIFFERENTIAL DUTY.—We are gratified in being able to state that the heavy differential duty lately exacted at Chicago on certain goods, the property of us citizens of this city, was not authorized by the laws of the United States, and that it will be refunded. The actual differential duty authorized is 10 per cent. on the duty and not on the invoice, as was erroneously exacted. Strong representations have been made to the American Government on the subject of these duties, by the Hon. Messrs. Lafontaine and Sullivan, and we are gratified in being able to state that instructions have been given to the Collectors of Customs not to exact discriminating duties on goods imported from Canada where similar duties are not charged in Canada. This is a most satisfactory settlement of the question.—Pilot.

WARRIORS LADIES.—One day last week a hungry hawk seized a hen at the door of Mr. Dundas McDonald of Colborne, and finding his inability to bear away his prize sunk his talons deep into the body of his victim, but it was still unable to lift her. He soon discovered, however, that like the Irishman, he had caught a Tartar, for before he could relax his grasp, the hen flew into the kitchen bearing the afflicted prize-bird with her; he soon got off and perched upon the garden fence. Mrs. McDonald and her servant maid regretted that there was no man near, to shoot the impudent creature, but in desperation the animal, called up his heroism in the shooting point, and determined to make war on the fowl. They were but little skilled in the art of gunnery, but they succeeded admirably.—Mrs. McDonald levelled the piece and her maid after several unsuccessful attempts, at length succeeded in drawing the trigger. The shot went off and the fowl followed it, and when Mr. McDonald came up the two ladies had fallen either through fear or joy. The gun was lying on one side of the fence and the dead hawk on the other. So much for female sportsmen.

CANADA AND HER GOVERNORS.—After having exhausted their ingenuity and wearied out their powers of invention in the wilderness of romance, in order to devise or discover some means of calumniating the Governor General and the present Ministry, and of shadowing forth a faint gleam of hope to the mourners for the flesh pots, and garlic and onions, the Tory press at length discovered that virtue is invulnerable to the shaft of calumny, and they are now endeavouring to soothe the disappointed expectations of their credulous dupes, by persuading them that Lord Elgin is about to resign his Governorship and return to England. This may be regarded as the *ultima hope* of Canadian Toryism. The rumour may or may not be true; and whether true or false it still but a fiction hope. Every good man in Canada would certainly be sorry to hear of Lord Elgin's resignation. He has, during the short period of his Government, shown himself in the character of a wise and good Governor, equally solicitous for the honour of the British Crown, and for the rights and interests of the subject; therefore, we say his removal from the Province would be regretted by all good men. At the same time, we are unable to perceive any permanent advantage that such an event could confer on the Tories. It is probable that the political sentiments of our particular Governors may, in times past, have influenced the property of the Colony; but such an influence can only be exerted in an indirect manner; wherever a representative form of Government exists. The Government of the Family Compact did not result from the peculiar political creed of any Governor. It was the offspring of a narrow selfishness, acting reciprocally between a petty oligarchy, and an unprincipled, secular priesthood, whose duplicity and misrepresentation were just as purchasable commodities as white pine.

The Compact was a Joint Stock Company of ambition, avarice, sectarianism, cant, simony, and bare-faced villainy. The oligarchy promised large revenues and gave large reticeries; and the priesthood duped, and gulled, and prayed, and sold false sales, and drew up false statutes; and as they polluted the soul of the respective Governors received their information. Many of the people believed, and many did not believe, but they had no means of making themselves heard. The property qualifications confined the legislation to the members of the little oligarchy; the press and nearly all the pulp were on the side, and in the pay of the Compact, and the Governors were obliged to receive the legislation as the expressed opinion of the people, while in reality they were just about as little related to each other as they were to the man in the Moon. This is one great anomaly in the representative system; and it is almost overlooked by those who speak and write on electoral rights;

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every village, and read in every newspaper, are just so many loud calls for the general adoption of this principle. It ought ever to be remembered that the advocates of Total Abstinence are not actuated by selfish motives—that their views are not increased by the increase of their converts—that they receive no immediate pecuniary reward for their labours, that in the present condition of society they cannot hope even for popularity, and that however much they are gratified in making men sober and rational, the gratification and advantages must be much greater to those who are persuaded by their arguments. The man who becomes sober—who liberates himself from the thraldom of his own vitiated appetites—who braves through the absurd and debasing usages of society—who feels himself free from the delusions and dangers of intemperance, is the principal gain in the moral reformation of society. Think on the millions who have been ruined; look on the multitudes who are now posing on to ruin—think on the despised, injured, trampled, heart-broken thousands of fond, confiding, innocent, virtuous women—on the mass of ragged, wretched, famished, uneducated children, and on the dark catalogue of crime and degradation which have resulted from drunkenness; and ask yourselves seriously what security you have that yours may not be a similar destiny. Talk not of your extreme caution; nor of your great firmness; thousands have possessed these qualities equally abundant with yourselves, and yet have gradually sunk down into confirmed drunkenness and its consequent ruin. Rest assured that however talented, intelligent or wealthy you may be, the sulphure of ruined drunkards can boast of brighter, wiser, richer men than you. They cherished the same hopes, felt the same assurance and used the same cautious moderation as you do now, and if you continue in your path and pursue their indulgence maybe you may escape, but there are fifty millions that you will meet the same doom.

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WARRIORS LADIES.—One day last week a hungry hawk seized a hen at the door of Mr. Dundas McDonald of Colborne, and finding his inability to bear away his prize sunk his talons deep into the body of his victim, but it was still unable to lift her. He soon discovered, however, that like the Irishman, he had caught a Tartar, for before he could relax his grasp, the hen flew into the kitchen bearing the afflicted prize-bird with her; he soon got off and perched upon the garden fence. Mrs. McDonald and her servant maid regretted that there was no man near, to shoot the impudent creature, but in desperation the animal, called up his heroism in the shooting point, and determined to make war on the fowl. They were but little skilled in the art of gunnery, but they succeeded admirably.—Mrs. McDonald levelled the piece and her maid after several unsuccessful attempts, at length succeeded in drawing the trigger. The shot went off and the fowl followed it, and when Mr. McDonald came up the two ladies had fallen either through fear or joy. The gun was lying on one side of the fence and the dead hawk on the other. So much for female sportsmen.

CANADA AND HER GOVERNORS.—After having exhausted their ingenuity and wearied out their powers of invention in the wilderness of romance, in order to devise or discover some means of calumniating the Governor General and the present Ministry, and of shadowing forth a faint gleam of hope to the mourners for the flesh pots, and garlic and onions, the Tory press at length discovered that virtue is invulnerable to the shaft of calumny, and they are now endeavouring to soothe the disappointed expectations of their credulous dupes, by persuading them that Lord Elgin is about to resign his Governorship and return to England. This may be regarded as the *ultima hope* of Canadian Toryism. The rumour may or may not be true; and whether true or false it still but a fiction hope. Every good man in Canada would certainly be sorry to hear of Lord Elgin's resignation. He has, during the short period of his Government, shown himself in the character of a wise and good Governor, equally solicitous for the honour of the British Crown, and for the rights and interests of the subject; therefore, we say his removal from the Province would be regretted by all good men. At the same time, we are unable to perceive any permanent advantage that such an event could confer on the Tories. It is probable that the political sentiments of our particular Governors may, in times past, have influenced the property of the Colony; but such an influence can only be exerted in an indirect manner; wherever a representative form of Government exists. The Government of the Family Compact did not result from the peculiar political creed of any Governor. It was the offspring of a narrow selfishness, acting reciprocally between a petty oligarchy, and an unprincipled, secular priesthood, whose duplicity and misrepresentation were just as purchasable commodities as white pine.

The Compact was a Joint Stock Company of ambition, avarice, sectarianism, cant, simony, and bare-faced villainy. The oligarchy promised large revenues and gave large reticeries; and the priesthood duped, and gulled, and prayed, and sold false sales, and drew up false statutes; and as they polluted the soul of the respective Governors received their information. Many of the people believed, and many did not believe, but they had no means of making themselves heard. The property qualifications confined the legislation to the members of the little oligarchy; the press and nearly all the pulp were on the side, and in the pay of the Compact, and the Governors were obliged to receive the legislation as the expressed opinion of the people, while in reality they were just about as little related to each other as they were to the man in the Moon. This is one great anomaly in the representative system; and it is almost overlooked by those who speak and write on electoral rights;

LECTURE ON TEMPERANCE.—As formerly announced, Mr. Macqueen will Lecture in the United Presbyterian Church, Goderich, on the subject of Abstinence, on Monday evening the 4th instant, at 7 o'clock, when an opportunity will be given to any person who may be disposed to discuss the question. And as the subject is one of deep interest it is hoped that many will be willing to listen with candour, and to consider with unprejudiced deliberation, the necessity of adopting some means of checking the withering and demoralising influence of intemperance. And though the subject has been long before the public, and though everything has already been said that can be said in vindication of the Total Abstinence Society, every man must be satisfied that the principle proposed by these Societies is all-efficient for the accomplishment of the purpose. And the incalculable ravages of drunkenness which are to be seen in

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