

ter, from Detroit to Quebec. As long ago as the late war, he robbed the British Mail near Kingston, and a reward was offered for him, by the Canadian Government. He has been the terror of the Canadians, and the object of admiration to the people in the neighbourhood of his residence, at French Creek, in the State of New York, in exact proportion to their sympathies in favour of the Canadian insurrection. He made no secret of having been the leader of the band of pirates, who captured and burnt the British steamer Sir Robert Peel, when she touched at French Creek to take in some wood, for her voyage down the river. From that time, he has been the object of pursuit by both Governments.

Bill is about 60 years of age, apparently of mild disposition, and generally of unobtrusive manners, but under such exterior, he is undoubtedly possessed of the most resolute daring, and is capable of any act of atrocity. Long ago, he swore eternal hatred to the British Government, and to such of the Canadians as take sides with that Government. On the other hand, he professes to be friendly to the Americans, and to respect the property of our citizens. Thoroughly acquainted with the channels and small inlets among the Thousand Islands, as the leader of a band of armed desperadoes similar to himself, and possessed of swift barges, he has exercised a sort of sovereignty away among those recesses. Sometimes he would show himself to the large steamers of the River, knowing that they could not follow him through the intricacies of the navigation of the River, and when pursued by barges, he would either boldly keep them at bay, or escape to some of the Islands. He has thus been able to baffle all attempts at pursuit, until recently, having been surprised by some of our officers waiting in ambush for him, he was taken prisoner. After so much trouble in his capture, one would have supposed that the officers of justice would have been the more cautious in holding fast to their prisoner. But he has set them at defiance and is at large again.

It is extremely unfortunate, that he has escaped, as the Canadians and their Government will be apt to suspect, that he escaped through the collusion of our public officers. Those who had charge of him ought to be held to a rigid responsibility for their conduct. But after all, the Canadian Government ought not to think it wonderful, that the prisoners should escape, after the unceremonious leave of the citadel of Quebec, taken by Dodge, Thelliers and their associates, under sentence of Death in that city. Our Government should spare no pains in the recapture of Bill Johnson, and if taken, it should lose no time in executing the utmost penalty of the law.

THE STAR

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 2, 1839.

An account having appeared in the "Mercury" of the 20th ult. of a Meeting in the Long Room of the St. Patrick's Free School, said to be "a numerous and highly respectable meeting of the Inhabitants of the Towns of Harbor Grace and Carbonear." and not having even heard that such a Meeting was in contemplation, we were induced to look over the two preceding numbers of that Paper to see if any notice had been previously given, and to enquire if any Bills had been posted in the Town to notify to the Inhabitants that such a thing was to take place, but we found the first intimation two-thirds of the People had of it, was the published account already referred to. Now, finding that the Meeting was held in a Room adjoining the Catholic Chapel—that the proposers and seconders were all Roman Catholics—that not a single Protestant name appears in the whole proceeding—it is easy to ascertain where the notice was given, and for whom it was intended. One half of the population or perhaps more, of the Towns of Carbonear and Harbor Grace are Protestants, it is therefore too absurd to blazon it forth as a Meeting of the Inhabitants of the two Towns, when no Public Notice was given of it, and a majority of the Inhabitants including many of the respectable Roman Catholics, are opposed to the sentiments of the Resolutions, and to many of the statements in the Petition founded on them. It was in fact a Meeting in a Catholic Building, of a few Catholics. Had they so stated it, instead of publishing it as a "Meeting of the Inhabitants of Harbor Grace and Carbonear," their silly resolutions and more silly Petition would not have been noticed; but when the few who met there, arrogate to themselves—that they are the Inhabitants of Harbor Grace and Carbonear, and that they represent the ENTIRE Inhabitants of this Bay—so elegantly expressed in their 3rd Resolution. (What do they call the majority who differ from them?) it is necessary their statements should be contradicted, not, but such meetings are well understood in this country, although on the other side of the water, where they are intended to have effect, people may be deceived by such flaming accounts.

Let us then see who are the proposers and seconders of the eight Resolutions at this famous Meeting, who are so anxious for a Commission of Enquiry into the state of this Colony—and to uphold the Supremacy of the Laws.—Amongst the number are some half-dozen Publicans, against some of whom with many others of the same class. Her Majesty's Solicitor General has lately filed informations—For what? For obeying the Laws? Oh no, but for disobeying them—for selling spirituous liquors without License a pretty way of upholding the

supremacy of the Laws. One of the seconders has been already tried and convicted of Riot at the Elections of 1836.—Two others are Doctors, one a Schoolmaster, another Clerk of the Catholic Chapel and Master of the St. Patrick's Free School, one solitary Merchant, one Shopkeeper, one Catholic Clergyman and two Members of the House of Assembly, who no doubt are very anxious to have resolutions passed in their favor, to obtain some sort of character, seeing the Members of the present House of Assembly stand so very low in the estimation of all, who have either witnessed, or heard of their extraordinary proceedings during their career as Legislators!! but it would have been more modest if J. MCCARTHY, Esq., M. C. P. had allowed some other person to have proposed the 4th resolution—they were however hard put to for persons to propose or second even eight resolutions, as poor Dixon had to father no less than three. Their Chairman it appears, was the newly appointed Stipendiary Police Magistrate of Carbonear, one to whom Protestants and Catholics have to look for equal justice, but of course Mr. Power is no partisan Magistrate, though he presides at a Political Meeting, in which a number of respectable Protestants are denominated a "Tory clique," because they happen to differ from that party in politics,—are accused of concocting "a tissue of fabrications and calumnies" to prop up the character of the late Chief Justice—because they happen to have stated a few facts, unpalatable no doubt to the St. Patrick's Free School Meeting, but facts which they cannot disprove although they have been publicly challenged to do so by a writer in the "PUBLIC LEDGER" in the early part of the past summer. Their attack on the late Chief Justice BOUTON is unmanly and disgraceful had he presided at a political meeting, he might have deserved their censure.—He did not require fabrications to prop up his character. It stands as far above that of his calumniators, as the brightness of the mid-day sun surpasses the faint glimmerings of an evening star.—The "Tory Cliques" party require no fabrications to support their cause it is based on truth and equal justice they leave fabrications to those who can fabricate large and respectable meetings out of a few individuals, and calumnies to such as can pass resolutions similar to this Meetings 5th. Can the St. Patrick's Free School Meeting answer to the Public, for obtaining signatures on sheets of paper in different parts of the Bay,—(to be attached to a Petition already passed and agreed to at a Public Meeting?) No, no, but before even the day the mock Meeting takes place—to be attached to a Petition of which those who write down their names or their marks, know as little as if they were in Dublin—only they are bidden to do it. Let, then a Commission of Enquiry come, and they will find, unfortunately find, too many proofs in the history of the last six or seven years, that we have not been without riots and opposition to the Laws, which has brought a stain on our population that will take years of good conduct to obliterate, they cannot be unknown to the Framers of the St. Patrick's Free School Petition, and unluckily for the fate of the Petition itself—Proofs of these things are no doubt within the reach of Her Majesty's Ministers at home.

The Meeting's censure of the British Press is truly ridiculous, but neither the independent press of Britain or Newfoundland, will for fear of their censure, cease to expose the wretched Political condition of this country, to point out a remedy for our evils—or to endeavour to open the eyes of a people who have been too long kept by them in political slavery, and duped by a few demagogues for their personal aggrandisement.

How grateful must our Most Gracious Queen feel towards the Long Room Petitioners, when she learns their condescension in offering to Her Majesty their pledge to petition their Representatives to defray the expense of Her Majesty's Commissioners if she listens to their prayer and appoints them. Surely after such a pledge and from such a Meeting, Her Most Gracious Majesty cannot refuse, and we may perhaps have by the Great Western the ensuing spring, a Great Commission perhaps the Great O'Connell himself, to enquire into all their Great Grievances, and to banish all Tories and Tory Cliques out of the Country, OR IT MAY BE to find that what they denominate the Tory Clique of Harbor Grace are not concoctors of fabrications or calumnies to support the declining interests of a party, or to blast the high character of the people of Newfoundland. We as public Journalists, shall closely watch such proceedings as the above, and expose them as they deserve to be.

The case of ELEKOR HAYES, on a charge of arson, in attempting to get fire

to the house occupied by her in Water-Street, in August last, and against whom a bill had been found by the Grand Jury in the present term, came on on Tuesday. The Attorney-General, on the Crown side opened the case, and brought forward a number of witnesses, whose testimony went to shew that the fire discovered in the building must have been the result of design, and that a felonious attempt on the part of some one had been made; but the evidence was quite insufficient to prove that the prisoner at the Bar was the guilty one; Dr. S. CARSON, her medical attendant, who was called by Mr. ROBINSON on the defendant, stated that the prisoners had bodily health at the time was such as to render it impossible that she could have obtained it that part of the house in which the fire was discovered.

The Chief Justice charged the Jury, called their attention to the absence of any evidence on which the prisoner could be convicted; and having retired; the Jury shortly returned a verdict of "Not Guilty."—Newfoundlander.

In the case of Nugent vs. McCoubrey, for libel published in some numbers of the Times in December last, proceedings were had in the Supreme Court on Saturday. Mr. Nugent conducted this as he did also the former case, both of which were defended by Mr. Robinson. The Council for the defendant had only closed the address at 11 p. m., when upon a suggestion from one of the jury, the Court was adjourned to Monday, in order that sufficient time should be afforded to analyze the case without precipitation. The Chief Justice, before adjourning the Court, called the attention of the Jury to the necessity of avoiding any outdoor discussion of the subject matter before them, that they might again come to its consideration uninfluenced by the opinion which such discussion would necessarily call forth.

The matter was renewed on Monday.—The Chief Justice charged the Jury in that gentlemanly, straightforward and impartial manner which has characterized his department since his assumption of the judicial functions in this country,—the jury retired, and returned a verdict for the plaintiff, Forty Shillings Damages.—Ibid.

The decision on the argument in the case of Edward Kieley against the Speaker and other members of the Assembly, now before the public is still suspended. It was expected to have been delivered yesterday, but one of the Assistant Judges, it appears, is still desirous for additional time, in order to be enabled to be more fully perfect in his opinion in this important case.—Ibid.

"MONSTROUS!—The Special Jury on last night, in the case of J. V. NUGENT, Esq. vs. HENRY WINTON of the Ledger, for a gross, malicious and defamatory Libel—brought in a verdict for the defendant!!! A few short weeks ago, the Special Jury, for an alleged libel not one twentieth part so injurious or malignant—mult US of the Patriot in £150 sterling!!! and for publishing a Report of the House of Assembly, without a single line of comment, the same Special Jury punished US by a verdict of £80 sterling!!!—This is IMPARTIAL JUSTICE with a vengeance! But it is part of a system, and the best commentary upon that system will be to give the Petition of the Special Jurors lately got up secretly at the Commercial Room, and transmitted to the Home Government. It is a rare document, and we shall bestow that attention upon it, (as well as upon other subjects) in our next, which our limits to day will not allow.—We are not at all astonished at the result of the trial, but we could scarcely have anticipated it even from our own knowledge of the nature of the Special Jury system. The inconsistency and gross partiality which in our opinion these recent cases exhibit, are enough in our estimation, to bring the very name of Justice into contempt."

We copy the foregoing from the Newfoundland Patriot of Saturday last; and we take occasion to observe that this is not the first, nor even, we believe, the tenth time that the Patriot, (the press and types employed in the printing of which the Mr. JOHN V. NUGENT alluded to above has been proved to be the Proprietor) has dared to libel the Grand and Special Jurors for the due and impartial execution of the important duties which devolve upon them.—It is true, but it is not "monstrous" that on Friday night last, after a trial which had occupied the whole of the day, a special jury did, in an action for libel instituted by the above-named plaintiff against the editor of this Paper, in which the damages were laid at £1000, return a verdict for the defendant; and we can have no doubt that the jury, who were well qualified to return a just and an impartial verdict, did that which in their consciences, and under the solemn obligation of their oaths they believed to be correct; although Mr. NUGENT moved yesterday for a rule nisi to shew cause why the verdict should not be set aside, for that it was contrary to evidence, and that the plaintiff had not the right of reply according to the ordinary practice of the Courts. The proceedings, we should remark, were opened, as is usual upon such occasions, by the learned counsel for the defence. The rule was granted and the arguments upon it, we presume, will be heard to-morrow.—We should not have alluded to this matter, *pendente lite*, if the Patriot had not; and we only do so now for the purpose of saying that it is high time these reiterated attacks upon the Grand and Special Jurors should in some way or other be put an end, to for they are calculated to implant distrust in the minds of a certain portion of the community respecting the verdicts of that class of Jurors a distrust which we are perfectly satisfied is altogether unfounded.

This is the first occasion upon which an action

for libel has been prosecuted against us since the establishment of this Journal eighteen years ago; and if the Patriot has been so often amerced in damages as it really has, to these two circumstances afford sufficient evidence upon which to found so calumnious a charge upon the whole body of Grand and Special Jurors! It is the bounden duty of the Juror to vindicate themselves either by an appeal to the Supreme Court before the end of the present Session, or else to put their case into the hands of the Attorney-General. If this were an isolated charge against them, or even if it had been made but once or twice before, the matter might perhaps be overlooked—but the objects contemplated by the parties to these oft-repeated and unfounded accusations are too palpable to be mistaken; they are objects so deeply injurious in their tendency to the whole fabric of society, as to call for the immediate and effectual interposition of the Court.

The action for libel instituted by Mr. JOHN V. NUGENT against the Editor of the Times was heard in the Supreme Court on Saturday last, and excited much interest—the damages laid at £1000. Verdict of the jury, forty shillings.—Ledger

We copy the following from the Liverpool STANDARD of the 16th October, for the edification of a Gentleman, who was lately called upon to explain the terms Whig and Tory—

"WHIG AND TORY.—A whig is a croucher to the crown, and a sycophant to the sovereign; a tory is the supporter of the throne, and an advocate of the monarch's rights. A whig in opposition can shed the royal blood—in power, can lick the royal shoe; a tory, even when he politically disapproves personally reveres. A whig aspires to official power from love to himself; it is wielded by the tory for the good and glory of his country. A whig is in theory an economist, in practice a spendthrift—a democrat in his public creed, and a tyrant in the domestic circle; a tory justifies the liberality of his expenditure by the beneficence of his purpose, and the feelings nurtured in private appear in the fruit of extended philanthropy. A whig promises much but gives little: from a tory we obtain more than he led us to expect. A whig is fair in profession: tory honest indeed. A whig in power, like a beggar on horseback, does not know how far he may be driven. A tory takes his stand on the rock of the constitution, says to the waves of agitation raging around, "thus far shalt thou come, and no farther."

PROCLAMATION.

IN obedience to a Precept of the Worshipful the MAGISTRATES, bearing date the 26th instant, and to me directed,

I hereby Give Public Notice That a GENERAL QUARTER SESSIONS OF the PEACE, will be holden at the COURT-HOUSE, in HARBOUR GRACE, on THURSDAY the 10th day of JANUARY next, at the hour of Eleven o'Clock in the forenoon, of the same day; and the Keeper of Her Majesty's Gaol, the High Constable, and all other Constables and Bailiff's within this District, are commanded that they be then there to do and fulfil those things that by reason of their Offices shall be to be done.

Given under my Hand, at Harbor Grace, in the Northern District of Newfoundland, this 29th day of December, in the Year of Our Lord 1838.

B. G. GARRETT, High-Sheriff.

TWENTY GUINEAS REWARD!

Cow Stolen.

WHEREAS some evil disposed Person or persons did on the night of the 12th instant, or early on the morning of the 13th instant, break open the door of the STABLE on the Premises of SLADE, BIDDLE & Co. and STOLE therefrom a

MILCH COW,

Any Person giving information of the offender or offenders, so that he or they may be brought to Justice, shall receive the above Reward

There is also a further Reward of

10 Guineas

offered to any person who will give information of the Persons by whom the Meadow and other FENCES belonging to said Estate, have been destroyed

JOHN W. MARTIN, Agent

Carbonear, December 19, 1838.

ALL Persons having Claim on the Estate of the Late WILLIAM HOWELL, of Carbonear, Merchant, are requested to present the same; and all Persons indebted to said Estate, do make immediate payment to

her MARY + HOWELL, mark JANE GOULD, Administratrixes

Carbonear, December 5, 1838.

In the Honourable Court for the County of Grace, October 21st, 1838.

In the matter of *sear.* Mark Major, and late of Carbonear, Copartners

WHEREAS

senr., Major, and Robert Thirtieth day of form of Law, dec said Court of Queen. And w THY, of Carbo LIAM RENDEL chant, and JAM Merchant, Credit vents, have by the Creditors of been in due form Trustees of the vents. Notice is said JOHN MCC DEL, and JAMA tes, are duly orders as the Court shall from per to make them and realize the of the said Insol indebted to the ing in their po Effects belonging them, are hereby deliver the said Trustees.

Court House, Harbor Grace, 9th Nov., 1838

WE, the undersigned, the Insolvency of BIDDLE & Co. Island of New have appointed, appoint Mr. J. of Carbonear, AGENT, to trans matters connect the said Insolve

As witness of Noem

(Signed)

JOHN WIL JAS

MRS. B. RESPECTE the Gent that in compli several of her SCHOOL for a LADIES.

The Branches are

Reading, W Grammar Fancy Need Preliminary Forte And Draw

Hours of Saturdays except

Terms can be Mrs. S's. reside MOORE'S Harbor Grace Nov. 14, 1838.

No

Capt. WILLS

400 Bags Fi

BR

50 Firkins

B

By the

RIDLEY

Harbor Grace, November 21