

THE CONCEPTION-BAY MAN.

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HARBOR GRACE, WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 30, 1857.

Two important questions have lately floated upon the political circles; one arising from a serious charge openly made by a member of the Assembly with regard to the injurious character of certain land appropriations, made by our ministry in favour of the Telegraph Company. The other involving a charge of reckless indifference to our commercial interests on the part of the Premier, as inferred from his arrangements for direct Steam Communication from a port in England with which our importers have nothing to do.

With regard to the first question we have already remarked upon the manifest injustice to the inhabitants, of appropriating a large sum of money to be paid annually to the Telegraph Company; even acknowledged advantages may be too dearly purchased, and £7500 for the first year was, we thought "paying to dear for our whistle," it was certainly more than the colony could afford, and must be paid at the sacrifice of many pressing domestic requirements, such as the humbler classes would participate in to a much greater extent. We never objected to the natural advantages yielded to the Company, including the first fifty miles of land appropriation; because we believed that the said land would be connected with, and adjoining the Telegraph line, for the purpose of rendering it more complete, valuable, and efficient; but it appears from the statement of Mr. Ellis, that the Company have the privilege of selecting here and there, throughout the Island, those spots which may be rendered most valuable upon other grounds than Telegraph Speculations: Mines and mineral deposits appear to be the chief object of the Company's agents in Newfoundland, and the inhabitants are left to deplore, either the incompetence or the indifference of a government, which suffered themselves not only to be humbugged out of a large annual tribute in hard cash, but also of some most valuable portions of Land, which under the direction of a wise and prudent Government would soon become a source of wealth to the colony, and a means of profitable employment to a large portion of the people.

The admirable address to His Excellency, by Mr. Ellis, is a stinging commentary upon this act of our rulers,—demonstrating as it does, that they were either grossly ignorant of, or shamefully indifferent as to the requirements of the population, when they yielded to aliens Land the best wooded, or the most valuable in a mineral point of view, for advantages which must be filtered through many hands before either the Fisherman, the Agriculturist or the tradesman can receive his insignificant quota.

The question which we have next to consider, refers to the present very questionable position of our worthy Premier, both in a political and delegatory point of view; with regard to his despotic arrogances, in the assumption of the latter character, there can be little doubt; and his conduct in the management of his self-imposed delegation fully bears out our preconceived opinion of him, as a political Horse-Jockey,—personal aggrandisement is his object, and this must be attained even at the sacrifice of all those advantages which a more patient and patriotic course of action is alone calculated to produce, the single handed attainment of extraordinary objects is with him the *asme* of Patriotism, and acts of a questionable tendency, if imposing, must serve the country as a panacea for all evils.

We have it from the best authority that the resolution upon "Direct Steam Communication" was *coaxed thro'* the assembly and it is reasonable to conclude that the Premier was the author and finisher of that piece of legislation upon which he is now playing such pranks.—No delegation was appointed by the assembly for any such purpose, it is true that it was recommended to the Delegates upon the "Fishery Convention," to avail themselves of any opportunity which might occur, for forwarding "Direct Steam Communication," but the function of that delegation ceased upon the receipt of Mr. Labouchere's despatch.—Then upon what authority did Mr. Little act in this matter? availing himself of said Despatch to shake off his co-delegates, he starts off on a tour to France and England and figures and fritters away the summer, at we suppose a double expense to the colony—delegation money for himself, and additional pay for his tools and substitutes; and as an equivalent "on the heel of the hunt" secures "Direct Steam Communication" by a route the least servicable to the mercantile community, and at the insignificant amount of £10,000 *stg.* per annum.

Verily we believe, that on no previous occasion has such a necessity arisen for indulgent consideration on the part of his purchased majority.—The Serfs of the assembly; upon whose very creditable position and tendency, we, twelve months since, presumed to make the following observations:—

HARBOR GRACE, SEPT. 10 1856.

FOR the fair and proper estimate of the character of a Government, no better test can be applied than the consideration whether or not the

greatest possible good has been effected at the least possible expense; and, for the purpose of uniting these qualities of efficiency and economy, no better system could be introduced than that of Responsible Government, which fairly and properly carried out, is the most suitable to a British Colony—the most simple, serviceable, and self-correcting.

The people have a right to complain that for a considerable time they were deceived and taught to consider certain adroit manoeuvres and wily practices to be part and parcel of the machinery essential to the proper working of such a system; but after deliberate examination we find that those attributes have been unnecessarily foisted upon us for sinister purposes, and that they have no more to do with the principle which we desire to uphold than Polemics have to do with Politics; hopeless indeed would be our condition were it otherwise—far better return to the system of Governor and Council, Surrogates, or even Fishing Admirals, than to possess the name of free institutions, whilst one man may trample upon our privileges, and become at the same time Premier and Dictator, a Governor and a Despot.

For the present we shall confine ourselves to one simple question for general consideration; namely, whether the Minister should be held in check by the Assembly, or the Assembly be ruled by the Minister; we believe the former to be the correct proposition;—the Minister of the day has shown by his practice that he has interpreted the constitution differently, upon this issue joint between the parties we are willing to stand or fall. Let the country decide. If we live under a Government responsible to the people, and the People are represented by a House of Assembly, then are the Ministry responsible to that Assembly—a solecism indeed, if the members of the Assembly must be directed, dictated to, and fettered by the Premier. The very spirit of the constitution requires that the people's representatives should be perfectly untrammelled;—a Minister in England would be impeached for daring to tamper with, to bribe, or to corrupt them. And here they should be equally independent; free to sanction or to dissent from the opinions of the Minister. The Executive Council being of his creation may be excused if some members unite in their characters, the offices of representatives of the people and servants of the Minister of the day. Not so with the Assembly—to be above suspicion it should be composed of men neither employed nor paid by the Government. The first Legislative body that ever met in the country received not, sought not pay for members; and they laid the foundation of some of the best acts that ever emanated from our local Parliament. A few hundred pounds paid the expenses of those Sessions, when the members time was freely given for the honor of their office, and for the benefit of the country; we should be rejoiced to see such principle and practice revived—reasonable accounts for the necessary expenses of outport members, if presented, might be attended to; but beyond this pay for members, has a demoralising effect upon legislation;—it should at the same time be admitted that many talented men are not in circumstances to devote their time gratuitously to the Country, but let the constituencies, who for their special advantage return such members, pay them, or in lieu thereof find profitable employment for them during the recess; such might be done, but if it will not, if the *meabus* must remain, let economy be at least sacrificed to purity—let the amount be increased—pay, doubled, rather than that needy, and in some cases honest politicians should have to struggle between a correct sense of duty, and the imperative demands of pecuniary embarrassment; we have known such silenced into acquiescence where they could never yield a hearty advocacy or voluntary support.

Here then we take our stand—let but reform take place in this particular, and it will soon be followed by general improvement. No man should remain the peoples representative whose hands are defiled with the wages of iniquity, who wears the livery, enjoys the emoluments, and performs the drudgery of a Hireling. We know not how it may answer in other countries, but in this the re-election of office-bearers is a mockery and a farce; the constituencies do not attend such, it may serve elsewhere, but in Newfoundland it has proved a snare, an evil, pregnant with corruption, the perverted handicraft of a master whose political life was cast upon the hazard of the die. Let no man henceforth be elected by the people who wears the badge of ministerial servitude. Let no man be re-elected who barbers his independence, and betrays the interests of his constituency from motives of self-interest; for so long as the present or any other Minister can say come and he cometh, or go and he goeth to the representative of the people, the constitution must remain a dead letter, and liberty a delusion. Even if such power could be acquired by the bestowal of Honorary offices and no expense attached the practice would be reprehensible, but where the public money is lavishly expended for the purpose of forging fetters for those who are employed by the People, and paid too to be honest to them, it behoves the latter to publicly evince their detestation of such practice by warning their representatives that they must soon give place to men more worthy of

their confidence to whom the country may look hopefully in time of dearth for assistance, and in prosperity for the proper application of the surplus revenue.

To say that such men cannot be found is a libel on humanity—that such has not yet been generally selected is a blot upon the intelligence and independence of the country.

From Wallmer & Smith September 12.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Twelve screw steamers have been chartered this week by the East India Company, for the conveyance of troops to the East. A telegraphic despatch, in anticipation of the overland mail, is expected every hour. Nothing can exceed the interest with which the news from India is now looked for, stimulated as the public anxiety is by the publication of the exciting letters from the scenes of mutiny and murder.

The anxiety with which the news from India is expected continues unabated, and although not fully due, it was anticipated that, by extra exertion, the Government would have received a telegraph despatch to day in anticipation of the Overland Mail, which would have tended to allay the anxiety, and put an end to suspense. No intelligence, has, however, yet been made public, but it may be hourly looked for.

FRANCE.

PARIS, Friday, Sept. 11.—The Council General of the Department of the Gironde has passed resolutions in favor of free trade; but only two out of 86 departments have declared themselves favourable to this policy.

SPAIN.

It is stated that the government has ordered a prosecution of the *Discussion* for the publication of a seditious article, and that the *Cronica* had been seized for a similar offence. A telegraphic communication had been opened between Madrid and Barcelona via La Junguiera, Figueras, and Girona. Reinforcements were continuing to be sent off to Cuba; within a few days 400 had sailed from Barcelona, and 800 from Cadiz and Malaga.

SWEDEN.

The Council of Regency about to be formed in Sweden must, by law, be composed of 20 members, presided over by a prince of the blood. The Swedish Diet nominates one half of the members, and the Norwegian Storting the other half.

RUSSIA.

The Emperor of Rus is arrived at Warsaw on Sunday last, the 6th. The Emperor will be present at the inauguration of the Warsaw and St. Petersburg Railway, an extent of 150 versts of that line being ready for traffic.

TURKEY.—EVACUATION OF HERAT. Advice by telegraph from Constantinople of the 5th instant announce that the Persians have evacuated Herat.

Fuat Pacha has been appointed President of the Tanzimat Council, in the place of Redschid Pacha.

LAUNCH OF THE GREAT EASTERN.—We are authorised to state that this ship will be launched in the first spring tides of next month (October). The day is not yet absolutely fixed, but this important event will probably take place on Monday, the 5th of that month. The tides will be highest on that day.

THE INDIAN DISPATCHES.

The Telegraphic Despatches, although so anxiously expected, are scarcely due in regular course until to-day. It will most probably be found that the two mail steamers from India had not arrived at Suez up to Saturday last and perhaps not even on Monday, as in case of their having reached Suez on that day, it would have been possible, by despatching a special steamer from Malta to the telegraph station at Cagliari, in the Island of Sardinia, for the intelligence to have been received last night. On the last occasion the mail from Bombay reached Suez five days after the arrival of the steamer from Calcutta, which will account for the meagre despatch that reached England, the communication being more interrupted with Calcutta than Bombay.

SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE

CLEARED.  
Sept. 26.—Clio—Delaney—Lebrador  
Queen—Bailey—Brazil—Fish  
—Punton & Munn.  
Sept. 26.—Alliance—Tremblay—Sydney  
28 Nightingale—Baker—Baltimore  
—Ridley & Sons.

MEMORANDUM.

By a late arrival from Labrador intelligence has been received of the total loss, at Indian tickle on the 13th of the Bacalieu—belonging to Messrs Punton & Munn, and the Elizabeth—belonging to Messrs Baine Johnstone & Co. Crews of both vessels saved.

FOR SALE.

BY THE SUBSCRIBER.

350 Barrels Superior

FLOUR

200 Kegs Prime

BUTTER.

20 Barrels Prime POLK

15 Do ONIONS.

40 Boxes CHEESE.

100 do. BISCUIT.

10 do. TOBACCO.

38 dozen CHAIRS.

40 do. BROOMS.

10 barrels TAR.

40 do Corn M E A L.

Brooms and Wash-Tubs Glass Ware.

TEA CHOCOLATE

Sole Leather &

CIGARS.

DANIEL GREEN.

Sept. 30.

The Subscribers.

Have just received per Queen from Liverpool

A general assortment of

BRITISH MANUFACTURED GOODS.

Which they now offer for sale

Cheap for Cash.

RUTHERFORD BROTHERS.

Sept. 30.

FALL GOODS.

RIDLEY & SONS.

HAVE JUST RECEIVED.

PER, Barque "Spirit of the Times" from Liverpool.

A varied assortment of manufactured GOODS.

Comprising all the Novelties of the Season,

ALSO

T E A S, CONGOU, SOUCHONG & SHYON.

Crushed Sugar.

Irish Butter,

A CHOICE ARTICLE,

Cordage,—Nails,—

TAR.

And every article

suitable for the

Fall business

Sept. 16th 1857-

1m,

BUTTER.

400 Tubs BUTTER per Highlander and

Emily Corbett,

Can be recommended as a

PRIME ARTICLE.

RUTHERFORD BROTHERS.

Sept. 15.

Ridley & Sons.

Have just received ex "Nightingale" from Alexandria,

A cargo SUPERFINE FLOUR,

All from New Wheat

WHICH IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED

To the attention of

HOUSE-KEEPERS

ALSO

ex Olive from Montreal

1000 Brls. Extra Superfine

CANADIAN FLOUR,

50 Brls. PEASE

100 Kegs BUTTER.

Sept. 15.

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