

THE LITERARY TRANSCRIPT.

carry in coming forward on this occasion to differ with friends in whose opinions we almost invariably participated. It was very far, he could assure them from his intention to cause a division merely for division sake, to show the strength of a party—any such motive was very far from that by which he was, or the gentlemen supporting him here, actuated. Before proceeding further, he would read the amendment which he had to offer. It was in these terms:—

* That it is advisable to present a respectful address to His Excellency the Earl of Durham on his arrival at the seat of Government, containing a succinct statement of the grievances which peculiarly press upon her Majesty's subjects of British and Irish origin, and expressing their hope that His Excellency will be pleased to take the same into his consideration, and to adopt such measures as may lead to their final redress."

The motives for proposing this motion, having been misconstrued, it would be as well for him to state plainly what these motives were. As affairs now are, in this Province, it was of no use to say that an address could be framed in such a manner as to bring all parties together. [Cheers.] It was of no use to say either that Lord Durham would see no distinction of parties in this Province. He would see at once that the contest is one of national origin and nothing else. [Cheers.] He [Mr. G.] was at a loss to conceive how an address could be drawn up in a manner to express the sentiments of Englishmen and Canadians combined. Was it a mere congratulatory address? He [Mr. G.] could see nothing as yet in the mission of Lord Durham that could be called in matter for congratulation from British men. Was such an address to be presented because Lord Durham comes out with great powers—powers, incompatible with the liberty of the subject—because we are deprived of popular representation, and to be governed by a despotism such as he had hoped never to see exist north of the isthmus of Darien? As yet he [Mr. G.] saw no subject for congratulation in all this. [Cheers.] He, as in his opinion, the address could not, then, be entirely congratulatory, how were they to say that Lord Durham would adopt measures to please all parties? Will Englishmen be pleased at a continuance of the political degradation they have so long suffered from their opponents? Will Canadians be pleased with a re-union of the Provinces, a measure which the British and Irish ardently desire? It was no use to multiply instances of the incompatibility of the wishes and desires of the two races; he [Mr. G.] held it to be impossible to frame an address to please all parties, unless indeed it was a mere milk-and-water affair. [Cheers.] He thought it would be much better for each party to come forward with its own address—choosing its own time of presentation—standing on its own ground—ceasing to make themselves ridiculous by useless attempts at amalgamating discordant elements. Lord Durham would take each address into consideration and apply such remedy to the evils complained of as in the end might be just to all. [Cheers.]

W. Lloyd, Esq. seconded the amendment.

DR. FISHER would oppose the amendment so frantically with what he conceived to be the views and wishes of the requisitionists of the meeting. He was perfectly unprepared to advocate the cause, but, unpopular as such a course might be, he would not hesitate to take it. He believed he might lay claim to as strong British feeling as any one present—he was one of the original founders of the Constitutional Association, and had been twice or thrice elected a member of the Executive Committee—and he had as strong a sense of the grievances under which the British and Irish inhabitants of this country labour, as the last speaker—but he would explore the meeting to lay every thing of the kind aside at the present moment. This was not intended as a political meeting, and it was not desirable that mention of our grievances should be made to Lord Durham before he had time to warm himself and turn round in the House of Assembly. The last speaker—had certainly avowed a most extraordinary sentiment in saying that the contest in the Province was between two races; he (Dr. F.) had never heard it said before. All loyal subjects had been invited to attend this meeting, and he (Dr. F.) knew of no others present. [Cheers.] It is not a contest between the races. [Yes! Yes!] Gentlemen might say yes, but he (Dr. F.) would say no. It is a contest between the loyal and disloyal, and he would never acknowledge any other contest. He objected

to the amendment on the ground of its impropriety, and on the ground of its impropriety, and on the ground of its impropriety. The gentleman who last spoke now said that Lord Durham ought to have a fair trial, now he [Dr. F.] would ask whether, if by the course originally proposed Lord Durham had not approved a fair trial? that would it, on the other hand, by leaving a fair trial to Lord Durham were we to go to him immediately on his arrival with an address setting forth the grievances under which we labour? Such a course would make a most unfavourable impression on his Lordship. It was not by fastening our grievances in his face and threatening him that we could expect to obtain any thing from Lord Durham that we could ever expect to succeed in obtaining our demands. Let us wait to follow until Lord Durham has had time to follow out his instructions. The learned gentleman opposite [Mr. Earlmore] had also said that it was perfectly impossible to frame an address which would suit all parties; he [Dr. F.] thought differently, for 24 gentlemen were appointed a Committee, they might surely hammer out of their united brains something that would be agreeable to an loyal men. They would not be required to break new ground or enter into a detail of all the political difficulties of the Province. Then again we are told of despotism &c., but he [Dr. F.] considered it strange that an act of Parliament which had gone through the ordeal of a strict scrutiny in each house and had been sanctioned by the Queen of England, should be feared as tending to despotism.

MR. JONES would observe with regard to a portion of Dr. Fisher's address that it was not to be inferred that the Constitutional Association, would, if the matter were left to his address, Lord Durham immediately on his arrival in the Province. They would no doubt wait a fitting opportunity—after his Lordship had "warmed himself and turned round in the House of Assembly"—[a laugh.]

MR. BARROW said that the view of the question taken by Dr. Fisher appeared to him altogether erroneous. He had stated that this was not a party measure; now if a party measure what was it? For what purpose was this meeting convened? It was to address a nobleman on his arrival here armed with extraordinary powers for the government of these provinces. In the address proposed to be presented some political opinions must be expressed, it could not be supposed that all the exertions which had been made to get up this meeting were to result in a mere compliment that nothing was to be said but "Your Lordship has had a safe passage, and we are glad of it." [A laugh.] It was very clear that the learned Doctor had been pressed into the service, and the reluctance with which he defended the resolution showed that it was any thing but agreeable to him. No man was better acquainted with the affairs of this Province than the learned gentleman or knew better that the contest between the two great parties was one of national origin. It was therefore with no small surprise that he [Mr. B.] had heard the learned Doctor dispute the correctness of the position laid down by his learned friend who had proposed the amendment. The fact of the contest being one of national origin was incontestably proved by one of the last divisions that took place in the last House of Assembly—now defunct never again it was to be hoped to be resuscitated in the same form. That division was on a motion made by the Hon. Member for the Upper Town of Quebec, Andrew Stuart, Esq., tending to elicit an expression of opinion from the House regarding its determination to maintain inviolate or otherwise the connexion between this Province and the Mother Country. This was a test question introduced expressly for the purpose of marking the difference between the two parties in the House. What was the result? Mr. Stuart's motion was negatived by a vote of 63 to 15, and among the 15 was to be found one solitary French Canadian. At the meeting now assembled there are a few Canadian gentlemen but probably not in a greater proportion than 1 to 15. It was in fact impossible for them as a party to act with us. Their interests—as they think—their feelings, their manners and customs are different, and they will never amalgamate. It was therefore worse than useless for us to attempt to conciliate them, if in so doing it became necessary to cease to urge our just claims for the redress of our grievances. Some remarks had been made respecting the impression which we might make on Lord

Durham by stating boldly and openly our grievances to him. It was not necessary however that in so doing we should place ourselves in opposition to his Lordship. Our petitions for redress have been presented to the Queen and to the two houses of the Imperial Parliament, and are we not to venture to address Lord Durham? Is the rank of Lord Durham so exalted, is he so far removed above humanity, may above the Deity himself, for to the mighty Creator of the universe we offer up our daily prayers and make our humble supplications—that we are not to dare to approach him with our complaints, lest we should offend his lovely ear?—[Cheers.] For what does his Lordship come out here, if not to redress grievances, and how then can we make an unfavourable impression by putting him *au fait* to the grievances under which we labour caused by the insolent domineering of a French Canadian faction?—[Cheers.] The gentleman who moved the resolution had made a remark which he [Mr. B.] regretted to hear—but any objection to the resolution as proposed was captious. At the risk of incurring such an imputation, he [Mr. B.] would venture to oppose the resolution, which at the first blush appeared very innocent, but on further examination would be found to

"Look like the innocent flower,
"But be the serpent under it."

His [Mr. B.'s] objection to the resolution was that it was framed on the system of conciliation, that it was characterized by the same spirit which dictated the Resolutions adopted at the meeting of 31st July last, a meeting now acknowledged by many of its warmest supporters to have proved a failure. The effects of that meeting had been to give grounds for the assertion in one of those dispatches of our late governor, Lord Gosford, which have recently come to light, (dispatches which he [Mr. B.] would not characterize in terms adequate to their merits) that he had been in a great manner enabled to reconcile the differences between the two races, and could reckon as friends to his administration a large proportion of the reasonable and liberal men of all parties.

The events which have occurred since the famed 31st July last, ought surely to show us the impropriety of going to work in an indirect manner; they have surely evinced the impolicy of our allowing it to be inferred that the wound is healed when in fact it is not even cicatrized. At the risk of being accounted captious he [Mr. B.] must say that there are expressions in this resolution which called for the most decided reprobation. It expressed full confidence in His Excellency's fitness for the trust reposed in him &c. Lord Durham he [Mr. B.] believed to be a nobleman possessed of great property and an enlarged and cultivated mind, but something more was required to generate confidence. Confidence was a plant of slow growth, requiring nurture and cultivation, not bursting up spontaneously like some of our plants at the first warm beams of the sun after the icy robustness of our Canadian winter. It was impossible for us to have confidence in the administration of any governor until we possessed the means of judging whether he were entitled to it or not. By submitting a statement of our grievances to Lord Durham he would become aware of our wants, and in proportion to the solicitude which he evinced for their redress would confidence grow in our breasts.

MR. B. concluded by stating that he trusted sufficient had been said to vindicate the supporters of the amendment from the imputation of being captious, and to show that the stand they had taken had been that of principle.—[Loud and reiterated cheering.]

The amendment was carried by an overwhelming majority, many of the supporters to the requisition calling the public meeting having voted for it.

THE TRANSCRIPT.

QUEBEC, TUESDAY, 15th MAY, 1838.

LATEST DATES.
London, -- April 12. New York, -- May 5
Liverpool, -- April 13. Halifax, -- April 14
Havre, -- April 10. Toronto, -- May 5

Liverpool papers to the 22nd ult. had been received at the Exchange, brought by the ship Columbus, Captain Pentreath, which sailed on the 22nd. There does not appear to be any thing worth extracting.

The London packet ship Wellington arrived at New York on Tuesday last, bringing papers to be 9th ult.

This day, about one o'clock, His Excellency Sir John Colborne arrived from Montreal in the steamer Canada. An immense concourse of people assembled on the wharf, and His Excellency was received with the most enthusiastic cheering.

Yesterday's Montreal papers, received by steam-boat to-day, furnish nothing of moment.

The London correspondent of the Quebec Gazette mentions that certain negotiations of the utmost importance to the inhabitants of this Province have been carried on between the British American Land Company and the Colonial Secretary, and that the following arrangement has been concluded on:—

Lord Glenelg proposes to allow the Company a suspension of all payments for one year. To allow all the remainder of the capital of the Company (£22 per share) to be expended in the promotion of emigration to the Lower Province. Her Majesty's Ministers, as I understand, are also to encourage settlers to proceed to the Lower Province, in great numbers, with the view of rapidly augmenting the British and Irish population in the Colony; thus rendering the Lower Province, in point of numbers, at no distant day essentially of British origin, and other measures are to be adopted to effect the same object.

This is the outline of the intentions of our Government, but they have not yet been officially communicated. You may rely however upon the general correctness of the facts I have stated.

H. M. ship Malabar [73] arrived yesterday afternoon, having on board the 71st Light Infantry—a regiment well known and deservedly esteemed in Canada. On anchoring opposite the town, the line band which accompanies the regiment struck up "God save the Queen" which was followed by the appropriate airs of "Auld lang syne" and "Whistle and I'll come to thee, my lad."

The 71st Regt., we understand, will not land at Quebec, but will proceed immediately by steam-boat to Montreal.

The New York papers of Thursday contain most animated accounts of the departure from that port of the Great Western for England, on the preceding day.

Among the smaller articles of freight which the Western carries out, is one which will be a novelty in England. It is a beautiful bouquet of flowers, called from Mr. Thosday's garden at Hallett's Cove, and is intended for the Queen. It was enclosed in a tin case, hermetically sealed, with a plate glass cover. It was prepared at the suggestion of Lieut. Carpenter, and so prepared that it is hoped it will be preserved with freshness to be presented next week to the Queen, at Windsor Castle. It will be the first nosegay which her Majesty ever received from the gardens of her western neighbours.

At the Kingston, [U.C.] assizes, the Queen's Counsel has put before the Grand Jury Bills of Indictment for Treason against several of the parties now in custody, and some of those who have fled the country under strong suspicion of treasonable practices; but as yet no report has been made by that body. In other respects the Court has been occupied daily in trial of civil suits.

The House of Assembly building has been fixed upon as a residence for the Earl of Durham, and a great number of workmen are now busily employed in making the alterations necessary to fit it for his lordship's reception.

The Welland Canal, we learn, is in excellent order and in full operation. Numerous Schooners and Vessels have passed and repassed since the opening of the Navigation.

We understand that orders have been issued to prepare the old goal in Montreal, for the accommodation of the troops daily expected from England.

The officers and members of the Montreal St. Andrew's Society have resolved to wear mourning for the space of thirty days, as a mark of respect to the memory of the late Earl of Dalhousie; and they recommend their countrymen throughout the District to follow their example.—This distinguished nobleman was a member and munificent benefactor of that Society.

The Lewiston sympathisers are a queer set of fellows, for not content with assisting the Canadian rebels with arms and money, they have actually kindled a bonfire of all Captain Marryat's novels they could procure, because