

1829

ALARMING CRISIS.

A number of worthy people in this Town, seem to be at present, in a state of alarm,—Doctors Baldwin, Morrison, Burnside, Rolph, and Stoyelle, have been called in, and pronounced this, “a VERY ALARMING CRISIS.” They at first prescribed a meeting at Jessé Ketchum’s on Independence day,—4th July—but we understand, that the smell of the Tan-yard was pronounced by Dr. Baldwin, to be unwholesome, and Messrs. Ketchum, Stoyelles and Moses Fish, were afraid of being suspected if they celebrated Independence; so the plan was changed; and there is to be a meeting at Mr. Bishop’s Rooms on Saturday at 10 o’clock.—It is supposed that some of the Doctors who were called in, communicated the disease themselves, in order that they might have employment curing it. Dr. Rolph, it is said, stated to the Meeting, that he had come down from Middlesex, very much frightened indeed. He says, he sees very little chance of getting in there, and is very much alarmed, for fear he may not be able to get in any where else.—His constituents, he says, have condemned his conduct, and asked him to tell them what good he has done, in his four years service—upon which he resolved not to answer any such impertinent questions, but to come down at once, and tell Dr. Baldwin what a very “ALARMING CRISIS” was coming on.—Dr. Baldwin stated that he was in “great state of alarm,” and that he found himself more easily frightened now than he used to be formerly.—He said he was not a bit frightened when his friend and relation, Mr. Russell, being Governor and Receiver General, and Auditor General, appointed himself a Judge; also, that he was not in the least alarmed, when Mr. Russell granted to himself, and his Sister, and his Cousins, a great many Thousand Acres, of the best Lands in Upper Canada, and that *indeed* he thought it no grievance at all—he said he was not alarmed at all, when he used to enter Judgments, and issue Writs, and act in Court as Deputy Clerk of the Crown for about Fifteen Years, when there was no Chief Justice, and that he felt quite bold for about Ten Years, to do his duty as a Lawyer in Court, when there were only two Judges, and even in last April Term, while the Chief Justice was away. But last Term he said, he got so frightened, and so did HIS ROBERT, and Mr. ROLPH, when they saw the Chief Justice not in Court, that they all pulled off their Gowns, and ran away, and have never been back since.

He thought this was a very “ALARMING CRISIS” indeed. He added that he was afraid the Governor would have Justice administered, notwithstanding all he and Mr. Rolph could do—which was enough to frighten any body.

Mr. Ketchum said he was considerably alarmed—he was not half so much scared when the Yankee Fleet came here in 1813, because he knew they were civil people and very good to their friends; and besides he did not go close enough to be frightened, till all the danger was over. He said he was afraid that since the Alien Bill was passed, they could find no more grievances,—and that the People would be contented, and like their King, and their Government.—Hides were getting dearer at Buffalo,—and Captain Matthews was sick,—and Major Randall, had not been heard of for a month,—and the People in most parts of the Country, seemed satisfied in spite of all he, and old Shephard could do,—altogether it was “A MOST ALARMING CRISIS.”

Moses Fish said, now he was made a natural born British Subject, he felt like a “FISH OUT OF WATER.” He said he was afraid there was too many English, Irish, and Scotch, in the Town of York, and that the Canadians, were almost as bad,—that he was afraid Mr. Ketchum and he, would stand no chance, but he kept up his courage till he saw that Mr. Ketchum was frightened, and then he thought it must be “A VERY ALARMING CRISIS.”

Dr. Morrison said he was very much alarmed at a report being heard about Town, that they meant to replace him as a Clerk in the Surveyor General’s Office, and make a Government Man of him, which of course would make him as corrupt and tyrannical as he was before, and be the means of his loosing his Election. He said he was afraid Dr. Baldwin might get in, if he did not—that the Doctor was in for four years and did nothing at all, and was now so much alarmed, that he was sure he could do nothing. He was going to add more, when some body made a noise under the Window, with a Horse Fiddle, at which the Meeting took fright and separated.

Mr. Ketchum in this crisis, attempted to hide himself, in one of his Tan Vats and had the misfortune to knock his head against an Iron Chimney Back, formerly belonging to the “Elmsley House,” and supposed to have been lying there ever since the last war.

It was proposed to meet on Thursday, but the Doctors thought they would not have recovered, from their fright before Saturday,—and they resolved, to meet on that day—and Mr. John Spread Baldwin, Mr. Cattermole, Mr. Quin, and Mr. McMillan the Tailor, are to be a Committee, to go into the Country, with Mr. Shephard, and see how many People, they can frighten in the mean time. They are instructed however, to give no information, but only to state that Dr. Baldwin, says “IT IS A VERY ALARMING CRISIS,” and not to tell a word about the Horse Fiddle.