

The Head Quarters.

COMMUNICATIONS.

[FOR THE HEAD QUARTERS.]

MR. EDITOR.—I know not if any one subject has occasioned so much cavil in this Province, as the two words "Responsible Government." Since their introduction into our Political Dictionary, they have been made to signify any and every views which the persons using them entertained. In this respect they have been most useful, and have done more service, whether for good or evil, than most words in the language. Although taken separately, they each have a tangible and definite meaning, and such as every body understands; yet, I believe no person has ventured to define what particular idea they convey, when taken conjointly, and used with reference to Governmental rules and policy. They are good sounding words—they fill the mouth—are easy of pronunciation, and carry a sort of magic or enthusiasm with them, felt alike by the speaker and the hearer. I like them; and as I understand their significance, would have them written in gold upon the portals of every Council Chamber, and Office of Government in the Empire. A "True Liberal" is hard pushed in defending his peculiar views when, instead of using argument, he is driven to charge with possessing "no wish to see responsible usages carried out in these Provinces." Such puerile asseverations are easy made. Let a "True Liberal" tell me what he means by "Responsible Usages" before bringing such sweeping accusations. It is but common justice that this should be first done; and that it would be made to appear, whether the usages contended for by a "True Liberal" are those advanced by me, are most beneficial to the interest of the people, and the most judicious to enter into the policy of the Government. At the present time, these words are used in the Province as a cloak for views and measures, which in their nature and tendency, are directly opposed to the well being and peace of the Colony. Measures which never could find their way to the threshold of our deliberative assemblies, are boldly introduced to our consideration by the impetuous "Responsible Usages," which now have succeeded to, and rivals the faded "Open Sesame." It is this abuse and prostitution of the words that I complain of. It surely was never contemplated by Her Majesty's Government, when giving us this Constitution, that we should use it to our own disadvantage; but this would inevitably happen if the House of Assembly should adopt the course seemed to be marked out by a "True Liberal." He discards the idea of addresses to the Throne. Then how are we to obtain redress for any wrongs committed upon Responsible usage from any one of our Government and Councils? We are unable to grant supplies for its continuance, as the Imperial Parliament may do. Then the alternative which a "True Liberal" would force upon us is, to suspend the ordinary money grants for Roads, Schools, &c., &c., and by thus bringing the country into a state bordering upon anarchy, and challenge the people to do that out of mercy, which a humble address might have required as a right. Such a case as the one referred to by a "True Liberal" in his last, may happen again, and I challenge him to point out as he elegantly expresses it—"cook and dish up" any other way consistent with our relations to Great Britain, by which redress could be obtained, and TRUE RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT be enforced, without endangering the welfare of the people, than that pursued by the Assembly on that occasion. I tell him this for his information, however it may be his saviour or Antiquated and exploded Toryism, THAT IT WAS THIS TRUE PRINCIPLE OF RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT IN FORCE IN THIS PROVINCE, AND NOT UPON ITS ABSENCE, THAT THE PEOPLE HAD, AND CLAIMED THE RIGHT AT THE FOOT OF THE THRONE, TO HAVE THE OFFICE OF PROVINCIAL SECRETARY, FILLED BY A PERSON SUITABLE TO THEIR WISDOM. What does he mean by saying that. His Excellency would not have placed there, (the House,) in this dilemma if the Province had previously adopted the Responsible form, &c.? Can the "Responsible form" prevent his Excellency, or any other officer in the Colonial Government, from doing wrong? Does it apply a balm to all irritation—charm to prejudice? Will it heal all discord? Will it make all men see eye to eye, so that the machine of government will glide on without the least jar or obstruction? Verily, if it can do all this, a "True Liberal" is not conducting himself well in his generation by withholding from a description of it accusations that, noticed in detail, so that this, the "True Philosopher's Stone," may serve "on all occasions"—our country would then be blessed, even beyond the fabled Topas.

But, Mr. Editor, I will be so easily flattered by the further illustrations of a "True Liberal," I shall hold to my formerly expressed opinion, and that which you so ably handled, namely, that the proper way to obtain redress for Colonial Government grievances, is by addressing the Throne.

Yours, &c.

BOLINGBROKE.

[FOR THE HEAD QUARTERS.]
YOUNG MEN'S TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETY.

MR. EDITOR:—

Sir,—Allow me to address a few lines to the Public through the medium of your columns, respecting the above lately formed Society.

Late all infants, its efforts have hitherto been weak, and its progress unsatisfactory; nevertheless it is making headway against a torrent of difficulties, and has already effected some good.

On Thursday evening the 5th inst., a Meeting of the Society took place in the Vestry of Wesley Chapel, which was largely attended; and I have heard from various sources, that the Addressers on that occasion, for the most part, gave very general satisfaction; and as another Meeting of a similar character is appointed for the evening of Wednesday, I would now seriously call upon all the members of this community, favourable or unfavourable to the cause, to give their attendance upon that occasion; and if as it is not unlikely to be the case any person should feel his sense of propriety shocked, by an unguarded expression dropped by a speaker, let him remember, that if placed in the same position as the individual addressing the assembly, his performance might possibly prove to be no improvement upon what had been delivered; and let all present remember, that the conductors of that Society are only seeking the public good, without the prospect of receiving any personal reward, except that feeling of inward satisfaction, always attendant upon the performance of duty.

In conclusion allow me to observe, that the officers of the "Young Men's Total Abstinence Society" expect no brilliant, sudden, startling success to crown their efforts; but, like the mouse in the Pable, by continued knocking eventually released the Lion from his unpleasant situation in the trap; so it is their intention to continue their tiny efforts until, with the Divine blessing, they are able to be instrumental in releasing many a captive of the tyrant Alcohol, from his diabolical bondage.

Ladies: give the Cause your countenance and support, by your presence and your names.

I am, Mr. Editor,
Faithfully Yours,
THE PRESIDENT.

[FOR THE HEAD QUARTERS.]

MR. EDITOR.—A great deal has been said as to who would be the candidates for this County, in the event of a dissolution of the present House of Assembly. Several persons have been named, who, no doubt, are very good men and would make useful members, as far as they had abilities and their knowledge of the county extended; but, Sir, I have travelled over various parts of the country during the past year, and I find there is no man who stands higher in the estimation of the public, both for his strict integrity and ability, than Mr. John S. Taylor, a Merchant of Sheffield, and a native of this county; and I hope he may be prevailed upon, at the next election, to devote a part of his time for the benefit of his native county. If there had been a dissolution of the present House the past year, probably Mr. Taylor would not have offered, at least he gave several very respectable persons who waited upon him, but little encouragement on the subject; but if the present House is allowed to expire, I have good reasons to believe that he will consent to reward, and as to his being successful, there is but little doubt.

By giving this an insertion in your useful paper, which written in rather a humble style, you will much oblige one of your Subscribers.

AN ELECTOR.

Sunbury County, January 12, 1846.

The Head Quarters.

Fredericton, Wednesday, January 21, 1846.

ORANGE.—This question still occupies the attention of the United States Congress, and although the Resolutions have been laid on the Table, respecting the final course which Congress intend to pursue, yet there scarcely a day passes that does not afford some occasion for a renewal of the discussion. "It is quite evident, that the Southern and some of the Western Members are ill at ease, and they no doubt look for the arrival of the next Session with as much anxiety as do the people of these Colonies. Connected with the movement on the Oregon question, we regret to perceive by the Canadian papers, that some of the pirates, known by the name of the "Hunters' Lodges," who infested the borders of Canada during the late troubles, are again beginning to organize, and it is added, that drilling is actively going forward along the United States frontier. We trust these rumours may be unfounded; but from past experience, we have little to hope for, from the banditti who congregate on the borders on the first appearance of disturbance, for the purpose of plundering the peaceable inhabitants of Canada. We make some extracts below, taken from the New York Tribune, and subjoin a paragraph which is going the rounds of the newspapers, stating that further information is turning up, favourable to the British claim to that country.

"The Oregon question, which carries with it the chances of peace and war, is still the theme which fills every mind and occupies every tongue. The debates in Congress acquire a new, and an intensity of interest daily, and daily the subject seems to become more confusing and embarrassing. It is certain that the bill which took place last week, in consequence of the pacific course of Mr. Calhoun, has been disturbed by the warlike speeches of Mr. Adams and others.

On the 5th, Mr. Ingalls, in the House of Representatives, from the Committee of Foreign Relations, brought forward the long expected resolution, for giving to Great Britain the right to terminate the treaty of joint occupancy. It was the following effect:—

"Resolved, (the Senate concurring,) That the President of the United States forthwith give notice to be given to the Government of Great Britain that the convention between the United States and Great Britain concerning the territory of Oregon, of the 8th August, 1829, signed at London, shall be annulled and abrogated twelve months after the expiration of the said term of notice, conformably to the 2d article of the said convention of the 8th August, 1827."

It appears that, in the committee from which this emanated there was a difference of opinion as to the propriety of its adoption; and, in consequence Mr. Gilbert Davies, one of the dissentients, appeared with a counter resolution, which was authorized to make on behalf of the minority. This counter resolution was to the following purport:—

"Resolved, That the notice which was given to terminate the convention between the United States of America and Great Britain, of October, 1818, and continued in force by the convention of August, 1827, ought to be given, not a notice to terminate the convention, but a notice to give notice for the decision of Congress, and upon it, this House at present refrains from the expression of any opinion."

Mr. Ingalls then moved, which he was directed to do by the Committee of Relations, that the Resolution be taken up for consideration on the first Monday in February. On this motion a very interesting debate arose, and continued throughout the day, and ended in a tie. In the course of this day's debate a very remarkable speech was made by Mr. Geddings, of Ohio, in which he announced his change of opinion. On a former occasion, he said, he had been opposed to giving the notice to Great Britain, but since then, the Union had been changed in its essential elements, (by the admission of Texas) and a slaveholding oligarchy now holds the entire direction of the government. The southern portion of the Union, he averred, now holds the balance of power in the United States. Under these circumstances, he continued, the irresistible conclusion, that war, with all its horrors and its devastation of public morals, is infinitely preferable to a supine inactive submission to the slaveholding power, that is to control this nation, if left in its present situation. I wish to be distinctly understood that I have seen enough of war to form an opinion of its effects, its miseries, and the extent of its curse. Yes, Sir, I greatly prefer them, for a few years, to the quiet apathy which has already subjected us to a change of the Government formed by our fathers.

"Let no one say I desire a slave insurrection! but Sir, I doubt not that hundreds of thousands of patriotic hearts will laugh at your calamity, and wish when your Sir, cometh, No Sir! should a slave insurrection take place—should massacre and blood mark the footsteps of those who have for ages been oppressed, my prayer to God shall be that justice—eternal, unending and unalterable justice, may be awarded to the slave. Then, Sir, we shall have the scenes of 1780 acted over, when South Carolina sent to the continental Congress a delegation to inform that body that it required all her troops to protect her people against their slaves, and that chivalric State must depend upon her Northern sisters for troops to defend her against the common enemy. Then, Sir, the people of Ohio will be compelled to go to the South, to Alabama, South Carolina, Mississippi, and Texas, to protect them from the emancipated

slaves of the West Indies, and the desperation to which their own servile population will be driven. Sir, our sons must go there, and bare their breasts in defence of the slave institutions of those States. Then, Sir, the people of the North will be compelled to look this institution in the face; they will see the degradation to which they have become subjected by this new slaveholding confederacy.

Other parts of this speech were even more emphatic and startling. Mr. Geddings is one of the party called Abolitionists, who sees in the admission of Texas into the Union, an additional perjury given to the slave system of this country, and he considers this so great an evil that he proposes war to the continuance of peace—as war would break up this slave system or neutralize it, either by a slave insurrection promoted by British invasion, or by the conquest and annexation to the northern portion of the Union of some of the British Provinces. Such is the purport of his speech, given by a man of fair, honest, and equable views. We know not how far this may be true, but if the supposition be well founded, it follows that the war party has received an accession of strength by the admission of the Annexation of Texas to the country. Under such circumstances it is difficult to say how matters will terminate.

Among many extraordinary things said in Congress, Mr. Owen stated that when American settlers went over to Oregon, and settled north of the Columbia, they were immediately bought off by the Hudson's Bay Company. One poor man, he averred, was "bought off" with \$500!!! If this could be proved, how many would flock thither to endure the like persecution.

We again repeat, that we see no mode by which this controversy can be brought to a pacific conclusion, but by making a fair and equitable division of the territory; and if the two Governments cannot agree as to what does constitute a fair and equitable division, let them refer the matter to a third power.

Increased testimony is turning up, confirmatory of the British rights in the Oregon territory. We have just received a communication from a source which commands entire confidence, in which we find the following passage:—

"There is an error in stating that Thompson was the first settler of the Columbia. He was not the first—Aster was founded (1811). Such is not the fact—he was most unquestionably in the Kootenai country on the McGillivray river in 1806. The country was then and hunted from the Laskatchewan by British traders and trappers, for two or three years previous to that date—certainly before Lewis or Clarke crossed the Mountains. His documents, which were taken from these men, we are further told, is deposited at the Hudson Bay House in London, and for which search will doubtless be immediately made.

ONE DAY LATER FROM ENGLAND.—The bark Corsair, which arrived on Monday brought English news, giving to Great Britain the right to terminate the treaty of joint occupancy. It was the following effect:—

"Resolved, (the Senate concurring,) That the President of the United States forthwith give notice to be given to the Government of Great Britain that the convention between the United States and Great Britain concerning the territory of Oregon, of the 8th August, 1829, signed at London, shall be annulled and abrogated twelve months after the expiration of the said term of notice, conformably to the 2d article of the said convention of the 8th August, 1827."

It is now confidently believed in the city that the Premier, guided by the force of circumstances, has submitted to an unconditional surrender of his former course of policy on this important subject; and nothing can more strongly demonstrate the feeling in favour of the movement in this quarter of the metropolis, than the active measures our leading merchants have taken to get up memorials and meetings for setting forth the claims of the question for general consideration."—*Halifax Journal.*

LIBERALISM.—We cannot help being amused at the puny efforts made in a certain quarter, to mystify and pervert the true meaning of this simple and expressive term, and render it like its sister, "Responsible Government," a bug-bear to one party—an angel of purity to another, and when it suits the purposes of ultra on either side, to claim it as a sort of go between, which may be used by either for carrying out their particular opinions.

On the 24th of last month we published a plain simple article, having reference to the present state of the Province, and commenting on its future prospects, should anything unfortunately happen to prevent the usual Supplies being granted for the Public service. This article, conceived in a spirit of moderation and good will, has brought about our ears not only our contemporaries differing in politics, but has subjected us to the attack of some anonymous scribbler who figures in the Reporter, and makes frequent and not particularly courteous use of our name. This dauntless scribe undertakes to show, that we have abandoned the principles of Responsible Government, and modestly advises us to erase our motto. This advice he again repeats in these words:—"Once more we recommend Mr. Grigor to erase his motto 'Cherish Responsible Government,' he will gain nothing by sailing under false colours." Thank you, Mr. "True Liberal" we will do no such thing as erase our motto, nor is our motto "Cherish Responsible Government," as is falsely said in the Reporter; it is "Cherish Responsible Government and British Connection." Perhaps the latter part of the sentence is the one which our "True Liberal" would like erased. He must, however, be content to take the motto together, and we venture to predict that these words will remain emblazoned in the memories of the present and future generations, long after his contemptible twaddle is among the rubbish of neglected and forgotten nonsense. The

same writer says, "All this unmeaning twaddle answer by informing Mr. Grigor of a fact, which it is unparliamentary in him not to have learned already. The Legislative Councilors and the Judges of the land are already appointed in the Colony, and of late years have been so even under the irresponsible system. If these are cases in point, Mr. Grigor is at liberty to use them when he pleases." Just so Mr. "True Liberal," this is a piece with your quoting one half of our motto, and we will inform you of a fact which you know well enough, and which it is unparliamentary in you to misrepresent, for the purpose of deceiving and imposing upon the public. The Appointments to which you refer are not made in the Colony, although in most cases they are and should be made from gentlemen residing in, and identified with the Colony. They are recommended to Her Majesty by the Authorities here, and if this "True Liberal" has ever read the Act of Parliament, uniting the Canadas and providing for their future Government, he will find that there is a slight difference between making Appointments in the Colony, and making Appointments from among the Colonial people. We have already said enough to show our readers the shifts and misrepresentations which the "man Friday" to the Reporter has been driven to, and as we have the assurance of the Editor that he is neither a "Mentis individual in the House of Assembly," we shall leave him and his article with this remark, that we are heartily glad to find that his labours are confined to a field where they are not very likely to produce much mischief. This a pity our Author should hide his farthing mislight under a bushel of misnomer. Is he afraid of ashamed to own the bastard productions, whose misshapen and distorted appearance point pretty plainly to the quarter from whence they sprang.

THE REPORTER.

Last week our worthy and erudite contemporary of the Reporter delivered himself of dithers things touching and relating to the management of this paper, which entitles him to a passing notice. We do not for a moment question the right of our contemporary to join issue with the Head Quarters, on a grave question of principle, nor do we doubt, that he deems the promulgation of the doctrines contained in the Head Quarters, "adverse to the Constitutional Government of these Colonies." Take for example the conclusion of our article published on the 24th of December, which has given rise to all the potter which has been jumbled up in the Reporter, in all the beauty of "confusion worse confounded," and let our contemporary, or his friend, root up any definition of the principles we have advocated, from the following extract:—"The Responsibility of the Executive advisers of the Queen's Representative, to the representatives of those who are immediately affected by every act of the local Government, is a principle which must be contended for until it is not only conceded, but practised wherever occasion calls for its exercise. This valuable principle, necessary for the welfare of the Colony, can be secured as well without interrupting the business of the country, as by throwing it into confusion." Here is ample ground for our contemporary to deem such doctrines dangerous; and he could no longer be silent—O no!—although he has been "patient under several provocations from the Head Quarters"—this is a "grave matter of principle" on which he, the said Reporter must place himself at issue with the Journal in question. We are puzzled to judge on what particular point of this "grave principle" our contemporary means to join issue. Whether it be on the propriety of carrying out the principle which we have always advocated and avowed, or on the impropriety of doing so peaceably, and without throwing the country into confusion, and thereby adding to the distress which we have the best reason for knowing will prevail among the back settlers before six months pass over our heads, unless the Legislature interfere to prevent it, we may be on both grounds, or it may be on neither; but whatever may be the grounds, whether real or imaginary, we will do our best to meet them when they appear—unflinchingly by the open repudiation of honourable and conscientious men, who may differ from us in opinion, and totally regardless of anonymous slander, private malice, or the puerile whinnies of our recently would be Statesmen of the Reporter.

By the kindness of a gentleman who is in possession of correct statistical information, from every district in the Province, we have been able to confirm the opinion which we formed months ago that anything short of the most imperious necessities, which would be calculated to interfere with the ordinary legislation of the country this year, would be inflicting an undeserved punishment on the people of New Brunswick. We expressed that opinion, and again express it, and we would advise those depending on public support, either for honours or emolument, to give some heed how they make light of the suffering of a portion of the community on the verge of want, and destitute in many cases of seed to enable them to plant a sufficient quantity of ground for next year's crop. The interests of this portion of the community we felt, and still feel bound to advocate, and we will add, that we are yet to learn (the assertions of the Reporter to the contrary, notwithstanding) that this doctrine has been openly repudiated "by a certain Honorable Gentleman, who last year resigned his place in consequence of his attachment to Responsible Government."

To go further into detail, on the present state of a large portion of the Back Settlers in the Province, would be to anticipate the Report of the Gentleman by whose industry and ingenuity the true state of the rural districts has been ascertained, and when that Report accompanied by the proofs now in his possession comes to be laid before the Legislature, there can be little question that the collective wisdom of the Province will devise an efficient remedy to avert the evils, which must soon press heavily on the poorer and most industrious portion of their fellow Colonists.

We have, time and again, defined what we consider the responsibility which should attach to those advising the head of the Government in the administration of the affairs of the Colony. We need not again repeat that definition, but will wait patiently for illumination on the subject from the Reporter.

THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.—During the past week, several rumours have been afloat, respecting the re-organization of the Executive Council. At one time it was stated, that this important step had been finally arranged in such a manner, as could not fail to give satisfaction to the majority in the Assembly—at another, that some new difficulty had arisen, which would prevent the accomplishment of an object so desirable, for some time. An opinion, however, seems to be gaining ground, that the Council will, before the meeting of the Legislature, be so constructed as to enable them to proceed with the public business without delay or difficulty. We heartily wish that such may be the case, for the "signs of the times" are not by any means such as would induce any lover of his country to wish for dissension between the Government and the Representatives of the People.

VARIOUS READINGS.—The Loyalist reads an article, in our last issue indicative of the course the Hon. Mr. Wilnot would pursue under certain circumstances. We have only to say, that if our contemporary wishes to "be set right" in matters, the existence of which we have not the remotest knowledge of, he must apply elsewhere. Whoever supports the Head Quarters has given, or may give to the measures of that gentleman, has been done unsolicited and from a conviction of their correctness and patriotism; and we are ready to confess, that our support has been at least a slight tribute of respect for talents we have seldom seen excelled, coupled with a loyalty as sincere as can be found in the ranks of his opponents.

IMPORTANT AWARD.—We copy below from the Saint John Herald, the substance of the important award of the Arbitrators in the case of the Mayor, Aldermen and Community of the City of Saint John, vs. John R. Partelow, Esq., late Chamberlain of that City. It would appear from the remarks of the Courier, the Herald and some other papers, that this award has given the greatest satisfaction to a large portion of the citizens of Saint John. We cannot help being persuaded that Mr. Partelow has been a persecuted man, and cordially join in congratulating him on the complete triumph, he has now gained over those who have so relentlessly and perseveringly attempted to make him a debtor nearly £17,000, when it turns out on investigation by disinterested, competent, and honest men, that the Corporation owe him a considerable balance!—

AWARD.—Now we, the said James Taylor, Asa Coy, and Daniel Manning, having taken upon ourselves the burden of the said Arbitration, and having heard and maturely weighed and considered the several allegations, vouchers and proofs in difference, respectively, do in the pursuance of said submission, make and publish this our award of and concerning the said premises, in manner following that is to say:—

We do award, arbitrate, and determine that the said Mayor, Aldermen and Community of the City of Saint John, or their successors, shall and do well and truly pay or cause to be paid to the said John R. Partelow, his Executors or Administrators, on the first day of July next ensuing, the sum of £300 3s. 6d. of lawful money. And we do further award and declare, that the said sum of £300 3s. 6d. is due and owing to the said John R. Partelow, by the said Mayor, Aldermen and Community of the City of Saint John, exclusively and independently of the Bonds of the said Mayor, Aldermen and Community, made to the said John R. Partelow, and mentioned in the Trust assignment of the said Mayor, Aldermen and Community of the City of Saint John.

In witness whereof the Arbitrators aforesaid, have hereunto set our hands and seals, at the City of Saint John, the seventeenth day of January, one thousand eight hundred and forty six.

—Unanimously signed.

JAMES TAYLOR,
ASA COY,
D. HANINGTON.

QUITE COOL.—We understand that on Friday, the 9th inst., while a Farmer was proceeding to town with a heavy load of wood, he was met by some single sleighs belonging to the City, and as the snow was very deep on either side of the road, our town gentlemen did not like to "turn out." Two single sleighs drew up one on each side of the wood team, the driver of which seeing no prospect of being able to pass for some time, quietly took a bundle of hay from the top of his load, and placing it before his horses remarked, "Well gentlemen, as you will not pass and I cannot go forward, I think I'll bait my horses—it will save time." The occupants of the single sleighs turned out flourishing in the snow, and laughing heartily at the coolness of their country friend.

JUDGE STREET.—We have great pleasure in copying the following gratifying testimonials of respect and confidence offered to this eminent individual, by the Magistrates of St. John, and the Grand Jury for the County, on his elevation to the Bench of the Supreme Court. The members of the Bar, resident in the City, waited on his Honor at the Saint John Hotel, and after offering their congratulations, formed a procession and accompanied the Judge to the Court House, when he opened the Circuit Court with an address to the Grand Jury, which is spoken of by the newspapers as a very able and impressive charge.

TO HIS HONOR GEORGE F. STREET, Esquire, one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Supreme Court of the Province of New Brunswick.

We, the undersigned Magistrates, for the City and County of Saint John, respectfully offer our sincere congratulations upon your Honor's elevation to a seat on the Bench of the Supreme Court of this Province; and we avail ourselves of this, your Honor's first occasion in presiding as Judge of the Circuit Court in this City and County, to express the high sense we entertain of the talents, legal acquirement and honorable principles which your Honor's experience will happily bring to the important trust of aiding in the Civil Jurisprudence of this Province. It has at all times been