

of the Penitentiary; or, if he did think so, at least the courtesy of consulting him on the subject should have been used. There was no such pressing necessity in the matter. Kingston has been many months without a Collector of Customs, and therefore might have continued so for a few weeks longer. The season of importing and smuggling is over.

Mr. Draper, and others of his party with whom he then acted, were the first to condemn the Sydenham Administration, and this very properly—for the shameful eagerness manifested by them in seeking to make nominations to office before Sir Charles Bagot arrived in the country. True, Sir Richard Jackson, then Administrator of the Province, was not made of such malleable stuff, and he refused to sanction any appointment, unless the Executive body should declare it to be of the highest moment to the interests of the Province. He felt that his successor ought to be permitted to decide upon those appointments, and with a most proper feeling he abstained.

But this corruption is one of the necessary fruits of Responsible Government in a Colony, where place is not so much sought for the honor it confers, as for the profit it yields.

MR. PARENT AND FRENCH CANADIAN NATIONALITY.

There are few things that surprise us emanating from the *quasi* Government with which the country is cursed at the present day. We admit we cannot avoid the expression of some astonishment at the most extraordinary fact of Mr. Parent, the confidential clerk of the Administration, being permitted—and therefore it is obvious, sanctioned—by that most inconsistent and incapable body, to deliver at the Mechanics' Institute a public lecture, the principal feature in which, it is unhesitatingly avowed, is to show that the lecturer is "more and more persuaded that, of all the objects of our affections, that which is the most menaced, as it is that which is most for our honor to maintain, is our nationality" (!) Here is language bold enough, and not to be mistaken, and we have a right to demand—for the country has a right to know—on what principle of antagonism it is to the views and opinions of Lord Durham, and of the Union, which was proposed and carried, principally with the intention of stifling so dangerous a doctrine, that the Executive of the country have lent their sanction for the continuance of Mr. Parent, as clerk of their council-room, after the delivery of such sentiments, tacitly implying such sanction, to a course of conduct as disreputable to a public officer; as it is dangerous to the best interests of the Province.

We trust, nay we feel assured, that there is not a British journal in the Province which will not take up the subject, and press upon the Government the necessity of taking such steps in this matter as will satisfy the outraged feelings of every rightly-judging person in the country.

SIR FRANCIS HEAD'S "EMIGRANT."

We have not yet seen this work, one copy of which alone, we believe, has yet reached this city, but there is, we understand, something in it which interests ourselves, and which calls for some explanation. It was stated to us a few days ago, that Sir Francis had given, in support of certain views attributed to Lord Durham, a letter addressed by that nobleman to ourselves, on the subject of the Union of Upper and Lower Canada, and we confess our astonishment was great to know by what possibility Sir Francis Head could have obtained access to documents which have never been out of our possession, except to pass into the hands of Lord Sydenham and his Executive, by whom they were carefully returned. It however occurred to us that it was possible we might have had occasion to publish some particular letter in defence of his Lordship's conduct, and therefore referred to a file of the *Canadian Loyalist*, where we found the only letter Sir Francis Head could have had it in his power to give to the world, in anticipation of our own intention.

[The circumstances under which this communication was published, we will give in our next.]

MARRIAGE BY SPECIAL LICENCE.

As a recent ordinance of the Episcopalian Church has announced that henceforward all marriages are to be solemnized at the altar, it may be of some interest to our readers to know, who, at home, are alone entitled to a special licence. The fees, including stamp duty, amount to ten guineas, and the commission before whom the parties are sworn something near fifty shillings sterling:—

1. Peers and Peeresses, and their respective children and grandchildren.
2. Privy Counsellors and their children.
3. Members of Parliament, and persons who have been such, and their respective children.
4. Great Officers of State.
5. Baronets and their children.
6. Knights, including Knights Companions of the Bath.
7. Judges, Spiritual and Temporal, and their children.
8. King's Counsel.
9. Deans of Churches.
10. General Officers and Admirals.
11. State Physicians, and Physician and Surgeon General.
12. Officers of the Royal Household.
13. Doctors in Divinity.
14. Officers of the Lord Lieutenant's (of Ireland,) Household—that is to say, the Private Secretary, Chaplains, Aid-de-Camps, the Steward and Comptroller of the Household, the Chamberlains and Gentleman Usher.

THE BRITISH FLAG.—Sir Francis Head prides himself much in having been the first to raise the British flag on the Government House, Toronto. We sincerely trust that it was a very different sort of flag from that which waves over Government House in Montreal. Bunting must be dear, or we should scarcely see so torn a rag as is exhibited there—scarcely larger than a lady's pocket-handkerchief, and not cleaner than a scullion's apron. We should very much like to know how much longer we are to be compelled to strain our eyes, in looking upward at this object of *vertu*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CORPS EDITORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXPOSITOR.

SIR,—In no part of the British Possessions do the conductors of public journals receive less consideration for their useful labors than in Canada, and particularly in this part of the Province. And pray, what is the reason? In England, we observe them filling important political offices, and holding seats in Parliament. In the United States, we find amongst the *corps editorial*, distinguished members of Congress, and of the different State Legislatures. We recognize in the various Embassies to Foreign Governments, men who have distinguished themselves as Editors, and who have been eminent for their talent in the conducting of Public Journals. But in Canada, I should fain learn, what honors have been conferred upon the Craft? From the period when the *Quebec Gazette* was established, in the early history of the Colony, down to the time of the memorable services of William Lyon McKenzie, and his successor, the late member for Oxford, pray, what Editor has obtained an honorable office under the Government, or has been successful in his endeavors to procure the confidence of the people?—with the exception of the venerable Nestor of the Press! and his youthful contemporary, the Honorable!! member for Montmorenci, who is the person that has distinguished himself, either in the senate or the field? In the former, we have had but few; in the latter, since the days that McKenzie and O'Callaghan took to their heels, we have not observed any of the *corps editorial* remarkable for their powers in arms.—Pardon me, sir, I have omitted the name of another, General Brown! the hero of a thousand fights!—He too, once belonged to the *corps editorial*.

Sarcasm apart, whence does this state of things arise? From the want of a proper *esprit de corps* amongst themselves. The same conservative principle which brings into power in other countries, would, if carried into effect in this, be productive of the very same result. There is no want of character and ability amongst the conductors of our Press; but with one or two honorable exceptions, they are too accessible to the angry passions of human nature,—they make party questions, personal questions, and their quarrels, amongst themselves, engross too much of their time and attention, which ought to be devoted to the attainment of worthier objects, than those, to which they seem to apply themselves.

Jealousy and distrust of each other predominate amongst them, and the Editor of *soi-disant* "leading" Journals look down contemptuously on those whom they, in their haughtiness and pride, would fain consider as obscure candidates for public favor.

Is not this, Mr. Editor, the cause why the Press does not, in this Province, command that respect, which it has acquired in other countries? and why the conductors of the Press are, in comparison with the elevated position of their co-temporaries in Europe and the United States, mere "hewers of wood and drawers of water"?

The reform is in their own hands. It is kindness and confidence towards each other, by which their own rights, security and interest can always be maintained. They may then exclaim with the poet:—

"Here shall the Press the people's rights maintain,
Unawed by influence, unbribed by gain;
Here patriot truth her glorious precepts draw,
Pledged to Religion, Liberty, and Law."

J. C.