

SHORT PATENT SERMONS.
NEW SERIES—NO. 331.

The following is a translation of a sermon that I preached last Sunday, to the aborigines of Windwhistle Island. I took no text, but "delivered" them from a hollow tree spontaneously, extemporaneously, and most outrageously:

My native brethren—[perhaps I ought not to have called them my native brethren, because mine have all white faces]—I come among you, not to bring special dog tidings, for you are not prepared to appreciate them; but to tell you how unhappy you are in this your primitive and primitive condition. You are a most miserable set of semi-somethings, called human beings, but hardly worthy of the appellation. The moral depravity of your souls is so scant, coarse and unaccountable as your physical torments, and that is ugly enough to make a dead dog bark. It is true, O Wind-whistlers, that you eat, drink, make love, dance and sing, and imagine that you are happy; but your happiness is all a filigree of fancy. How is it possible that you can be happy when you have no Bible—no missionaries—no money—no politicians among you? What I mean by politicians is, men who have got nothing, and are willing to sacrifice all for the civil welfare of your bushy but glorious little island—to have governed according to the great principles long ago "taken down" by General Jackson, and later "taken up" and "carried out" to Mexico by the illustrious Polk. Would you know a Bible from a brick-bat or a card of gingerbread, if I were to throw you one? I thought I had one in my pocket, but that's my powder flask. No, I know you wouldn't; but it's of no consequence whether you would or not, for you can't read, any more than the wind that fumbles over the leaves in the book of nature. Did you ever hear of heaven? It's a great country—but you haven't got there yet, and I'm afraid you never will; you won't, certainly, unless you first know there is such a place, and make some sort of preparations to get there. Well, heaven, O ye poor, benighted and belated Wind-whistlers, is up there! What you see overhead, that looks like my little cotton umbrella, here, when spread out, is heaven. You live under the centre of it, and are the farthest off, while we, civilized and enlightened beings, dwell round the edges—where the golden skies communicate with earth, and where perpetual peace and happiness prevail.

Wind-whistlers—you are an unhappy and degraded people. To be let, you must become civilized. You want the root of all happiness. Then you need among you a few lawyers—several ministers of the gospel, of different persuasions—several school-keepers, and a schoolmaster. These once among you, and there is no fear but the devil will send you a plenty of doctors. Then you will be on the broad road to civilization, refinement, and happiness. You may say that you are contented and joyous as you are; but I tell you, you are miserable—and, if you only knew it, you would be so. I hope to let you hear the voice of wisdom emanating from this bay tree again in due season. Meantime, go to your homes—talk the matter over among yourselves and come to the conclusion that you are willing and mean to be made happy. So note it be. Dow, Ja.

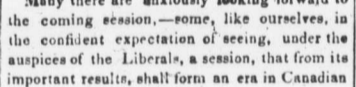
He was a Collector of Customs in Sheffield—appointed by the Ministry. According to Mr. Lofant's independence of Parliament Act, certain public officers enumerated therein, are prohibited from interfering at elections under pain of loss of office or penalty. The officers of the Customs are among these—and Mr. John Moir Peres became a victim to his own folly, or to his heated partisanship towards the late Ministry. This Independence of Parliament Act, it should be borne in mind, is neither a French nor an American notion, but is copied from the practical working of that very Constitution which "this loyal" business much about, and a case was recently given which the Home Government dismissed a person from a similar office to that held by Mr. Peres, for a like offence. The Ministry can expect nothing less than an uncompromising enemy in Mr. Peres, and no doubt the columns of the Gazette will afford him ample room for gratifying his spleen at the loss of office. He has commenced his crusade against the Ministry—his bitter taunts and silly charges must be believed, because he is so disinterested in what he says. The Pilot and Peres have had a spar about the Board of Customs; but all that the former can say will not cost the ex-Collector, that the Ministry have not committed some blunder in the management of this department since they came into power. Such is the recklessness of the Gazette, that his neighbour the Transcript—has been obliged to take him in hand. We fear, that the Transcript will come as a mistake, as the Pilot has done. The Gazette raves about the prescription practised by the present Ministry, and the many dismissals made, to make room for political friends, the Transcript calmly asks him for the proof, and professes to know of only one dismissal on political grounds and that justly done. This was a dead hit at poor Peres. Although not named as the individual referred to, he could not deny it, as he was intended for the ex-Collector of Sheffield. Notwithstanding that the Transcript (a Tory paper) is obliged to check the Gazette for the looseness of its statements—some of the opposition papers take quite a pleasure in dishing them up to their readers as truths to be "relied" on.—Bath Courier.

DIABOLICAL OUTRAGE!—A few nights since, some miscreants entered the graveyard, attached to the Episcopal Church at Ancaster, and, in a spirit of savage wickedness, tore from its proper place, and broke into pieces, a very beautiful and costly monument, lately erected to the memory of the wife of Mr. John Hore of West-Elmhorough.

Words uttered fail to convey any adequate expression of the enormity of such an offence—even the heathen share, in common with enlightened humanity, those feelings which cause the resting-places of the dead to be regarded as sacred ground. In Ancaster, the circumstance has created, as may well be supposed, the utmost indignation—and, especially, that monstrous, capable of such an atrocity, should have made so quiet and well ordered a village the scene of their wanton atrocity. We are assured that there does not exist the slightest suspicion that this act originated from any ill-will towards Mr. Hore or any of his family.—Dundas Watcher.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS.

Four numbers more will complete the first volume of the Huron Signal, and owing to the great inconvenience of publishing a newspaper in Goderich, our subscribers must give much credit for having got so far along without dunning them. And as we are miserable hands at carrying, we trust that all those who received the first number of the Signal and who have not yet paid for it, will have compassion on our feelings and save us the mortification of again hinting at this delicate subject,—by remitting, at their first convenience the sum of twelve shillings and six pence for each copy so received. To those who wish to pay in advance, the price for the ensuing year will still be only ten shillings.



FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 1849.

THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

Many there are anxiously looking forward to the coming session,—some, like ourselves, in the confident expectation of seeing, under the auspices of the Liberal, a session, that will be the important result, shall form an era in Canadian Legislation; others in the hope that through the opposition of the broken faction, self-styled Conservatives, matters may be allowed to remain very much in the same state they have been for years past. These latter if they fall, as they will in their desired object, a stand-still policy will again raise the mad-dog cry of revolution and rebellion. Treat it with the contempt it will deserve. Judge of the measures submitted by the Government through the organs of themselves; let the measures speak for themselves. If good, give them the praise that will be their due; if bad condemn them. Remember (no matter the cry of mad dog,) no set of men, be they at the head of Government or not, can raise rebellion or accomplish revolution without the aid of the masses; and as long as we find ourselves in the enjoyment of rational liberty—a liberty more general than that to be found under any other form of government. Resolutions should not be introduced which would be a libel on the Government of the United Kingdom, and which would be a libel on the Government of the United Kingdom, and which would be a libel on the Government of the United Kingdom.

We passed, gained from experience of the Tories, that no change, however malignant; no insinuation, however despicable, will they bring to advance if they consider their doing so will lead to the accomplishment of their darling object—the possession of place; not for the power it confers of doing good to the whole community, but for the opportunity it affords of building up themselves and giving permanency to the institutions they wish to see flourish, irrespective of the general welfare. With these brief remarks, we will proceed to consider one or two of those measures that are likely to form a portion of the legislative labours of our Representatives at the forthcoming session.

The first measure we shall advert to is the University Question. It has been a bug-bear to the country long enough, and high time it is that it was settled. That it has been so long unsettled is owing to the system of policy that has in all time past been the Tory rule of conduct. The same that brought about the revolution in England, and ended with the decapitation of Charles the First, erroneously called "The Martyrdom." That which flooded Scotland with blood in the reign of Charles the Second, and ultimately was the cause of the revolution that led William the Third to the throne, has been and is at present the curse of Ireland, and was one of the main causes of the rebellion in this Province, namely, their endeavor to build up the Church of England to the detriment of all other systems of faith, and to make its dogmas the only rule of conscience throughout an Empire governing more subjects than did Rome in its best days. We trust that the measure when passed will be of such a nature as forever to set at rest all fear of Church domination. We expect it to be the forerunner of another important one of the same kind, the abrogation of the Clergy Reserves.—Let these lands be devoted to educational purposes, and we shall soon have a population that from the possession of knowledge will be a barrier to superstition, even though the superstitious should shadow forth itself under the dogmas of the Apostolic Succession.

An extension of the franchise is imperatively demanded, in order that the country may be secured against the unprincipled jobbing of Ministers. Two much of that took place during the last four years. On the measure proposed we have such an extension as will, we think, amply answer the purpose; and though it may cost a trifle more in payments of Member's wages we consider the advantages to be gained will compensate the country over and over again for the increased expenditure.

CORRESPONDENCE.

CANADA COMPANY'S LEASING SYSTEM.

No plan has as yet been devised that will operate to the disadvantage of the settler than the Leasing System of the Canada Company. It is the greatest piece of cruelty that has been perpetrated in this country upon the uninformed settler, and would do credit to the cheating shrewdness we are pleased to suppose is attributed to our neighbors across the lake: with the spurious declaration "no money required down," parties are induced to become lessees instead of purchasers. They bind themselves to pay a rental more than equal to six per cent. on the market value of the land, and enter into heavy engagements for the due performance of the many obligations contained in the articles of Lease: one of which is, that at the end of five years they are unable to pay the amount at which the land is valued, it is raised on them; and at the termination of the lease, to wit: in another five years, if they should still be unable to pay the land, with all their improvements, are forfeited to the Company; and thus vanishes from the lessee all the capital ten years hard labor has accumulated on the property that he fondly thought would be his own. There is no clause for a payment by the Company of any sum as compensation for the improvements made.

It is not as if this plan, on the part of the proprietor, Frederick Widdler, Esq., Commissioner of the Canada Company at Toronto, had resulted from ignorance of the slow progress made by settlers in the woods, or that it was the hasty idea of an uninformed person—far from it. No one with the books of the Canada Company before him, and the knowledge he must have gained from them of the lengthened credit the Company extended under the old system of the one-fifth down and the remainder in five annual instalments, must have been aware that in submitting this scheme to the public, he was wilfully and knowingly entrapping men by their own view. It is now upwards of fifteen years since I came to this place, and I can point to many who became at that time, or shortly after, the purchasers of land from the Company, under its then equitable mode of selling, and these persons are at this moment in no better position to pay than they were at the time of going to their lands; this has risen from the many misfortunes all are liable to. Unless, then, some great advantage—some highly fortuitous event is to follow the lessee that has not hitherto been attendant on the efforts of the purchaser, I have no hesitation in asserting that one-half of the one-fifth down and the remainder in five annual instalments, remain the property of the Canada Company, if even it should not revert to them at an earlier date, (nor do I hesitate to affirm that such was the calculation of the framers of the measure, and no doubt this argument among others, was used to induce its adoption.) some dispensing of being able to pay for their land at the expiration of the lease will abandon rather than continue to work for the benefit of others; and these men will act presently. I would seriously advise all who do not see their way clearly, and feel satisfied of being able to meet their engagements to the Company,

at once to throw up their land; it is better to do so now than after six, eight or ten years of hard work in rendering valuable the property of others, to find all their labor lost and themselves so much the less able to commence the world again; and I would impress upon all intending settlers not to become purchasers under this deluded system. These remarks are called forth partly from a desire to warn my fellow settlers of the situation in which they stand, partly with a view to draw the attention of those who may, from the possession of means, be able to avail themselves of the advantages presented by Building Societies as a mode of relieving them from their impending ruin. To none do they hold out more inducements than to those situated as lessees are to the Company. A little prudent economy might enable many through the working of these institutions to clear themselves; and in good hope rapidly money invested in these societies increases, I submit the substance of a statement brought by the Treasurer and Auditor before the Board of Directors of the one in operation in this place, and the society may be said to have commenced before August last, when the first share was sold. The statement is carried down to the commencement of the present month; in that short time the paid up capital of the society shows a profit of forty-seven and a half per cent., or four shillings and nine pence on every ten shillings paid in.—Should it go on in the same flourishing manner as it has commenced it may reasonably be expected to wind up in six or seven years, when the stock will be divided among those composing its members. In calling your attention fellow settlers, to these institutions as a means of delivery from your difficulties, I know many will say it is very fine to talk; but where is the money to come from, to enable us to become shareholders? In reply to this, I would remark that if a difficulty exists in obtaining the trifling amount necessary—three pounds four shillings a year—to enable you to receive fifty pounds on the winding up of the society, by what process do you propose to raise money enough to pay for your land at the end of the five years, or should you not then be able, the still larger amount required at the end of ten years? If you cannot do the one you may depend upon it you will not be able to do the others. With these few remarks I shall now leave the subject, trusting, however, that you will give it that consideration it deserves.

JOHN GALT.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HURON SIGNAL.

Sir,—I observed in the Huron Gazette of October 27, a lengthy and scandalous article, written, as I have supposed, to injure my influence with Mr. Jackson, the Government Agent for the settling of the lands along the Durham Road. I am not aware, Mr. Editor, who is the author of this stuff; but I am thinking most "We look"; if so, Mr. Editor, I am inclined to think that by noticing the cur, except to kick him as the horse did the ass, I would be lowering myself in the estimation of the public. Now, Sir, the principal cause of all these misstatements in the Gazette of Oct. 27th, is, that during the summer I was up Lake Huron in the erection of a Saw Mill. Some time ago, the last of August, Mr. Brown the Surveyor, came out at the mouth of Pantagor River, (where I then was), with what is called the Durham Road; many persons followed the Surveyor from Owen Sound settlement, to view the lands in the township of Kincardine. Mr. Brown gave me, as near as he could, a plan of the township and town; and while Mr. Brown was there, several persons came to the place, I enquired of that gentleman what was the intention of the government in reference to the wild lands. He informed me that as near as he could find out, the present intention was to settle the lands immediately; and that 50 acres would be given to any British born subject, that he must comply with the government stipulations; and further stated that I might now show the settlers their lands, to take down their names, the numbers of their lots, and the quantity they wanted. Accordingly I received Mr. Jackson's letter of date September 4th; also another of the 5th, with instructions; also of the 18th September, with an enclosed notice to me, that in consequence of the Surveyors not being able to come out for two or three months; that he would be obliged to discontinue his encouragement to squat, wishing me to get publicly to the enclosed, which I did verbally, and by putting up his notices publicly in my shanty. In the same letter he states—"I am obliged by the situation you have given to the parties enquiring for lands; and I trust such persons have selected locations as will prove agreeable neighbors to you and useful settlers. This, Mr. Editor, does not look like John Clark being the agent for Kincardine." Yet the letter body persisted that he was, and stated that if the government did not give the whole, he would have any thing to do with Ashfield and Wawanosh, and stated that by Mr. Caley's act of Parliament, all the lands west of Goderich belonged to him, and Mr. Jackson was nothing but a pretender, as it belonged to the Huron District, which he still claims in that scurrilous publication about me.

Clark then writes the Commissioner of Crown Lands, making use of false assertions about me, that I was taking all this upon myself without any authority. The Commissioner very justly states that I had no authority or connection with him; he knew nothing about me,—(but does Mr. Jackson say so.) Why not we wonder, Mr. Editor, first find out by that gentleman what he was doing? But no, he knew too well the manner in which he had abused that gentleman, and despised his authority. He did not, dare not, write to Mr. Jackson in the same tone of contempt in which he made use of that gentleman's name.

ROAD MAKING.

Sir,—Your Fullerton correspondent has said so much upon road making that it requires some courage to even offer an opinion, but having a scoundrel will of my own, and a sort of idea that he is profoundly ignorant of the soil of our road, I cannot allow my ideas to sleep upon the subject, and, therefore, offer the following remarks: Your Fullerton correspondent would make it appear that the Great Huron Road is a morass; to show him that the contrary is the fact, I can say that, with but little repair, the Huron Road has been much travelled upon for the last fourteen years, and generally acknowledged the best unplanked or unMcAdamized road in Canada, East or West. It has been travelled upon all seasons of the year, with less difficulty, or complaint, than any other soil road; and only known to be really bad, after the attempts of the District to repair it. I call all the repairs made an attempt, for they are generally commenced too late in the season for consolidation to take place, and consequently leave a mud drier it up, than the gullies are not filled up, but left open, to retain the showers of rain; may come, one would suppose, for the purpose of keeping it moist below. A deep great evil attends those repairs. They are deep drains dug upon both sides of the road, given out, with only an outlet for the contents; and if such an appendage as a culvert is attempted, it generally falls short of its purpose, of being the depth of the drain, and so narrow as to be covered with a single timber rising six inches or more above the level of the road, one would imagine for the purpose of being wedged down to prevent water passing, rather than that of covering a water course. Every wheel that strikes it, tends to drive it below the projected drain. The above remarks will occur to all who have paid any attention to our roads. Now to my ideas of the Huron Road, and the making of it one of the best roads in Canada. In 1835 the Canada Company removed that continuous logway from the Wilmot line to Goderich, and during that year and 1836, laid the foundation of the road by having twenty feet in the centre of the allowance of road, cleared of stumps, &c., and the earth thrown up, making the road 18 inches higher in the centre than at the sides; water tables were formed from 6 inches to 1 foot deep. This road so changed the appearance of the country, and the intercourse with the neighbouring Districts, that the population nearly doubled in 1835-36, and the carriage of goods reduced from Hamilton to Stratford from 7s 8d to 3s 1d per cwt.

There was no survey at that time in the township; also that several had raised crops there is a palpable falsehood. No man ever was there to settle but one, with the exception of Mr. Withers, Mr. Goodwin and myself; this settler is Patrick Downie from Stratford, who went up with me last spring, and viewed the place—like it much—so that he moved his family to the place, but not as a solicitation, but at the request of Esquire McCulloch and T. M. Daly of Stratford, to whom he gave up his place or farm for what he owed them, and had no other place to go to. These gentlemen advised him to go up the lake. I defy John Clark or the Editor of the Gazette to substantiate what they have published against me in that contemptible paper. I am prepared to meet either on fair grounds; and by Mr. Jackson's letter to me I am prepared to show to the public that I acted in strict accordance with his instructions. So if I had done any thing wrong, Mr. Jackson is the gentleman that is to look after me, not Johnny Clark, who, thank fortune, assumes no authority in Kincardine, but has been doing all in his power to retard the progress of the place. I must call your attention to one thing Johnny, that is, I am not a fugitive from justice. I am in the country that gave me birth, but never had occasion to be banged up in a barrel, and smuggled to any other part of the world to evade justice. And to Kincardine I intend going next spring.

ALLAN CAMERON,
From Clengary, E. D.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HURON SIGNAL.

Sir,—The election for Councillor took place yesterday, and I have to inform you that D. H. Ritchie, Esq., was elected by a majority of 40.—The township has been in a state of fermentation for the last week, or perhaps more; for it was currently reported that a Mr. Haaska, linemaker, was canvassing for himself. His politics is radical. Mr. Grant from the London Road (radical), was canvassing for himself in that part of the township; and when they all met at the Poll, I was surprised to find Dr. Cole (radical) an other candidate. So you will perceive three radical candidates in the field at once to oppose one Conservative. But before they went to Poll, Mr. Haaska resigned in favour of Dr. Cole, when Mr. Ritchie saw that he found he would be hard run unless he could conciliate matters with Mr. Grant. So as soon as Mr. Grant arrived, Mr. Ritchie and his worst supporters pledged themselves if Mr. Grant would assist them in this election, that they would return the complement next year, when we shall be entitled to two councillors. But nothing is more certain than that we shall return a Radical then, for Mr. Grant has the promise, upon honor, of Mr. Ritchie and friends to support him. I have no doubt that he will make a most excellent Councillor, and as for Dr. Cole, I must say that few, if any, could be found more capable of looking after the pecuniary affairs of the township. The meeting was for the largest ever known in Stanley. The chair was taken by D. Brownson, Esq., and the meeting conducted by him to the satisfaction of all present.

PUBLIC MEETING AT SOUTH EASTHOPE, HURON DISTRICT—NEW DISTRICTS OF PARISH AND BATH.—On Monday the 18th inst., a large and influential meeting was held at the farm of Mr. S. Frylock in South Easthope, in consequence of the following notice which had been circulated to a small extent, in the east portions of the townships of North and South Easthope, but was unknown in Stratford or neighbourhood, till within a few hours of the meeting:—"A public meeting will be held at the Tavern of Mr. Sebastian Frylock, in the township of South Easthope, on Monday the 18th inst., at the hour of noon, for the purpose of getting up Petitions to Parliament to annex the townships of North and South Easthope to the intended new District of Bruce.—14th Dec. 1848."

There were over 200 assembled, and after waiting for some time to give an opportunity for those to come forward who had given publicity to the notice, and failing in their proceeding to take any charge of such a large assemblage of settlers, met on such an emergency, (they had travelled from distance, mostly on foot), the meeting, after theredily, unanimously, on the motion of D. McPherson, Esq., seconded by Mr. John Sherman, appointed John C. W. Daly, Esq., as Chairman,—and Mr. John E. Linton, Secretary.

Mr. Daly then rose and addressed the meeting, and holding a copy of the notice in his hand, he called on any present to explain why this notice was published, and by whom. This was repeated, when Mr. Crombie of Galt came forward and said that he knew something about it; and Mr. Scott of Hamburg, and Mr. Alex. Hamilton D.C. of North Easthope, also explained. Mr. Daly then said that he hoped the meeting would this day express their opinion decidedly. Mr. William Smith of Downie then addressed the meeting at some length, (seeing there were no reasons given for any connection with Galt,) and most ably went on to explain the position in which the proposed District of Bruce is in—and the equivocal nature of the claims for it, when there was the intended District of Brant alongside of it, and the nearness of a portion of Waterloo to Gulpish, (three or four miles) and that the promoters of the Bruce District should not have come so far out of their way as the Huron for support, as the inhabitants of the eastern portion of the Huron were earnest in their endeavors to have the new District of Peel erected. We are unable to give the chief extracts of Mr. Smith's address, but he was listened to with great attention. Mr. James Rankine D.C. of North Easthope, expressed himself favorable to the intended division of the Huron District, and gave many reasons to show that it would not be for the advantage

of the settlers in intended district. The following posed by D. McP Mr. John Sherman and both were at the meeting. posed by D. Daly for his which passed an ing. Resolved, That and South East intended district be unjust and it will take place, ships be a part District of Peel petition be appropriate District. The prayer of "That your to, and acquiesce division of the establishment of ern portion there general petition District of Peel, such may be gra will ever pray."

Here we have an outlet at every section that requires it, to drain the road we have a bed formed to confine the gravel, the roller bedded the first layer of gravel, the roller rolled on it consolidates it, and forms a bed for the last six inches of gravel and the water scraped off the sides, and out of the water-tables being thrown on the surface and rolled, keeps the whole from shifting, and acts as a cement, leaving a smooth surface for the rains to run off.

Let us now see what the expense of such a road would be. From close calculations of the extent of outlets required on the line (for very little other drainage would be necessary) drainage cost 12s 6d.....25 960 rods of curass cost 10s per rod.....480 160 culverts and timber complete cost 50s.....800 Preparing 57 miles of road for gravel at 1s per rod.....512 60 miles to gravel at 10s per rod.....960 For side drains, and cleaning out the water-tables, say.....400 5 Tull gates cost 275 each.....375 £1,192 T. D. 19

ARRIVAL.

The Steamship on Sunday last the 16th ultimo, factory, so far is concerned. A despatch of 19 1/2 cwt., quality continue turns show a 1 Esquire Napoleon Twenty-seven" Prince Louis Cawaginas to the A partial annex ly to be present Ministry of Pri understood, he include the pie A well informed far as the in to judge, the s following prop Louis Napo General Cav. Ledro-Rollin Raspaill, ... Lanarint, ... The Committee pointed to exat their labors on onal Assembly claim the Pres shall then, it is of tranquility The election on Sunday, the on Monday fo place an Frid of the Guard I supporters of not appear to row, although The votes caw, Lamart, be s insignificant mention.

Rome conti a deputation frpality to in Rome, left for Marshall Ra dated Milan, 8 accession of th on his army that they have archy. [This parag we understand that he is now The remain sment. We are inf. good authorit; will not offer, J. Ferguson,] rightfully cle Dundas Was

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