

calculated to be more agreeable than Bulwer's. Gay, quick, various, half satirical, and always fresh and different from any body else, he seemed to talk because he could not help it, and infected every body with his spirits. I cannot give even the substance of it in a letter, for it was in a great measure, local or personal. A great deal of fun was made of a proposal by Lady Blessington, to take Bulwer to America, and show him at so much a head. She asked me whether I thought it would be a good speculation. I took it upon myself to assure her, by a letter, that provided she played *showman*, the "concern," as they would phrase it in America, would be certainly a profitable one. Bulwer said he would rather go in disguise, and hear them abuse his books. It would be pleasant, he thought to hear the opinions of people who judged him neither as a member of parliament nor a dandy—simply a book maker. Smith asked him if he kept an amanuensis. "No," said he, "I scribble it all myself, and send it to the press in a most ungentlemanlike hand, half print and half hieroglyphic, with all its imperfections on its head, and correct in the proof—very much to the dissatisfaction of the publisher, who sends me in a bill of sixteen pounds six shillings and four pence for extra corrections. Then I am free to confess I don't know grammar. Lady Blessington, do you know grammar? I detest grammar. There never was such a thing heard of before Lindley Murray. I wonder what they did for grammar before his day! Oh, the delicious blunders one sees when they are irretrievable! And the best of it is the critics never get hold of them. Thank heaven for second editions, that one may scratch his blots, and go down clean and gentlemanlike to posterity! Smith asked him if he had ever reviewed one of his own books. "No—but I would! And then how I should like to reprimand and defend myself indignantly! I think I could be precisely severe. Depend upon it nobody knows a book's defects half so well as its author.—I have a great idea of criticising my works for my posthumous memoirs. Shall I Smith? Shall I Lady Blessington?"

Bulwer's voice, like his brother's, is exceedingly sweet. His playful tones are quite delicious, and his clear laugh is the soul of sincere and careless merriment. It was getting late, and the Duke de Richelieu rose and made his bow. One or two rather severe remarks were made upon him around the circle. "Poor devil!" said Bulwer, "that comes of going away first. He is sure to take the edge of your scandal.—Here is Smith, now—you are sure of him as long as you choose to stay. He knows the world to well to go away, and leave his character among his friends. I always come last for that reason. It seems so natural to say an ill-natured thing of a man when he has just gone!"

QUEBEC, MARCH 23

"You will see by our own newspapers that Mr Neilson is appointed by the Quebec Constitutional Association, to go to England as their agent to the British Ministry and British people, and to be the bearer of their petition to Parliament. He will leave us to sail by the packet of the 16th April. He will be instructed to co-operate with them.

"Mr Neilson is very talented, cool, moderate man, of plain education, manners, and habits; he is however, impatient of contradiction. Until lately, he has been a republican here, and when he had joined the Association, I heard him say that he had recently travelled through the United States, where he had seen enough of their elective system to be thoroughly acquainted with it, and that insight to the practice had destroyed his admiration of the theory—that he clearly foresaw what would be the effect of such a system in this country,—nothing short of mob legislation, and the ruin of the steady and valuable portion of society, by the precipitate heat and infatuation of the unstable and ignorant.

"Undoubtedly, he has difficulties before him, and the government still greater, in determining on the remedy for our evils, for any innovation of this constitution may possibly, at some future period, recoil upon ourselves. In fact it is a choice of evils, and we must put up with what seems to be the least.

"Increased representations will be inadequate although those of British origin have been bereaved of their birthright by the mode in which it has been settled by the House of Assembly. It would be inadequate, because, under any circumstances, the French in this province would have a majority in the Assembly.

"The union of the provinces, not long since so desirable, is now no more than questionable. Mr Hume, by his patronage of the infamous letter to Mr McKenzie, has managed to trip up the balance of things in the Upper Province.

"The repeal of ——— William IV., to take back the Act of the 14th, George III., will be very serviceable; but this, while it might be considered a violent measure, may also prove inadequate, for the revenue collecting under it, is diminishing annually,

while the wants of the Government, with the increase of settlements and population for judicature and civil offices, will be increasing. It is collected chiefly in rum, and as the culture of sugar in our West India Colonies is likely to decrease under the new system, distillation will increase here, and the revenue, consequently falling off progressively, will, in time, become quite inadequate.

"The Government should be quite independent of the House of Assembly. A permanent civil list, to be increased with the needful wants of this country, must be established, or the Government will continue to be impracticable.

"Though the country has been conquered by British arms, it has been virtually given up to the people, subdivided by the Constitution given, and allowed to be encroached upon. They have used the Constitution not as men forming part of the British Empire, but have in a manner taken up arms as enemies to the Empire. They have now quite forgotten how the British Government unbound them from the chains and fetters and exactions of their old French colonial system.

"Whatever changes are made, the confirmation of the Executive Council will be a most material point to be considered. The conduct of the Legislative Council of late years has completely redeemed its character.

This thriving Colony has not been far behind its neighbours in Senatorial dissensions and there still appears to exist a decided spirit of emulation in the description of warfare. When the late Island of Warakik, Captain Stewart, had succeeded in unmaking obnoxious Governors, a greater degree of harmony might have been expected from the Legislative bodies; but it seems that, in the absence of a common antagonist, they needlessly quarrel among themselves. These unseemly differences, are unworthy of sensible minds, and show a reprehensible disregard for the public good. The people are always willing to make great sacrifices when their rights and interests are even attempted to be invaded, but they are not disposed to clash among these mere questions of order, or financial arrangements, and far less those personal feelings which are too often suffered to impede the transaction of the public business. In small communities, there is so much intimate acquaintance with each other's affairs, and so much of little household gossip abroad, under the especial patronage of the schoolmaster, that we need not wonder at the foolish spectacles which collective wisdom sometimes exhibits. In the case of Prince Edward's Island, the loss of the Appropriation Bill is inexcusable; for while we admit, that to our view the House of Assembly clearly departed from usage, in embodying it with Bills of Revenue, and introduced thereby a very injudicious system, yet, while they contained nothing objectionable, if differently presented, the Council would have best consulted its own dignity, and the welfare of the Colony, by according their consent, at the same time taking care to guard their doing so against being drawn into a precedent. It may be a very pretty thing for Honorable gentry to rout and noise about their privileges, but they should not, amid their high notions of self importance, altogether forget that the people have some small interest in the result of their deliberations. To remedy as much as possible, the evil already done, and to prevent its extension, his Excellency has summoned the legislature to meet forthwith for the dispatch of business. A very evident cause of the disputes continually arising among the several branches of our Colonial Assemblies is ignorance of their respective rights or these being so loosely defined as to afford a never failing source of controversy. This state of matters, require a remedy, and we would fain hope that the experiment about being made in Lower Canada will have the effect of enlightening Colonial Senators on the questions of procedure order, privileges, and such like.—*Pictou Observer*.

The lead mine about 60 miles from Saint Louis, although but recently discovered and opened, has already yielded 800,000 pounds of ore; 50,000 of which have been smelted and yielded a greater per centage than any similar mineral.

The mineral wealth or geological resources of the valley of the Mississippi are yet but very imperfectly known.—*New Orleans Bee*.

SINGULAR EARTHQUAKE.—A singular earthquake was lately experienced at Reedstown, U. District. It had been felt for ten successive days at that place, nine in the immediate vicinity. The shocks were such as to shake the goods out of the shelves in the stores, and were accompanied by a rumbling explosion like "the voice of muffled drums." The families residing had all removed except one. The shocks were not felt, nor the noise heard, for more than three or four miles, but within that distance were very perceptible.

We have been informed by a friend that the noise still continues to be heard; and it

can be distinctly heard at the distance of five miles.—*Christian (Columbia) Herald*.

GREAT FIRE IN BOSTON.—A slip from the editor of the Boston Evening Reformer, dated at "6 o'clock, Monday evening," says—"A great fire is raging—49 buildings are gone." We have no further particulars.

At the fire on Monday afternoon, a number of families lost all they possessed. A considerable portion of the sufferers had insurance on a part of their property. The losses sustained by the insurance offices is as follows, viz.—The Fireman's 12000 dollars, on several different buildings; the Merchants' 6300; the Mutual 4000; Tremont and Commonwealth 2000 each; National and Ocean 1000 each; American 1200; and Manufacturers' 400. Besides the loss from destruction of buildings and their contents, a good deal of damage was done by the removal of goods and furniture from buildings in the neighbourhood, as from the freshness of the wind there was danger of the conflagration spreading to a much wider extent. Sparks were carried to a great distance, and we are told, caught fire under the eaves of a store on Central Wharf, and also in the roof of a wooden store on Long Wharf, but it was prevented from spreading further, by the vigilance of the owners.

THE URSLINES.—We learn from the Boston papers that ruffianism is rife, among the rabble yet. On the night of the 6th, inst., a crowd gathered around the house occupied by the Ursuline Nuns at Roxbury entered the yard, sang obscene songs, and showed other signs of hostile character, until the inmates, fearful of serious disturbances, dismissed the children of the school—and the community are to be removed to Canada.

Without deeming it necessary to say one word as to the propriety or usefulness of Catholic institutions of the sort in the United States, or expressing any opinion of the Catholic religion and those who profess it, we have no hesitation in pronouncing judgment upon the perpetrators of these outrages.—They are disgraceful to the community in which they occur, and should be visited with the strong arm of the law.

MEXICO.—By private advices received yesterday from Tampico, it appears that the revolution in Mexico is assuming a serious aspect. Already have several of the States, declared in favour of the plan of Alvarez and Farias; and many others that have not yet made any demonstration are expected soon to join them. But these generals intend to concentrate their forces on Mexico; and Alvarez has already advanced for that purpose. Santa Anna has assumed the command of the army, and had gone to Tampico; but it is believed he will march thence after some necessary arrangement, to the encampment of Gomez Farias at Nocatecas. Barragan acts still as the Regent President.

Under these phases of hostile preparations it is probable that the contest will be protracted and bloody.

The New Orleans Bulletin of the 7th inst. says:—

Some cases of cholera have unquestionably occurred during the past week or two on board the shipping and about the Levee—enough to admonish all to be careful in diet—and there is little if any Cholera in the city and not sufficient to justify any alarm. The powers of the cholera have ceased as a raging epidemic and need be scarcely regarded as more than an epidemic of New Orleans, pretty well understood, and easily conquered by our medical practitioners when their aid is seasonably invoked.

Three cases of cholera are reported for the week ending 29th ult. by the Natches Board of Health.

JAMAICA.—By the ship Orbit, Captain Neade, we have Jamaica papers of the 21st ult. By a letter to the principal officer of the Commercial Rooms at Kingston it appears that the slave brig before mentioned as having been captured by the British schooner Shipjack, and carried into Havana, lost during the engagement, one of her crew killed; besides seven slaves killed and 14 wounded. She had left the African Coast with 790 slaves—but they suffered much from sickness, and had only 445 when captured.

COLONIAL GOVERNMENTS.—Within three years Jamaica has had three Governors.—Surely this system cannot work well. A man could scarcely expect to go well dressed who changed his tailor as often. Is the business of Government so simple as to be the only one that requires knowledge and experience to ensure a reasonably perfect execution? Can a man who could scarcely learn to play Whist or Chess well in a year, be trusted to play the very difficult game of governing a Colony; with honour to his Sovereign, and advantage to the people, without any previous training, or any knowledge of the local interests and feelings by which his decisions must often be controlled; or should he be snatched away at the very moment that there is a chance of his being use-

ful? This is one of the penalties Jamaica pays for being a rich and populous Island, with an abundant revenue. The salary of Governor is so good a thing, that with almost every change of Ministry a new one is sent out.

THE CANADAS.—The Upper Canada Assembly has, at length, after a great exhibition of parliamentary tactics, passed the Bill imposing duties on certain articles of produce introduced into that Province from the United States, with the view of protecting the Farmer from American competition. It seems little else than a premium on bad cultivation, and for the encouragement of idleness; for it can scarcely be credible that the Upper Canada farmer, who pays a less amount of taxes than his rival in the American Union, and who does not hire labour at a higher, but generally at a lower rate, who tills an equally fertile soil, under a similar climate, cannot at his own door compete with the foreign farmer who is subjected to the charge of additional transport, but must be assisted by prohibiting duties.—That such an enactment should be acceptable to the farmers, who form the great mass of the population in the sister Province, is not surprising, and that appears to have been the ruling motive which influenced the Members who supported the Bill. The Rider attempted to be tacked to the Bill, to allow American produce destined for this Province, was so far as we can judge from the accounts which we have seen, which are far more perplexing than the mazes of the most intricate quadrille we have ever seen danced, was lost. But though this may be considered as a just retaliation for the duty on labourers proceeding to Upper Canada, imposed by the Emigration Act of this Province, it is yet to be seen whether the two branches whose consent is requisite to make this Bill a law, will lend themselves to the popularity hunting scheme of the Representatives of the people.—*Mercury*.

The establishment of a new Land Company on the Ottawa is spoken of, in which the East India Company is interested. It is supposed, however, that this is merely the sale of an extensive tract of land in that section of the Province to the East India Company, to enable them to settle some of their many clerks, officers and others, who have been thrown out of employment by the recent arrangements.—*Ibid*.

AUSTRIAN PROTECTION OF ITALY.—According to letters from Leghorn and Rome, the plan concocted as far back as the Congress of Vienna, is brought to maturity at last, namely, the collecting and uniting all the Italian states under the wing of the Austrian Vulture, or in other words, placing them under the protection of that power. Preparatory to this, and as an earnest of the energy with which Austria means to act in this new character, a great change is to take place in the Austrian diplomacy in Italy. The present ministers at Rome and Florence are to be immediately recalled, and men of greater energy appointed in their places.—What will France and England say to this plan? We cannot say. Henpecked as both countries are by two factions, who may be termed the antipodes of all that is liberal and energetic in policy, they must remain passive spectators of an act, which we would not trust ourselves to describe as it deserves. But we know what both countries would, not only say, but do, were they once rid of these two nightmares on their national energies.—*Sun*.

ORDNANCE SURVEY OF IRELAND.—The Survey of the county of Leitrim will be commenced in the ensuing summer, when the elevation of the lakes (from which the Shannon takes its rise) in that county will be accurately measured; and in the course of this survey levels of this river, along its whole course, will be minutely laid down in the maps, which will be hereafter of the greatest use in improving the extensive inland navigation of this stream, of which, hitherto, so little advantage has been taken.

EDUCATION.—"I regard the mere planting of Schools as inadequate to meet the exigencies of the case. Mere reading, writing, ciphering, is not enough; the elements of historical and geographical knowledge, a little natural history and drawing, with grammar and singing, I regard as essentially necessary in even the most elementary education."—LORD BROUGHAM.

MINISTERIAL BARGAIN.—Marshal Gerard, went into the country yesterday. On setting out he said, "I am going, and if ever I should return to the ministry, it shall only be upon one condition, which is, that before accepting a portfolio, I will lay before Louis Philippe the programme of my policy, which document I shall require to have inserted in the official part of the *Moniteur* the day after I accept the post of minister.

THE STAR

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 1835.

The Editor of the "PATRIOT" must have been thinking of the "Wig;" and thinking