The Morning Courier.

FOR THE COUNTRY.

Optimus est Reipublicæ status, ubi nihil deest nisi licentia peccandi.—SENECA.

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INAUGURAL ADDRESS

OF THE RIGHT HON. SIR ROBERT PEEL, BART., M.P., AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.

The ceremony of the installation of this distinguished statesman, as Lord Rector of the University, took place on Wednesday in the College Hall. One of the galleries was appropriated to the ladies, which was crowded in every part at an early hour; the other was appropriated to strangers. The body of the Hall was occupied by a dense mass of students. The pulpit had been removed for the occasion, and a platform erected for the Principal, the Lord Rector and the Professors. About two o'clock Sir Robert Peel entered the Hall, accompanied by Principal Macfarlan, Mr. Campbell, of Blythswood, Dean of Faculty, and the other Members of the Senatus Academicus, and was received with immense cheering. Among the distinguished substitutes and gentlemen present, we observed the Earl of Haddington, the Earl of Leven and Melville, Lord Melville, the Lord Justice Clerk, Lord Meadowbank, Sir William Rae, Bart. M.P. Sir George Clerk, Bart. M.P. Sir A. Campbell, of Succoth, Bart. Sir J. Ramsay, of Banff, Bart. Duncan M'Neill, Esq. advocate, E. D. Sandford, Esq. advocate, Dr. Macleod, Moderator of the General Assembly, several of the city clergy, &c. &c. Prayer having been offered up in Latin, the usual ceremony of installation was gone through, during which the most profound silence prevailed.

SIR ROBERT PEEL rose, and addressed the meeting:—Mr. Dean, Principal, Professors and Students—I gladly avail myself of this opportunity of personally and publicly expressing the gratification which I derive from the appointment to the office of Lord Rector, the duties of which I have just entered. I might have retained voluntarily to present myself a candidate for that office—not from any unbecoming indifference to the distinction which it confers, but, partly from a disinclination to interfere with the preteritions of others, and partly from a reluctance to obtrude myself in the presence of those duties which I am called upon to fulfil and in private life to perform. But when I received the unexpected intelligence that my election had actually taken place—had taken place under circumstances which saved me the painfulness of voluntary competition, and which, neither from the anxiety, and perhaps asperities, that are incident to the contest, I then asked for no advice—required no time to consider—I acted on the impulse of feelings that were better counsellors than doubts and deliberations—and I resolved at once to ratify the generous confidence which had bestowed on me this appointment, and which must have anticipated my acceptance of it. I do accept it, grateful for the kindness by which it has been conferred—proud for the relation in which I now stand to this venerable seat of learning—anxious to discharge with fidelity and zeal whatever duties this station may involve; and not these duties only, for if I can extend the sphere of usefulness beyond the proper functions of this office—if in any capacity my services can be made available, they shall be freely tendered for the protection of every just and useful privilege to which the University can lay claim, as well as for the maintenance of its true and permanent interests. The state of this University and of the other Universities of Scotland has recently undergone visitation and enquiry, by a Commission which owed its appointment to the Crown. Various suggestions have been offered in the report of that Commission concerning the discipline, the revenues, and the government of this University. You will not expect from me, at the very outset of my connection with the University, to pronounce a positive opinion on matters so essentially affecting its inter-ests. I should not be justifying the confidence you have reposed in me, or meriting my respect for you, if I were to commit myself with merely ascertaining what might be the prevailing or popular opinion here, and promise blind submission to it; or, from a mere regard to temporary interests, pledge myself to their exclusive support. I shall better maintain the authority of the office—better consult your true interests, and most certainly conciliate your lasting favour, by promising to exercise an impartial and independent judgment—by weighing every suggestion of importance, and the opinion or evidence by which it may be supported—by considering it, not merely with reference to its abstract merits, as an isolated position, but viewing it in its bearings on the whole scheme of academical education and study—its connection with the course of preliminary instruction—its relation to the state of society and manners in Scotland, and to the opportunities which it affords to the youths who are pursuing their studies within these walls to acquire eminence and distinction in their several pursuits. But be assured of this, that I shall enter on the consideration with a strong conviction, that, speaking generally, the scheme of academical education in the Universities of Scotland, as it has progressively been, by changes in the state of society, and by new demands for knowledge, is admirably adapted to serve the great end of all instruction. I see in it a scheme which, in conformity with the maxim of Lord Bacon, makes learning subservient to action, a scheme which embraces all distinctions and classes of society—which qualifies more of highest rank for the public duties they have to perform—which affords to men engaged in business and even advanced in life, the opportunity of acquiring the progressive discoveries in science, and the applicability of these discoveries to their several pursuits—which also offers to those whose pecuniary means are the most restricted, the benefits of enlightened education, and the reward of literary discussion. Be assured, also, that I shall enter on the consideration of the subject with a firm conviction, that the relation in which the University stands towards the Established Church of Scotland—(*Tremendous cheering, mingled with marks of disapprobation, which prevented the concluding part of the sentence from being heard.*) He then proceeded:—I should not be acting in conformity with the statutes of the College, still less in unison with my own feelings, if I did not on this occasion address myself directly to that part of my audience which is pursuing its studies within these walls. Let me, who have not survived my sympathies with the feelings and aspirations of academic youth—who have drank from the same pure sources from which you are allaying the thirst for knowledge, who have felt the glow of your emulation, and have panted like you for academic honors—let me, after being concerned in the active scenes of public life, and buffeted amid the contentions of politics—let me bring the living testimony of practical experience, to enforce the precepts, and confirm the exhortations, which you hear from the lips of the distinguished men of whom your instructors is the peculiar and immediate Province. Let me assure you, with all the earnestness of deep conviction, founded on the observation which public life and intercourse with the world have afforded me, that your success, your eminence, and your happiness, are infinitely more dependent of the exercise and cultivation of intellectually more within your own control than they are to appear to superficial observation. A boundless field of exertion lies before you—whatever be your pursuits—whatever be your profession, the avenues to distinction are wide open to you, or, at least, obstructed by no barrier of which you may not command the removal:—(*Great applause.*) If the study of theology in which you are engaged, and are you destined for the office of the sacred ministry? To what nobler and can you dedicate your talents and acquirements, than to vindicate the great principles of our common faith—to defend them from the assaults of infidelity—to lay the foundation on which the free spirit of inquiry will allow them to rest, the authority of Scripture! But be not content with mediocrity! set before you the example of your great predecessors, the champions of the faith, you profess. Why should you despair of reaching the same eminence which they attained? Bring to the discharge of the sacred functions the same spirit by which they were actuated, lay in the same stores of professional knowledge,—make those stores available, by acquiring their simplicity of style and their energy of expression; above all, enforce the doctrines you teach, and the precepts you inculcate, by that highest argument, the example of your own lives, and despair not of exercising a moral influence, like that which they exercised, and of founding a reputation lasting as theirs.—(*Cheers.*) There will then be in the commanding authority of your station, in the frequent opportunities of public instruction, and in the eagerness with which men will listen to the truths which concern their eternal interests, if they are but enforced—which they too frequently are not—with the same earnestness, the same ability, the same eloquence, with which secular interests are urged—there will be in themselves that can satisfy your highest wishes. Is science your pursuit? "The great ocean of truth," to quote the expression of Newton, "lies extended before you." "I know not," said he at the close of his illustrious career, "I know not what I may seem to the world, but to myself I seem to have been only like a boy, playing on the sea-shore, finding sometimes a brighter pebble or a smoother shell than ordinary, while the great ocean of truth lay undiscovered before me." Every subsequent advance in science has not contracted, it has only extended the field of inquiry. It has served like the telescope to make us familiar with some object imperfectly known before, but it has, at the same time, given us an obscure vision of others immeasurably more distant, and by making us acquainted with the dependencies and relations of which we had no previous conception, has served to shew us the comparative nothingness of all that we know. Are you destined for the bar? or do you aspire for distinction in the public service of your country? Surely the competition which has recently taken place for the office, that now entitles me to address you, is pregnant with signal proof that whatever be the accidents of your birth, or your rank in society, the highest distinctions in society are accessible to all, and that their remains no national jealousy to obstruct your advancement, or to deprive you of the rewards to which you may aspire. You will excuse me, that on this occasion, and from this place, I should now allude to no circumstance connected with that election which can by possibility excite or revive an angry feeling, or even provoke the expression of disapprobation; but there are some reflections connected with it which can offend none, and may be useful as a stimulus and encouragement for all. There were two competitors for this high office—the one the son of a Minister of the Church of Scotland, the other the son of an Englishman, the founder of his own fortunes, by honest and laborious exertions in those same pursuits of active industry which, within the memory of many, are elevating many to affluence and honourable distinction; the one has attained the highest eminence in the legal profession—the other was called by the favour and confidence of his Sovereign to the highest trust which a subject can fill, namely, that of administering the government of this great country. Mark the gratifying proof, that all sectional jealousies are obliterated which could have grudged either the one or the other the possession of these distinctions. The Scotsman attains the highest eminence at the Bar of England—he outstrips all his English competitors—and when he has reached the highest honours, not a murmur is heard that these were conferred upon a Scotsman. But the Scotsman, educated at a Scottish University, was not equally successful in his competition for a Scottish academical distinction. It was reserved for an Englishman, educated at an English University, having no other connection with Scotland than a respect for her name and character, and a cordial interest in her welfare. And let me express an earnest hope, that whatever other objections may have applied to the appointment, there is none on account of the reciprocation of public honours between the natives of the two countries, and that the encouragement of every being an Englishman does not operate as a prejudice here even on those who, on other grounds, could have wished for a different person. I said to you that the field of competition was open, and that the avenues of fame were accessible to all—I repeat it with the same confidence of the office—better consult your true interests, and most certainly conciliate your lasting favour, by promising to exercise an impartial and independent judgment—by weighing every suggestion of importance, and the opinion or evidence by which it may be supported—by considering it, not merely with reference to its abstract merits, as an isolated position, but viewing it in its bearings on the whole scheme of academical education and study—its connection with the course of preliminary instruction—its relation to the state of society and manners in Scotland, and to the opportunities which it affords to the youths who are pursuing their studies within these walls to acquire eminence and distinction in their several pursuits. 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If you will for a given period try that experiment—if you will meet every difficulty that occurs, or instantly admit your inability to master it—if you will practice the economy of time—if you will struggle against the bondage of bad habits—if you will do all this, then I am not afraid that the early fruits of such a course—the feeling of self-satisfaction—the consciousness of growing strength—the force of good habits—will be inducements to the continuance of that experiment, more powerful than any thing I can advance. It has been by this laborious exertion—by patient perseverance—by the establishment of the mental discipline, that all eminence has been attained.—(*Cheers.*) Consult the works of any man of real distinction, who has left a record of the early discipline by which his own mind was matured, and you will find that it was not by trusting to the inspirations of genius, but by constant assiduity and labour, that the foundations of his excellence were laid. Take, as one of the most memorable instances of this—the account which Cicero gives of his early education. Observe now every occupation, how amusement, how society, how the conversation of the lightest hour, were all subservient to one great object—the improvement of the mind, and the fitting it for its high functions. (The Right Hon. Baronet then read a long quotation from Cicero.) He stopped in the middle of the passage and said:—How different his occupations from the occupations of those who trust to genius alone, and complain of their lack of it when not successful. Now, when you read such records on the part of a superior mind—when you read of constant perseverance and severe diligence—the wonder at the accomplishment and perfection of which they were the natural result, is, no doubt, somewhat abated. "Those who are ignorant," says Sir Joshua Reynolds, in lectures with which you are probably familiar, but if not, I strongly recommend them to your attention—they were addressed to the students of the Academy, but are equally applicable to all—"those" says he, "who are unacquainted with the cause of any thing extraordinary, are surprised at the result, and attribute it to a kind of magic. The travellers in the east fell in, that when the ignorant inhabitants of those countries are asked concerning the remains of stately edifices, still found among them some documents of th e long lost grandeur—they always answer that they were be it by magic. The untaught mind, on finding such a gulf between its own powers and productions like these, thinks that gulf can only be passed by supernatural means." We have seen that Cicero, the stately edifice, the monument of intellectual greatness. When we learn from the illustrious architect what was the slow process by which the foundation was securely laid, and the scaffolding gradually removed, our wonder at the results may be abated; but it cannot abate our admiration of his noble and elevated genius, his burning thirst for knowledge and distinction, and that pure ambition which

"Scorns delights, and lives laborious days."

(*Cheers.*) The name, the example, and the authority of Cicero, cannot be unfitly cited to you. I cannot allow myself, even at the expense of detaining you, to pass in silence—I mean the vast importance to all of you who aspire to the highest distinction, and to you I principally address myself—the immense importance of imbuing your minds with a kindred spirit, with a kindred ambition, with those qualities that are left to us for our admiration. Don't disregard the admonition from an impression that it proceeds from a natural and justifiable prejudice which education at an English University may have unconsciously superinduced. Don't disregard it from attributing it to ignorance of the studies and pursuits which are requisite to success in Scotland. I want to impress on you that a wider horizon than that of Scotland is open to your view—that you are competitors starting for every prize or distinction which the wide circle of an empire, extending to every quarter of the Globe, can confer. Recollecting that every improvement in the means of communication is opening an avenue to distinction. This is not the place to depreciate that mighty discovery which is every day changing the pre-existing relations of society—this is not the place for taking a false estimate of the speculations of Black, or of the inventive genius of Watt. The steam-engine and the railroad are not merely facilitating the transport of material substances, shortening the duration of journeys, administering to the supply of physical wants; they are speeding the intercourse between mind and mind, creating new demands for knowledge, pushing that demand into the remotest recesses of this empire, they are cultivating the intellectual, as well as the material waste, they are removing the discouragements or obstacles which obscurity, or poverty, may have thrown in the way of the emergence of talent—they are enabling you to indulge in those refined pleasures, the sources of which past predominate over the future, in the contemplation of localities where illustrious actions have been performed, and in the survey of monuments that are associated with deeds that can never perish—they are enabling you, with comparative ease, to slake your thirst with the intoxicating draught which is described with such noble enthusiasm, by Gibbon. He says, "at the distance of twenty-five years I can neither forget or express the strong emotions which agitated my mind when I approached and entered the immortal city, after a sleepless night I trod, with a lofty step, the ruins of the Forum; each memorable spot where Romulus stood, or Tully spoke, or Cæsar fell, was at once present to my eye; and several days of intoxication were lost or enjoyed, before I could descend to a cool and minute investigation.—(*Cheers.*) I need not remind you of the earnest and eloquent dissertation which you heard from this place to cultivate the study of ancient, and particularly of attic composition.—I need not remind you how important that study is to the comprehension of the structure of all modern language—how essential it is to the formation of a pure and simple style—how indispensable it is to the understanding a thousand allusions to classical usages and manners, and history, that are spread with lavish and happy profusion over the most remarkable of all modern compositions. These allusions have a voice for the wise—they have a voice which is intelligible to those, but to those only, who have been initiated into these delightful studies. I won't repeat the exhortations, but I will attempt to confirm the truth of them by examples taken from public life. I ask you to review the names of those men whose fame has floated down the stream of time—the names of those who have been eminent for classical acquirement—and to compare the proportion they bear to the total number. I do not refer to remote periods of English history, because the comparison might not be altogether a just one. They are pregnant with examples of the truth of the position; but then education was comparatively limited, being chiefly conversant with classical study; and it may be fairly presumed, that those who had superior qualifications for offices of high trust were also deeply imbued with classical taste. For obvious reasons, I also exclude the period in which we ourselves live. Take that period intermediate between our own, when knowledge was not confined to classical study. Now, who are those who, within our own immediate memory, but the time in which we live, who are those most pre-eminent in public life?—(*Great cheering.*) In the Scottish department there have been the names of Mansfield, Stormont, Hardwicke, Loughborough, Tenterden—(*cheers*)—in public life, Lord North, Mr. Pitt, Mr. Fox, Grenville, Wyndham, Burke, Canning—(*great cheering*)—the whole of these were distinguished scholars—scholars in the not then quite clear that the time devoted to study and classical acquirement did not hinder their being men of business, if you compare, in the aggregate, the number of eminent men that had received classical acquirement with those to whom they were a stranger, the proportion would be very small. Let me, then, in the name of all the honours that have been conferred on those who have been remarkable for classical acquirements, let it then not the strongest presumption that even in the case their success would have been greater and more complete, if they had superadded classical acquirements to their other acquisitions.—(*Protracted cheering.*) But I ask you not to consider those men whom I have named, merely in the attainment of forensic and public life, but follow them into the retirement of private life, and inquire what were the studies by which they relieved the mind. Take the names of the most distinct, Pitt and Fox—(*cheers*)—you have conclusive evidence as to the studies and occupations in the case of each of them. In the preface by Lord Holland to Mr. Fox's history of James II., he thus speaks of Fox:—

"During his retirement, that love of literature, and fondness for poetry, which neither pleasure, nor business had ever extinguished, revived with an ardour, such as we, in the sagacious of youth, or in the pursuit of fame or advantage, are capable of feeling. For some time, however, his studies were not directed to any particular object. Such was the happy disposition of his mind, that his own reflections, whether supplied by conversation, desultory reading, or the common occurrences of a life in the country, were always sufficient to call forth the vigour and exertion of his faculties. Intercourse with the world had so little deadened in him the sense of the simplest enjoyments, that even in the hours of apparent leisure and inactivity, he retained that keen relish of existence, which, after the first impressions of life, is so rarely excited, but by great interest and strong passions. Hence it was, that in the interval between his active attendance in Parliament, and the undertaking of his history, he never felt the tedium of a vacant day. A verse in Cowper, which he frequently repeated:—

"How various his employments, whom the world Calls idle!"

Was the accurate description of the life he was then leading; and I am persuaded that if he had consulted his own gratifications only it would have continued to be so.

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But it was yet more difficult to fortify himself against the seduction of his own inclination, which led continually during the time off from the historical researches, to critical inquiries, to the study of the classics, and to works of imagination and poetry. Abundant proof exists of the effect of these interruptions, both on his labours and on his mind. His letters are filled with complaints, of such as arose from pursuits, which he speaks with delight and complacency of whole days devoted to Euripides and Virgil."

A still more recent testimony has been borne to the occupations of Pitt, in a letter published by the Marquis Wellesley, who combines high talent with eminent political rank. Here the Right Honorable Baronet read the following extract from Wraxall's Memoirs:—

"He was perfectly accomplished in classical literature, both Latin and Greek. The accuracy and strength of his memory surpassed every example which I have ever observed; but the intrinsic vigour of his understanding carried him far beyond the mere recollection of the great models of antiquity in oratory, poetry, history, and philosophy; he had drawn their essence into his own thoughts and language, and, with astonishing facility, he applied the whole mass of his knowledge to the occasion of the moment.

"These studies were his constant delight and resort: at Holwood, in Kent (his favourite residence), and at Walmer castle, his apartments were strewed with Latin and Greek classics; and his conversation with those friends who delighted in similar studies, principally turned on this most attractive branch of literature; but he was so adverse to pedantry or affectation of superior knowledge, that he carefully abstained from such topics in the presence of those who could not take pleasure in them. In the pursuits, his constant and congenial companions were Lord Grenville and Dundas, who declared to me that Mr. Pitt was the best Greek scholar he ever conversed with. Mr. Pitt was also as complete a master of all English literature as he was undoubtedly of the English language. I have dwelt on this branch of Mr. Pitt's accomplishments, because I know of no part which redounds more to his military reputation or can be derived to chase from the spirits, those clouds and vapours which invest vacant minds, and, by self weariness, render retirement melancholy and intolerable."

Now, compare the tastes and habits of men like these with the tastes and habits of others scarcely less eminent and public who have not had the same resources. Says the biographer of Horace Walpole—"Though he had not forgotten his classical acquirements, he had little taste for literary occupations. He once thus expressed to me his regret on this subject—'I wish I could take as much delight in reading as you do; it would be the means of relieving many tedious hours in my present life, but to my misfortune I derive no pleasure from such disquisitions.'" (*Hear, hear.*) Surely these testimonials and this contrast teach great lessons—surely they recommend to us the acquirement of those tastes, and the cultivation of those studies, which, while they are the best solace of the cares and anxieties of life, are at the same time furnishing the mind with a new source of knowledge, and fitting it for new exigencies. Noble relaxation! which, while it unbends, invigorates the mind—while it is relieving it and refreshing it from present toil, is bracing and invigorating it for what is to come.—(*Cheers.*) I fear I have detained you too long. I know there is nothing of novelty in the observations I have made; the truths to which I have adverted are so obvious that they scarcely require the aid of reasoning—but they are all-important truths, and unfortunately they do not exercise that practical influence on our minds which we would have expected from the readiness with which the understanding receives them. If they had exercised that influence, how many of us would have been spared the painful retrospect—the restrospect which some may have, but which we cannot—of time misspent—of opportunities neglected—of habits of indolence and vacillation becoming inveterate. Illustrations made out the lights on the Shelling rock, they conceived them to be those on the Sunalls, at the entrance of the Bristol Channel, and shaped their course for Liverpool accordingly. By this fatal miscalculation the vessel became embayed, with the wind blowing a gale full on the land, and for three awful days the crew laboured incessantly but unwillingly, to beat out to sea again. The master, who perished from fatigue and bruises, did every thing in the power of a good seaman to save the ship; but on the evening of the third day, being in utter ignorance of their position, unable to discern the land, and finding the ship still going to leeward on every tack, they abandoned all hope of being able to extricate themselves and gradually nearing danger, they passed some hours in the horrors of despair and darkness, and at twelve o'clock on Saturday night the ship struck on the outer bar of Inch Island; her whole stern instantly parted, from the violence with which she struck, on the hard bed of sand. Being a stout and well built vessel, the fore part of the ship, on which the crew held together, was carried over the bar, and at length lodged on the breakers; the crew clung to the chains, some their chipboard, every wave washing over them; under these circumstances it was, that two women and one weak and aged the captain and his wife, who had unfortunately accompanied him on the voyage; the latter was fortunately discovered, but the former remained behind, exposed to the pelting of the pitiless storm, and at length fell a victim to the fatigue, cold, and exposure. The mate, who was washed off the deck, was at length found on board but so bruised and exhausted, that though he was brought on shore alive, he survived but a short time. When morning at length broke, the crew were enabled to see that their going on shore was no very difficult task, and they eagerly looked for the help, which, as sufferers, they have a right to expect from the inhabitants on shore; and here, for the honour of our country, and of humanity, we wish, were it possible, to draw a veil over the scenes that followed.—No sooner did the wreck become visible, than the natives of the neighbouring village—more like savages than inhabitants of a Christian country, crowded to the wreck as a lawful booty—and so far from helping their suffering fellow creatures to the shore, turned their attention to plundering them of everything they possessed—breaking open their boxes, and possessing themselves of their clothing, without shame or scruple before the owners' faces. The unfortunate captain, while lying expiring on the beach, was robbed of his watch and some sovereigns in his pocket. It is but justice to Mr. O-Cegrel, the parish priest, to say, that he has been calling upon his flock to make restitution of the plundered property.

We had occasion, the other day, to commend the Presbyterians of Cobourg for the merited compliment they paid to Mr. MacKay's parliamentary conduct on the subject of the Rectories; and we are now called upon to notice a more deliberate expression of the opinions of the Presbyterians of the New Castle District, at a public meeting in Cobourg on the 28th ultimo. Fifteen Resolutions were passed on the occasion, condemnatory of Hagerman's *aspersions* of the character of the Scotch clergy and people, demanding his dismissal from office—declaring for "equality" of religious privileges to all, &c. &c. Before the meeting broke up a New-Castle District Religious Association was formed, and office bearers and committees appointed. Hagerman and his myrmidons will find that they have roused the sleeping lion by their late insulting proceedings.

We should have been better pleased had the meeting formed themselves into a "Religious Equality" Society, and dropped all sectarian distinctions in the struggle for the annihilation of Government favouritism, in consequence of religious peculiarities.

We subjoin a few of the Resolutions, which speak for themselves:—

3. That this meeting cannot but deplore the circumstance that His Majesty's Solicitor General for Upper Canada, should so far forget the dignity due to the Government, in which he holds so high an official situation, as to indulge in such reckless and intemperate language as cannot fail to lower its dignity in the estimation of all classes of His Majesty's subjects,—and therefore they deem it unsafe to the just interests of their church and religion that a person who has expressed such an inveterate and to himself disgraceful rancour against them should be allowed to continue to wield the immense legal power which he *ex-officio* possesses.

9. That this meeting cannot omit noticing the assertion that "We have no sympathy for other denominations," and to refute so unfounded a charge, they need only refer to the spirit of the Petitions sent by the different Presbyterian Congregations, and the report made upon them by a select committee of the House of Assembly signed "Thomas M'Kay, *Chairman*," wherein an "equality of Religious Privileges to all" is *distinctly avowed*, and regret that other denominations have not petitioned, as they have done, against the principle of establishing a dominant and exclusive Church in these Provinces, which appears to us, *unwise, unjust and impracticable.*

10. That this meeting fully feel the force of the Solicitor General's remarks regarding the disabilities of the Scottish Clergy, and their being obliged to petition, what he is pleased to call "*The contemptible Court of Quarter Sessions,*" in order to empower them to solemnize marriages amongst their own people, and that they are therefore determined to resist by every constitutional means such a humiliation never contemplated by the British Government.

11. That this meeting are convinced, that many of the members who voted on the above occasion for an exclusive and dominant Church would not have been returned had they expressed themselves to that effect previous to the late Election; and they feel confident that such would have been the case with Henry Rutten, Esq. one of the members for the County of Northumberland, who had publicly avowed his determination not only to support the Church of Scotland but to "advocate equal rights for all."

The annexed extract is from a Supplement to the *Toronto Constitution*, containing an account of the proceedings at the Cobourg meeting. It will be seen that, by a disgraceful manœuvre of the *illiberals*, the Clergy Reserves question had a hair-breadth escape in the Assembly of Upper Canada, from being settled in a way that would have left it open hereafter to endless quarrelling. MacKenzie states that 21 voted for Dr. Rolph's amendment to postpone the question, and 19 against it; but we learn from a private letter that the division was 21 to 20!

TORONTO, *March 3, 1837.*

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MONTREAL, FRIDAY, MARCH 10, 1837.

Additional items of news by the ship *Independence*:—

There has been a remarkable fatality among persons of rank and title within the last few weeks.

Among the deaths recorded are those of the Duke of Montrose, the Dowager Marchioness of Exeter, (who was the widow of another Scotch Duke, Hamilton) the Earl of Rosslyn, the Earl of Arran, Viscount Weymouth, Baron Audley, Lady Farnborough, the Dowager Lady Venty, the Dowager Lady Heniker, the Hon. Sir F. G. Fossonby, Sir M. S. Stewart, Bart., Sir William M'Mahon, Bart., and we may add Mr. Ramsden, eldest son of Sir John Ramsden, Bart.—*The London paper.*

EFFECTS OF THE INFLUENZA IN FRANCE.—Private letters from the Continent state that the epidemic, *la grippe*, or influenza, prevails there more than in this country. At Paris it is raging to a very great degree, and there is scarcely a family which some branch of it is not confined by the effects of this malady. In some parts of the French capital bordering upon the banks of the river Seine, the mortality has been most dreadful, especially among the poorer classes in the populous neighbourhood of the Faubourg St. Antoine and the Quartier St. Jacques, where they have died from 80 to 100 a day. The Hotel Dieu and all the hospitals are filled with patients. It has also been very prevalent among the troops of the garrison, numbers of whom have fallen victims to it. The Faculty of Medicine of Paris has given this epidemic the appellation of "*la grippe*," in consequence of the violent spasms it causes inwardly to the patient, attended with a sore throat, great difficulty of breathing, and inflammation of the lungs, so as to produce convulsions and suffocation. At Calais, Dunkirk, St. Omer, and Boulogne, the greater part of the English residents are labouring under this malady. In Sweden it is raging with great virulence.

A letter at Madrid states that Quesada's troops in the North of Spain are preparing for a vigorous attack on all the Carlist positions.

The accounts from Lisbon represent that city as in a most melancholy situation, and another revolution about to be made. The British Admiral had given notice that his squadron would afford shelter, if required, to all British subjects.

LONDON, *Jan. 24.*—A considerable degree of anxiety prevailed in the commercial circles, in consequence of the announcement that several failures had taken place today. In the aggregate the amount may be said to be large, but although one or two of the failures are of large amount, the others are of comparative insignifi. The principal failures to which we allude are the houses of Maltby & Co. in the shot lead trade, and that of Shepherd, in the Gloucester woollen trade. Confidence, however, does not appear to have abated, and it is to be hoped that the banking interests will continue to exercise that cautious liberality for which they have been so distinguished during the few past weeks of pressure.

MISCELLANEOUS AFFAIR.—A family, consisting of four individuals, a father, two daughters, and a mother, went to bed in a room in the Wallace Feus, Dundee, on Monday night. On Wednesday one of the daughters awoke, but could not awake the other members of the family. She immediately procured a light, when, shocking to relate, she found her father and sister dead, and her mother dying. The mother is since dead. The daughter, who awoke on Wednesday morning from her protracted sleep of thirty-two hours, becoming again lethargic, on Wednesday night was removed to the Infirmary, where the proper means for her recovery were promptly and successfully applied, and we understand that she is now almost well. The circumstances attending this mysterious affair are under investigation by the proper authorities.—*Scottish Paper.*

(FROM THE NEW-YORK COURIER.)

The brig *Liverpool*, of Liverpool, 350 tons burthen, Thomas Loudon, master, laden with deals, made the coast of Ireland in nineteen days from Miramichi. The thick weather for three days previous to their making land prevented the taking of any observation, and when the crew made out the lights on the Skelling rock, they conceived them to be those on the Sunalls, at the entrance of the Bristol Channel, and shaped their course for Liverpool accordingly. By this fatal miscalculation the vessel became embayed, with the wind blowing a gale full on the land, and for three awful days the crew laboured incessantly but unwillingly, to beat out to sea again. The master, who perished from fatigue and bruises, did every thing in the power of a good seaman to save the ship; but on the evening of the third day, being in utter ignorance of their position, unable to discern the land, and finding the ship still going to leeward on every tack, they abandoned all hope of being able to extricate themselves and gradually nearing danger, they passed some hours in the horrors of despair and darkness, and at twelve o'clock on Saturday night the ship struck on the outer bar of Inch Island; her whole stern instantly parted, from the violence with which she struck, on the hard bed of sand. Being a stout and well built vessel, the fore part of the ship, on which the crew held together, was carried over the bar, and at length lodged on the breakers; the crew clung to the chains, some their chipboard, every wave washing over them; under these circumstances it was, that two women and one weak and aged the captain and his wife, who had unfortunately accompanied him on the voyage; the latter was fortunately discovered, but the former remained behind, exposed to the pelting of the pitiless storm, and at length fell a victim to the fatigue, cold, and exposure. The mate, who was washed off the deck, was at length found on board but so bruised and exhausted, that though he was brought on shore alive, he survived but a short time. When morning at length broke, the crew were enabled to see that their going on shore was no very difficult task, and they eagerly looked for the help, which, as sufferers, they have a right to expect from the inhabitants on shore; and here, for the honour of our country, and of humanity, we wish, were it possible, to draw a veil over the scenes that followed.—No sooner did the wreck become visible, than the natives of the neighbouring village—more like savages than inhabitants of a Christian country, crowded to the wreck as a lawful booty—and so far from helping their suffering fellow creatures to the shore, turned their attention to plundering them of everything they possessed—breaking open their boxes, and possessing themselves of their clothing, without shame or scruple before the owners' faces. The unfortunate captain, while lying expiring on the beach, was robbed of his watch and some sovereigns in his pocket. It is but justice to Mr. O-Cegrel, the parish priest, to say, that he has been calling upon his flock to make restitution of the plundered property.

We had occasion, the other day, to commend the Presbyterians of Cobourg for the merited compliment they paid to Mr. MacKay's parliamentary conduct on the subject of the Rectories; and we are now called upon to notice a more deliberate expression of the opinions of the Presbyterians of the New Castle District, at a public meeting in Cobourg on the 28th ultimo. Fifteen Resolutions were passed on the occasion, condemnatory of Hagerman's *aspersions* of the character of the Scotch clergy and people, demanding his dismissal from office—declaring for "equality" of religious privileges to all, &c. &c. Before the meeting broke up a New-Castle District Religious Association was formed, and office bearers and committees appointed. Hagerman and his myrmidons will find that they have roused the sleeping lion by their late insulting proceedings.

We should have been better pleased had the meeting formed themselves into a "Religious Equality" Society, and dropped all sectarian distinctions in the struggle for the annihilation of Government favouritism, in consequence of religious peculiarities.

We subjoin a few of the Resolutions, which speak for themselves:—

3. That this meeting cannot but deplore the circumstance that His Majesty's Solicitor General for Upper Canada, should so far forget the dignity due to the Government, in which he holds so high an official situation, as to indulge in such reckless and intemperate language as cannot fail to lower its dignity in the estimation of all classes of His Majesty's subjects,—and therefore they deem it unsafe to the just interests of their church and religion that a person who has expressed such an inveterate and to himself disgraceful rancour against them should be allowed to continue to wield the immense legal power which he *ex-officio* possesses.

9. That this meeting cannot omit noticing the assertion that "We have no sympathy for other denominations," and to refute so unfounded a charge, they need only refer to the spirit of the Petitions sent by the different Presbyterian Congregations, and the report made upon them by a select committee of the House of Assembly signed "Thomas M'Kay, *Chairman*," wherein an "equality of Religious Privileges to all" is *distinctly avowed*, and regret that other denominations have not petitioned, as they have done, against the principle of establishing a dominant and exclusive Church in these Provinces, which appears to us, *unwise, unjust and impracticable.*

10. That this meeting fully feel the force of the Solicitor General's remarks regarding the disabilities of the Scottish Clergy, and their being obliged to petition, what he is pleased to call "*The contemptible Court of Quarter Sessions,*" in order to empower them to solemnize marriages amongst their own people, and that they are therefore determined to resist by every constitutional means such a humiliation never contemplated by the British Government.

11. That this meeting are convinced, that many of the members who voted on the above occasion for an exclusive and dominant Church would not have been returned had they expressed themselves to that effect previous to the late Election; and they feel confident that such would have been the case with Henry Rutten, Esq. one of the members for the County of Northumberland, who had publicly avowed his determination not only to support the Church of Scotland but to "advocate equal rights for all."

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