

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

Our **SHILSBROOKE** SUBSCRIBERS are requested to pay in the amount of their subscriptions to the Postmaster at that place, who has been good enough to say he will receive and forward them. Those in **QUEBEC** may deposit theirs with Messrs CARY & Co. booksellers, who will give them a receipt.

We have received the communication of an **OLD ACQUAINTANCE**. If the writer be one of that particular class of individuals with whom it is sought to connect us, we can pardon the liberty that has been taken; but if, on the other hand, the letter comes from a different party, we should very much indeed like to know from whom; when something may be found quite as efficient as that which is alluded to at the close of the last letter as an object of dread. We write in parables for the mass, but our tiresome **OLD ACQUAINTANCE** will fully understand us. If the next letter addressed to us in this manner does not contain a true and tangible signature, we shall refuse all others.

OSERVER's communication we insert, but let it not be supposed we take the slightest responsibility in the matter ourselves. We would not wilfully offend one of Eve's daughters for the world—much less such a host as are here compromised. If all that **OSERVER** deems to be ungodly, is really so, we must share the blame.

All parties subscribing to this paper may be supplied with the whole of the numbers from the commencement, including the *Eight Years in Canada*.

ERRATUM.—In our last impression the **PRINTERS** of the **EXPOSITOR** were guilty, as our readers will have perceived, of a sad blunder, in the arrangement of the *'Eight Years in Canada.'* The pages themselves were correctly placed enough, but the matter was transposed—thus under 99 should have been under 98, the other inverted in the same manner. After the proofs left our hands for the office of the Printer, we did not see the paper until the whole edition was worked off.

STARKE'S SHEET ALMANAC for 1847 has been received. It is neatly got up—affords all the information usually found in a sheet of reference of the kind, and must be useful in all offices, public or private.

WADSWORTH'S FAMILY CHRISTIAN ALMANAC for the same year is a compendious work, embracing much matter, and forming a complete guide to the resident as well as to the stranger in Montreal. To ourselves, as we presume it will be to every body else who requires similar information, it is particularly acceptable.

THE

WEEKLY EXPOSITOR.

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, Nov. 19, 1846.

ANOTHER GOVERNMENT ABUSE.

MR. HOPKIRK.

What will the country think of the manner in which the affairs of the Province are conducted by the public servants who are so liberally paid for the performance of particular duties, when they learn the following facts.

About three weeks ago, a letter, having the Provincial Secretary's seal, was handed to us at the Post Office bearing an address which the Provincial Secretary and his assistant well knew we would not acknowledge, and which we did not acknowledge. On the back of this official letter we wrote, "Refused not properly addressed." Now, will it be believed that, in the pettiness of the small beer spirit of the man who is to be saddled upon Kingston as Collector of Customs,

instead of being turned away for a gross violation of his duty as we shall presently show, this same letter was endeavored to be smuggled into our office, by being addressed to the "Editor of the Expositor."

—But the official seal of the Provincial Secretary was attached, and we at once detected the unworthy artifice. Disgusted at the little-mindedness of those upon whom we look with the most sovereign and unmitigated contempt, we, in the presence of the gentleman who handed us the letter at the Post Office, wrote on the back, as follows:—"If this letter be intended for ———, (giving our proper direction,) let him be addressed as such.—The "Expositor" has nothing to do with the present Government, beyond denouncing its abuses."

This, of course, was read by every one who possessed the curiosity at the Post Office, and by the very messengers, through whose hands it passed before its return to the Provincial Secretary. How people occupying the position he and his assistant do, and from whom the country have a right to expect and demand a certain dignity of action while in their service, could subject themselves to the humiliation of having their official communications returned with such undisguised evidence of contempt, it is indeed difficult to understand. The circumstance surely only could occur in Canada.

But this not the only view of the case. We charge Mr. Hopkirk (for his initials were on the cover of the letter when refused the first time,) with a gross violation of his public duty. The letter officially addressed to us must have had reference to the public service, and to the public interests; for in addition to the public seal of the department, it bore a direction which Mr. Daly well knew we would not acknowledge, since it is admitted by himself, in the course of a former official correspondence, (a copy of which we have sent home to the Secretary of the Colonies) that we had returned a letter similarly and offensively addressed to us, and which he was compelled to re-direct. If, then, it was necessary to communicate with us, we maintain that Mr. Hopkirk (whose name we repeat was on the cover,) has grossly violated his duty to the public, by suffering his own insolent discourtesy—a discourtesy for which he has already been put summarily down by two gentlemen whom we know, but whom we do not deem it necessary to name,—to influence him in a matter in which the public interests may be most materially involved. If, we repeat, it was deemed necessary to address us on matters connected with the public service, it was essential that the communication should be received and opened; and therefore imperative that the superscription should be couched in such terms as would lead to no good cause for a rejection. The subject might have been one of the highest public importance. Perhaps Mr. Draper, in a fit of remorse, and like a dying penitent going out of (political) existence, might have been anxious to make atonement, in his last moments,

for what some paper in the West has recently termed his "political infamy." and desired the Perpetual Secretary to make us some such offer as was rejected by Colonel Gugsy. Indeed, we are the more inclined to believe this to be the case, because of the conduct pursued by Mr. Hopkirk, who, not liking us for denouncing the exceeding impropriety of a servant of the Government being permitted to enjoy an interest in the commercial speculations of the Province, when he is liable, at every hour, to be called upon for information, yet cannot be expected to yield that information in a spirit of impartiality, is very naturally desirous of keeping from us all knowledge of Mr. Drapers' favorable intonitions—Up to the moment at which we write, we have heard nothing more of the returned letters.

Mr. Hopkirk will scarcely presume to screen himself under the plea that the communication referred to by us was not official; for the address was written by the same clerk—certainly in the same character with all communications addressed to us while employed in the public service, and had moreover affixed to it the official seal of the Province,—and if the communication was not official, we demand to know by what right he affixed to it the public seal of his department? This would be not less an abuse of the office to which Mr. Harrison, who in his turn owed his appointment, in a great degree, to the late Colonel Chisholm of Oakville, and who first raised him, under what pretence, or with what claim, beyond that of his being a neighbour, and therefore in some degree a personal friend—the country at this moment, when the provision of Collector of Customs at Kingston is about to be made for him, are extremely desirous to know.

GENERAL DIEGO LEON.

All the world—that is to say, the European world—has heard of the brave Leon, who, after a course of brilliant daring, suffered under the very chief, Espastero, whom he had helped to crown with victory.

When the services of the British Legion in Spain (under the pompous and incapable Evans, the last man in the British army who ought to have been selected for such a command) were finally discontinued, the 1st Regiment of Lancers, which had been raised by the gentlemanly and gallant Kinlock of Kinlock, were more immediately attached to the Spanish army, and incorporated in the division under General Leon, who was without exception the most knightly representative of the by-gone chivalry of Spain.

A most graphic picture of this officer, and a highly interesting and stirring account of an action in which the whole of the division he commanded was saved from defeat, rout, and carnage, by a single squadron—all that were left—of the brave Lancers of the Legion, is commenced in this week's **EXPOSITOR**. We need scarcely say that it is from the Jack Hinton pen of Colonel Ermatinger, who has already given to the world one of