

avoid the hissing which was in progress; and when he dined at the Mayor's, the proviso was that he should be quite private. As to the meeting those who are called "the people," the vision of Feargus O'Connor "glared red on his sight"—and with the gentlemen of Liverpool he knew he had no chance. Therefore he dined exclusively with Mr. Rathbone. Oh! popular whigs! Oh! men carried in on the shoulders of the people! Here is the leader of the whig section of the House of Commons obliged to steal through Liverpool like a thief in the night cut by the wealth, intelligence, and honour of the town, and afraid of having his head still more practically cut by the populace! It was a HOME thrust!

THE STAR

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1839.

It affords us much satisfaction to announce to the public that Her MAJESTY on the 14th December last, was graciously pleased to appoint Lieutenant-General Sir JOHN COLBORNE, G. C. B., Governor and Captain-General of Lower Canada and of all Her Majesty's Provinces in North America.

London papers state that a "Gallows had been erected in Montreal large enough to hang forty Rebels at a time"; and although we are persuaded that Sir John Colborne, who is a religious humane man, will administer justice tempered with mercy, yet who can pity the execution of ringleaders in a rebellion, that has been the cause of so much bloodshed, misery and suffering in the Canadas?

Today's Gazette contains a Proclamation for the holding of the Spring Sessions of the Circuit Courts in the Central and Northern Districts respectively. The Central Circuit Court is to open at St. John's on the 15th April, and close on the 11th May. The Courts for the Northern District opens at Harbour Grace on the 20th April and closes there on the 31st May—Gaz., Jan. 15.

From the Public Ledger, Jan. 15.

"The political state of Newfoundland at the present moment," says the *Patriot* of Saturday last, "is that of unrelieved tranquillity. Our form of Government, notwithstanding that the Council is not all that could be desired, has nevertheless proved the best that could be devised for this valuable colony; at least the best the colony ever had."

So! this is coming down from the cliffs. It is not long ago that the *Patriot* ran *quatre papiers* with the revolutionary Journals of Canada, in contending more especially for an organic change in the constitution of the Legislative Councils, which they desired to have elective, denouncing the appointment of those bodies by the Crown as incompatible with the peace and prosperity of the Colonies. Since, however, the Canadian Journals in the interest of the revolutionary faction have been silent upon this & other exciting topics, the *Patriot* appears to have grown satisfied with the present form of government, which it now lauds—not simply as the best the Colony ever had but as the best that could be devised!

But why this sudden and apparent acquiescence in the powers and constitution of the second branch of the local legislature? Why, but that the serious apprehension of a total abrogation of the present system of Government—or what is regarded as still worse, a reasonable limitation of the elective franchise—induces these flaming patriots to give up for the present every point for which they would otherwise contend, in order to maintain the existence of a House of Assembly which they are aware is in danger, and which, while it feeds their vanity, contributes to their power, and puts money in their pockets, is the greatest curse which the country ever beheld.

But, says the *Patriot*:

"We confidently say, that it would be a dangerous and fatal experiment to contract the elective franchise of this country. Better, far better would it be to annihilate our free constitution altogether, than by contracting the franchise, to make it a mere thing of form without substance without life or vigour for all practical purposes connected with the welfare of the country. But is Her Majesty's Government prepared for this without inquiry?—We think not—the taste of self government is too grateful to the palates of the British people—they prize it too highly to permit it to be snatched away by misrepresentation and distorted facts from a whole people who prize it as highly as themselves. But we have no apprehensions on the subject. The British Government are well informed of the true state of parties in Newfoundland, and they will not, at the selfish murmurings and complaints of a few contemptible Traders' disturb the political peace of the colony and mar the delightful progress of the country in civilization and richness."

We agree with the *Patriot* that it would be far better to annihilate our free constitution altogether, than to contract the franchise; although we entertain the converse of the position that to contract the franchise would render it less useful for the practical purposes of the colony. But if we cannot procure the annihilation of the present constitution altogether, then, unquestionably, the next best thing will be to seek the exclusion from the elective franchise of all that order of the people who have taught us by the most ample experience, that they are incapable of exercising it

aright;—and if we were asked for a proof of our position that there is a very numerous order of the people who are incapable of exercising their franchise aright, we would point at once, as an unanswerable argument, to the composition of the present House of Assembly, and to a very few of its incomparable sayings and doings. As for the British people, they have not yet begun to revel in all the wild democracy of universal suffrage; but the enthusiastic advocates of such a system look at the practical result of the experiment here, and they will be less enamoured of the baneful scheme.

The "contemptible Traders," whom the *Patriot* stigmatizes as desiring to disturb the political peace of the colony, are Houses engaged in mercantile pursuits, each to the extent of from £10,000 to £50,000 per annum, and who have therefore a very important stake in the substantial interests of the country, and the best of all motives for promoting the wisest and most advantageous system of government. To apply to them, then, the epithet of "contemptible Traders," only serves to show the bitter and rancorous hostility with which the leaders of the Priests' party are imbued against the wealth and respectability of the colony, notwithstanding the boasted "unruffled tranquillity," and if our readers want further proof of their unconquerable prejudices, not to say their hatred, against all those who desire to conduct themselves with moderation, and to respect the order of society in which they move—here it is!

With the franchise as it now exists, the House of Assembly must ever be the opponents of a mercantile minority who enrich themselves in proportion as they impoverish the island; but let the glorious franchise of the people once be circumscribed, and then indeed will the country be cursed with the *form* without the *spirit* of Representative Government—then shall we have the Commercial Society, who now occupy the Grand and Special Jury Boxes—then shall we have this intolerable political Tory junta occupying also the green benches of the House of Assembly—as they now fill the council seats—then shall we have them, like the locusts of Egypt, pitching upon and devouring every green spot as they were wont to do of old—then shall we have the catholic debased and the liberal protestant excluded, and the country—damned! then shall we have mercantile tyranny practically exemplified as in the days of Butler and Landseman! Then indeed would the necessity be apparent, not only for sending "two regiments" to the country, but a legion—aye, a legion!—and this not only for the purpose of protecting the "peaceable" inhabitants, but even to carry into execution the simplest edicts of the law, every one of which at the present moment is respected and carried into effect by a single peace officer without the slightest molestation or resistance.

Now, here's a pretty trade, not only against the most respectable men but against the most respectable institutions of the colony! And what does it all amount to—but that if the "glorious" franchise of the people be once circumscribed, the country will be—damned! and the immediate process by which that calamitous result will be brought about is, according to the *Patriot*, by so raising the character of the constituency as to insure the return of respectable men from the commercial body to seats in the House of Assembly, in the room of a few of the lowest and most ignorant men to be found in any part of the Majesty's dominions! But according to the *Patriot's* reasoning, the country must already have half reached that miserable condition so significantly indicated above, since some of the "Commercial Society" who now occupy the Grand and Special Jury Boxes—"some of this intolerable political junta" do occupy seats in the Legislative Council, and yet the state of Newfoundland is one of "unruffled tranquillity!" It is only when the country gets wholly—, that the *utmost* resistance to the law is to follow.

This is the plain English of the matter—Her Majesty's Government may annihilate the Local Legislature of this island if it think fit;—but if it dare to circumscribe the franchise which now extends to every holder of a shed or hovel, be it never so humble, the people are so determined to resist the execution of the laws, that it will require the presence of a whole legion of her Majesty's troops to enable the local authorities to carry one of its simplest edicts into effect!! And without knowing what course the home Government may take with regard to the present constitution of the colony, whether it will abrogate the charter, or circumscribe the franchise—the political state of the colony is one of "unruffled tranquillity!"

Does not the mind of the reader intuitively revert to the action for libel which was prosecuted against us the other day for having in strong terms, (when arguing upon the affairs of Canada), yet not in stronger terms than were warranted by the necessity of the case, warned the people of the danger of relying upon one of their leaders whom we knew to be connected with the *Patriot Press*—a Press which sympathized with the Canadian revolutionists, and which, when the rebellion had broken out, involved success upon their unallowable cause! And when we see such language put forth as that upon which we are to-day commenting, is it not our bounden duty to warn the people who they listen to the violent yet insidious overtures. For the one hundredth time we reiterate, that the laws of the country, whether good or bad are to be implicitly obeyed;—if they are good, we receive their protection, and are therefore bound to yield them our ready obedience;—if they are bad, there is always a peaceable and constitutional remedy at hand. We regret that a very contrary doctrine has been sometimes laid down in some of the popular harangues delivered by those who have assumed to be the leaders of the people leaders, against whom, we had almost said, no species of political invective can be deemed too strong, and against whose pernicious advice, the labouring classes cannot be too frequently nor too forcibly warned.

We certainly remember that once, in an action for libel, when counsel was arguing that it was the bounden duty of his client to offer such observations as he had, and which were closely connected with the matter charged as libellous, the Judge interposed—No, it is not the bounden duty of Mr. —to offer such observations, because it was not his bounden duty to publish a Newspaper at all! It did occur to us that it would be a queer thing to tell a Judge—It is not your bounden duty to offer any such observation, because it was not your bounden duty to be a Judge at all! The facts is that we have, all, our relative duties to perform in the situation and circumstances in which Providence has cast our lot; and the honest discharge of our duties, if they be of a public nature, according to the conscientious convictions of our mind, without being awed by the frowns of power on the one hand, or by a base and servile cringing to popular favour on the other, is the most satisfactory course which a man can pursue.

sue. With this digression, it may be observed respecting the people generally, that there is nothing like disturbance to be expected from them, if they be only left to themselves. The only danger to be apprehended is from the insidious conduct of those who assume the attitude of leaders, and to those it is that we owe the present most unenviable condition of society.

But as for the tranquillity of the colony, how can the colony be tranquil whilst political power remains in the hands of the masses, to return such a House of Assembly as we at present possess—a House between whom and the wealthier and more respectable classes there is not only a total absence of everything like sympathy, but a positive and mutual repulsion! This colony tranquil, indeed!—why seek a Commission of Inquiry into the disorders of the country if the most "unruffled tranquillity" prevails!

(From the Times, Jan. 16)

We a short time since adverted to the circumstance of a *Stipendiary Magistrate* having presided at a political meeting held at Harbour-Grace, for the purpose of getting up another *grievance Petition* to Her Majesty—and we did so for the purpose of expressing our conviction that any man who could preside at such a meeting, and sign such resolutions as were there passed, is altogether unfit to preside in any Court of Justice. Here is JAMES POWER, who no longer ago than last October was selected by the executive to fill the important office of *Stipendiary Magistrate* at Carbonear, taking the first opportunity that offers of showing his hostility to the very government that pays him! Is such a man, we ask, worthy to hold the scales of justice? Can it be expected that he, a partizan Magistrate, will do "equal right to all Her Majesty's subjects?"—The late Lord Fitzwilliam was dismissed from his office of Lord Lieutenant of Yorkshire merely for calling a radical meeting. Shall it be tolerated then that a *Stipendiary Magistrate* of Newfoundland shall actually preside at such a meeting without any notice being taken of it? The whole affair seems to call so loudly for prompt reprobation that we doubt not that James Power will be informed that presiding at radical meetings and holding the office of *Stipendiary Magistrate* are utterly inconsistent and incompatible with each other. But perhaps he was ordered to preside there, and "dare" not refuse.

Exmouth, Nov. 30.—The Dragon, Thatcher, from Gottenburgh bound to Newfoundland, has put into Plymouth leaky.

Tainmouth, Dec. 1.—The Friendship, arrived from Newfoundland—very leaky—part of cargo thrown overboard.

Dartmouth, 6th Dec.—Arrived, Dewdrop, Furler, Newfoundland.

Waterford, Dec. 6.—Arrived, Pictou, Newf.—15 days.

The Inconstant Frigate, arrived at Plymouth from Quebec, in coming down the Saint Lawrence with Lord Durham on board, took the ground and in consequence became very leaky.

Married

On Thursday last, by the Rev. J. Cummins, Mr. Thomas Power, to Mary, second daughter of Mr. Francis Roman, all of this town.

On Thursday last, by the Rev. J. Pickavant, Wesleyan Missionary, John Willis Martin, Esq., to Martha, third daughter of Mr. Richard Hayward Taylor.

Died

On Saturday morning last, ANNA BROWN, wife of JOHN R. M. COOKE, Esq., of Her Majesty's Customs, and fourth daughter of NEWMAN W. HOYLES, Esq., Colonial Treasurer, in the 25th year of her age.—Gaz., Jan. 15.

At St. John's, on the 19th inst., much regretted, after a short illness, Maria Julia, third daughter of Mr. Joseph Gill, of that town.

At St. John's, on the 20th inst., much and deservedly respected by all who had the pleasure of his acquaintance, Mr. William Branscomb, a native of that place, aged 78 years.

SHIP NEWS

Port of Harbor Grace.

ENTERED

Jan. 25.—Brig Margaret Ogilvi, Hunter, Hamburg, 180 bls. pork, 865 bags bread, 250 bls. & 45 half bls. flour, 50 bls. & 16 half bls. oatmeal, 30 firkins butter, 46 bags oats, 6 bls. beef, 60 bls. flour, and sundry merchandise for Jamaica.

Jan. 28.—British Queen, Munn, Valencia, 100 tons salt, 6 boxes lemons, 2 cwt. onions.

CLEARED.

Jan. 15.—Brig Ann, Martin, Bristol, 19 tons 3½ hhd. seal oil, 32 tons 39 gals. cod oil, 14 tons 1½ hhd. cod blubber, 40 qtls. codfish 17 bides, 10 cwt. old junk 200 lbs.

On Sale

Just Landed

Ex Jane Elizabeth, Nathaniel Munden, Master,

FROM HAMBURG,

Prime Mess PORK
Bread
Flour
Oatmeal
Peas
Butter.

Also,

15 Tuns BLUBBER.

For Sale by

THOMAS GAMBLE.

Carbonear,

Jan. 9, 1839.

The following Valuable Mercantile and Fishing Establishments situate at St. Mary's, belonging to the Insolvent Estate of Slade, Bidule & Co., of Carbonear.

Will be offered For Sale

By Public Auction,

On WEDNESDAY, the 1st day of May next

At 12 o'Clock,

AT THE

COMMERCIAL ROOM

(St. John's.)

THAT Eligible Room, known as RIGG'S ROOM—consisting of a Large DWELLING-HOUSE, with COUNTING HOUSE adjoining; Three STORES, One SHOP One COOK-ROOM, Two STAGES, One BEACH, FLAKES, MEADOW, and GARDEN.

That Eligible Room known as PHIP-PARD'S ROOM—consisting of one DWELLING-HOUSE, One STAGE, One STORE, Extensive MEADOW GROUND with right and privilege of Piscary at Great Salmonier.

That Eligible Room known as CHRISTOPHER'S ROOM—consisting of a DWELLING-HOUSE, Fish STORE, STAGE, FLAKES, BEACH, GARDEN, and MEADOWS.

Also,

10 FISHING BOATS, carrying from 16 to 30 qtls Round Fish.

At St. Mary's.

Together with sundry SKIFFS, PUNTS, CRAFT, CASKS, &c.

Particulars of the Rooms may be made known on application to Mr. Lush, at St. Mary's; Mr. J. B. Wood, at St. John's or at Carbonear, to

J. W. MARTIN,

Agent.

Carbonear,

9th Jan., 1839.

SEALERS Agreements

For Sale at this Office.

TWENTY GUINEAS
REWARD!

Cow Stolen.

WHEREAS some evil disposed Person or persons did on the night of the 12th instant, or early on the morning of the 13th instant, break open the door of the STABLE on the Premises of SLADE, BIDDLE & Co. and STOLE herefrom a

MILCH COW,

Any Person giving information of the offender or offenders, so that he or they may be brought to Justice, shall receive the above Reward

There is also a further Reward of

10 Guineas

offered to any person who will give information of the Persons by whom the Meadow and other FENCES belonging to said Estate, have been destroyed

JOHN W. MARTIN,

Agent

Carbonear,