The Morning Courier.

FOR THE COUNTRY.

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

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Morning Courier.

MONTREAL, TUESDAY, MAY 3, 1836.

It is much to be regretted that the idea should be so prevalent in England, that there exists a strong analogy between the causes of the discontents in Canada, and those in Ireland. However great the temptation, from the want of accurate knowledge and an aversion to inquiry, might be, to take for granted that there was a close resemblance between the circumstances of the two countries, yet it is certain that this false notion would not have procured so great a currency, had not those in Canada, who supposed it to be for their interest to assume the attitude of the oppressed, given circulation to it by a course of incessant misrepresentation and shameless hypocrisy. But, more than this. The great subject that has been for many years among the uppermost in the minds of the British public, is, Ireland and her wrongs. This has been the predominant topic that has survived all others, and absorbs at this moment the greatest share of interest in the councils of the nation. When, therefore, the analogy was once started between this adjoining component part of the empire, with the condition of which every one between infancy and dotage, possessed some acquaintance, and a more remote colonial dependency, about which, comparatively, little was known, it was seized upon as a ready constructed key, by means of which those formerly ignorant of our affairs, acquired, in an incredibly short time, a thorough comprehension of them, and supposed themselves capable of solving our difficulties. The delusion thus easily formed by a fortuitous coincidence of circumstances, was too good to be allowed to be dissipated, and the hirelings of the Canadian majority were therefore commissioned to maintain and increase it. They so far succeeded, that in the popular mind the British Colonists were transformed into a band of Orangemen, and the Canadian majority into an oppressed race, whose patience of suffering, and native humanity, have never been pulled by participation in massacre, but who were represented as nursing their wrongs in their breasts, to add fury to their vengeance on some future day of retribution.

We say it is to be regretted that such false notions relative to the population of Canada should, to any extent, prevail in England, even among the uneducated; and it is still more to be lamented that they should be entertained by those in whom they cannot be excused on the plea of wanting the means of better information. The London *Morning Chronicle*, of the 14th March, contains upwards of a column of remarks on Canadian affairs, tainted with the supposed analogies between the condition of Ireland and that of Canada. The writer has not certainly pushed his analogies to a pernicious extent; but in less scrupulous hands they are always sure to be more or less exaggerated. If these fanciful resemblances be tolerated, a door will be open for the circulation of innumerable misconceptions, and for the play of a false sympathy both here and in Britain, in favour of a people entirely ignorant of the evils they are said to suffer.

The *Morning Chronicle's* remarks we shall take an early opportunity of referring to again, and in the meantime would observe that the total absorption of all power and influence by the Orange faction in Ireland presents no the relaxation of the penal code, and no parallel whatever in the Colonial Administration having too exclusively bestowed its patronage upon a few families, while in other respects the rights and claims of all classes of the population were respected. The catalogue of the positive evils of the Orange ascendency would be too long for us to repeat; and after scanning its length and dark character, if we turn to the official abuses that have been committed in Canada, the latter will scarcely merit our contemptuous scorn, while the former cannot fail to excite our profound regret and indignation.

While there is palpable evidence that erroneous views of our Colonial difficulties, are entertained to a pernicious extent in Britain, yet of late we can discover a more frequent occurrence of glimpses of truth in what is written on the subject. So that we may flatter ourselves that they are not on the increase, and that the results of the last session of the Provincial Legislature, will do much to dissipate them entirely.

The letter which Mr. PAPINEAU transmitted, along with certain Resolutions of the House of Assembly of LOWER CANADA, to Mr. Speaker BIDWELL, of the Upper Canada Assembly, has made its appearance in the Toronto papers. Mr. BIDWELL was induced in his intention to have it entered on the Journals of the House.

This document is marked by a strong infusion of that exasperated feeling towards the Home Government, and those Republican principles, which Mr. PAPINEAU and his satellites have of late taken so great apparent pleasure in avowing. He promises, on the part of the House of Assembly, that this Province would co-operate with the Upper in obtaining the removal of whatever he or Mr. BIDWELL might consider evils in the Colonial Government. It is, like his speeches, very long, and is little distinguishable from them in its matter.

The following Manifestoes of two hostile Spanish Commandants may serve to convey some idea of the systematic and cold-blooded butcheries which always accompany the other innumerable miseries of a civil war.

The execution of the mother of Cabrera, the Carlist chief, as a reprisal for the various atrocities and murders committed by him in Lower Arragon, having given rise to various comments, the following document will contribute to throw light on the subject:—

I.

Circular of the Commandant General of Lower Arragon to the Corporation of the Town of Alcanis.

"The Military Governor of Tortosa, in a despatch of the 15th instant, states to me as follows:—' Immediately on the receipt of your despatch of the 8th instant, I communicated it to the Captain General of this army and principality, because I did not think myself empowered to make the mother of the rebel Cabrera expiate the atrocities committed by her son; but at this moment (six o'clock at night) I have received the post from Catalonia, with a despatch of his Excellency for you, which I enclose, as also one for myself, in which he is pleased to tell me that your wishes are to be complied with, by virtue of which, tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock, the mother of the cruel Cabrera will be shot, and his three sisters taken up this night, although two of them are married to two National Guards of the marine in this place; and I have to inform you, that I shall take up all the near relatives of the other chiefs and self-styled officers, for the purpose of restraining those barbarians, by putting some measure to their excesses. The execution is to take place in the open space of the Barbican, as being the public spot on which all those who may deserve it shall be shot; and I shall issue a circular to the towns of this district, for the information of the people, and the terror of such of the evil-inclined as may commit attempts on the lives of the loyal inhabitants.' All which I hereby make known to the magistrates, in order to its being published with the accustomed forms, to the end that all the inhabitants of these districts may be certain that the barbarous Cabrera's thirst for innocent blood has been the cause of the death of his mother, and will be that of his sisters, if he persist in his atrocities; as such will be that of the wives, fathers, and mothers of the chiefs who, to their misfortune, are under his orders, and who are in my custody, and whom I shall continue to take up and order to be shot, five for each whom he shall assassinate. God preserve you many years.

"AGUSTIN NOGUERAS.

"Fresneda, Feb. 20, 1836."

II.

The following is a circular issued by Cabrera, who is a priest:—

"Commandantcy of Lower Arragon,—The barbarous and sanguinary D. Agustin Nogueras, who styles himself Commandant General of Lower Arragon, has just published, as an act of heroism, the atrocious assassination which, at his request, was effected in Tortosa on my innocent and unfortunate mother, who was inhumanly shot on the morning of the 16th instant, in the place of the Barbican, and my three sisters seized prisoners, although two of them are wives of two Nationals in that town. Horror-struck, and yet full of calmness and valour at this melancholy as well as cowardly and vile act, suited solely to man who seek to procure the triumph of the cause they have embraced, by infamous acts of terror, while plunging the country and families into sorrow and general mourning, and yet supposing that their enlightened conduct will be enough to secure the criminal usurpation which has produced so many victims, I, in use of the powers which law and justice confer on my character of Commander-in-Chief of this Province, named by the King and legitimate Sovereign Don Carlos V., have in conformity with his royal instructions issued the following regulations:—

"1. The self-styled Brigadier D. Agustin Nogueras, and all those subscribing to the sentence of the Queen called the Regent, are hereby declared traitors.

"2. All the individuals aforesaid, who may be taken, shall be shot by virtue of the above order.

"3. These shall be shot immediately, as a just retribution for the assassination of my innocent mother:—the lady of the Colonel Manuel Fonfiveros, commandant that was of arms in Chelva, kingdom of Valencia, and who has been in custody, in order to restrain the rage of the cruel revolutionists. As also three others, who are Cleda Tos, Mariana Guardia, and Fernandez Urquesa, and even to the number of 30, which I mark down to expiate the infamous punishment of the death of my mother.

"4. With a heart wrung with grief and eyes overflowing with tears while dictating this tremendous measure, I cannot do less than announce with sorrow, that I not only disregard altogether the atrocities which cover me with the poignant allegations the atrocities which memorialize my afflictions, but that their bloodthirstiness shall be revenged without fail, for each victim, by 30 of the families of the assassins who shall continue them. * * The Alcaldes of whose names are marked in the margin shall cause this decree to be published, as also the parish priests are to make it known from the pulpit, under their responsibility.

"RAMON CABRERA.

"Valderalles, Feb. 20, 1836."

III.

"The Commandant General of Lower Arragon has issued a notice to the Alcaldes and parish priests in the following terms:—

"The magistrates and parish priests who shall comply with this circular and orders issued by that captain of robbers and assassins, Ramon Cabrera, and his other companions, shall be treated as traitors to the lawful government of our Sovereign *Lady* the Queen.

"God preserve you many years.

"AGUSTIN NOGUERAS.

"Fresneda, Feb. 23, 1836."

It is stated, that the British Minster, Mr. Villiers, has called the attention of the Government to the conduct of Nogueras on the occasion, and that he in consequence has been removed from the command in Lower Arragon.

At the King's levee, held at St. JAMES's, on the 9th of March last, we notice the following amongst the presentations:—Lieutenant General Sir JAMES LYON, on being appointed to the command of the army in British North America, by Lord HILL.

The following satisfactorily explains the success of Ministers on the Address:—

Where, let us now ask, are the sixty Tory Members who according to the exact information of the veracious *Standard*, were snowed-up in the country on the night of the Address? Is it not time that some inquiry should be made as to the fate of those much neglected gentlemen? The ice-bound whalers have come to port one after another, but not one of the *Standard's* snowed-up sixty has found his way to the House of Commons. A Rose should be dispatched on an expedition in search of them—not Captain Ross, Mr. Charles Ross will do as well. If a dog is lost some guineas are offered for his recovery, but the Tories lost sixty members and never think them worth asking for! An advertisement, if not expedition of discovery, should at least be sent forth, stating that sixty Tory Members of Parliament, marked so and so, were lost in the snow-storm on the 4th of February, and have never since been heard of, and offering a reward for any information touching them.—Our suspicion is, that as they were smothered in the snow, they melted in the thaw. The *Standard*, which knows everything, will tell us whether our conjecture is right.—*Examiner.*

We were agreably surprised with the following paragraph in the *Quebec Mercury* of Saturday, intimating the arrival of two vessels below Quebec, before that port is free from ice:—

ARRIVAL FROM SEA.—The Telegraph announces two vessels, a Brig and a Schooner. Of the first which was off Crane Island this morning, nothing certain is known; the crew of a boat from St. Thomas's are said to have spoken her, and to report her to be one of the vessels wrecked in the river last fall; but this is hardly possible. The schooner is higher up; she is stated to be from Halifax and with a cargo.—Both have to contend with a thousand disadvantages, low, till the ice in our harbour breaks up. Mr. Watt, Superintendent of Telegraphs, who has constantly observed the ice from his station on Cape Diamond, says that the lower or eastern extremity of the field has receded but little in the course of the last three weeks.

M. MANSEAU, Curé of Longueuil, met with a serious accident on Saturday last. A man had been employed in blasting some large stones near the parsonage house; and in consequence of having struck too violent a blow with the bar of iron with which he was charging the mine in one, sparks were elicited, which, communicating with the powder, the stone was shattered to pieces, and the Curé, who was either near or upon it, was thrown a considerable distance, and received several severe, but not dangerous, wounds from the splinters.

The horse-boat at the foot of the Current commenced its regular trips yesterday to Longueuil.

The Steamboat *Varennes* came into Port yesday from her winter quarters. Last year the same vessel arrived on the 20th of April.

Most of the steamboats intended to ply on Lake Ontario during the ensuing season have left their winter quarters, with renovated appearance, and in proper trim for their summer's work.

Several Magistrates took the oath of qualification yesterday, required by the Act passed last Session.

We beg to direct the attention of our readers to the Advertisement, in another column, fixing the hour for closing the Quebec Mail at six o'clock, from the 11th instant.

The fine weather which we had enjoyed for two days previous, was interrupted yesterday by rain, which continued to fall during the whole day.

A congratulatory Address, with one thousand and twenty-six signatures annexed, has been forwarded to Sir FRANCIS HEAD, from the inhabitants of Peterboro and vicinity.

St. Patrick's day was celebrated at Toronto, by a dinner, which was numerously attended. Besides several gentlemen connected with Government, we observe that Mr. HENRY HEAD, son of the Lieutenant-Governor, was present.

There is a probability of the surplus revenue of the United States being loaned to the several States, in proportionate shares, without interest, and to be payable when wanted for the use of the Government.

The citizens of Newark (N. J.) have procured from Mr. Tuon a design for an equestrian statue of WASHINGTON, to be made of marble. One half of the estimated cost—$12,000—has been already subscribed.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING COURIER.

SIR,—I am persuaded that I shall have your suffrage in the opinion, that nothing can be more pitiful, or more unpromising for a purely financial, than to assume the government of a Colony ruled by mean souls and factious.

This is seriously the case with Upper Canada. That Province has, for years, been the theatre of discontents, which have shaken it to its foundation. Factious equally hostile to the prosperity of the Colony, and to each other, have filled the land with the firebrands of discord. No Administration has yet been able to controul their machinations, or reduce them to a sense of reason and justice. Even the rapid progress of the Province in agricultural and commercial prosperity, instead of checking their operations and diverting the scent, has, by the vast increase of population, and the growing influence of education, multiplied opponents, and extended the scene of warfare; insomuch that the very things which would prove blessings in other circumstances, have a sinister tendency in those which actually exist.

It was in this position of things, unpropitious as they are to a correct and faithful administration of Government, that Sir FRANCIS HEAD was appointed to the Executive Department of Upper Canada. Independently of his religious and moral character, and his talents as a statesman; he was no doubt selected by His Majesty's Ministers as a man whose disposition was eminently mild and conciliatory. With these views, he was appointed to the Government. Let us now see with what views he accepted it.

He was not, because he could not be, ignorant of the state of the Province. He saw a numerous people, apparently forming two grand divisions; *Democrats and Tories*: but in reality making *four*, and perhaps more. For in my of the former class wished to pare down Government to a measure suited to the hopes of Republicanism; and not a few of the latter were partial propagators of the doctrines of *passive obedience* and *non-resistance*. From these adverse elements was engendered a spirit of jealousy, inimical to projects of the plainest public utility, when proposed or advocated by their adversaries.

Such was the aspect of things, when Sir FRANCIS HEAD assumed the reins of Colonial Government. Nothing could be less inviting than such a post for such an incumbent; and long before he reached our shores, he foresaw that he had to play an up-hill game.

His first communication to the Legislature, announced his hopes, his views, and his intentions. Few public documents are more interesting. He declared the wishes of His Majesty's Ministers, and identified them with his own. He laid down the principles by which his Administration would be regulated; promised an increasing vigilance in guarding the Constitution from invasion, and deprecating that hateful spirit of party, which could not fail to clog the wheels of Government in general, and paralize all the operations of the Executive in particular. His tone was one of conciliation and peace; and it wanted nothing but the co-opération of the other branches, to render the Colony prosperous and happy.

How have the subordinate authorities in Upper Canada responded to the immense, liberal, and enlightened views of their Executive Governor? By presumptuous insolence—by arrogating powers, unrecognized by the Constitution—by wresting from the Executive the choice of his *councillors*, and by clothing others of their own election with immunities, which would render the gubernatorial functions inert and useless. And in order to qualify this choice with some semblance of justice, they proposed to render the Executive Council responsible to the people, and thus exonerate the Lieutenant-Governor from any personal responsibility. A measure, absurd in itself, and in direct violation of that Constitution which they had taken for their guide, and which they had sworn to obey. The answer of Sir FRANCIS HEAD to this singular proposition, marks the man of principle, the man of feeling, and the profound legislator.

If we had not the naked fact before us, and staring us in the face, we could not believe that such a doctrine could be sincerely maintained, and openly avowed. But it is not the less true: they have proclaimed it "in Gath," and published it "in the streets of Ascalon."

His Excellency declared, at the commencement of his Administration, that he would *labour to conciliate no party*, for that no conciliation could avail. In spite, however, of this resolution, wise and prudent as it is, his language has been mild and conciliating to the last degree. We have seen the sad result of his departure from his own purpose.

The last speech of Sir FRANCIS HEAD, on closing the Session, corresponds with all his official acts which have preceded it. The doctrines which he had previously avowed, and the line of conduct which he had previously pursued, he still avows, and still pursues. In spite of clashing interests, and rival jealousies, he remains calm and collected, keeping "the even tenor of his way,"—like the sun continuing his course through the clouded sky.

There is nothing more remarkable in our dangerous, and nothing which ought to be more mortifying to their pride, than the blundering frequency with which their opponents, called in for their support, and so confident their extraction, result upon themselves, like the gun of Bunker's Hill.

[illegible] and John Talfourd Ellis.

They are true, taught in their own trap. A signal example of this is found in the reason which they allege for the responsibility of an Executive Council. It should be so, say they, because it is so in England. Nothing can be more apt and pointedly in refutation of this allegation, than what is furnished by Mr. Watson in his "Report." Let us admire the sound reasoning, and pertinent inferences displayed in the following extract from that valuable document:—

"In England the person of the Sovereign is sacred, and he is accountable to none for his Administration. The Constitution, therefore, has assigned to him a Council, who are responsible for his advice, and for the votes which they give. But, in this Province, the Representative of the Sovereign is the Chief Magistrate, and is personally responsible for his behaviour in office. The reason which dictates the necessity of a responsible cabinet in England, operates equally in Great Britain, it furnishes, as has been justly observed, a security for the personal responsibility of the Chief Magistrate, and assures to the people, who are a barrier to the national justice for his good behaviour in this Province, under the existing relations with the Parent State, it would serve to destroy, or would tend to destroy, the only security for the personal responsibility of the King's Deputy. A Council is a responsible, who is himself responsible for what he does, and, consequently, is a security for the good behaviour of the Governor, and the protection of those in whose behalf we are almost always at a loss to be heard."

In the column appeal which our demagogues have made to His Majesty, they do not scruple to declare the "act" of their Lieutenant-Governor "unconstitutional" and "illegal"—to speak of his Council as in "despotic, aristocratic, super, dominant" association with other epithets, as false and foul, as they will prove fruitless. On the other hand, his own appeal to the good sense and good nature of these men will prove equally fruitless. They are not to be gained. Their pride, their prejudices, and their hatred are too deeply fixed for eradication.

That there is an intimate connection, and a cordial intelligence, between the Radicals of Upper and Lower Canada, does not admit of dispute. They traffic under the same firm. They are embarked in the same bottom. The views and sentiments of the one, are those of the other. And there is no doubt, that when matters are ripe for revolt, their movements will be simultaneous and combined. With this dark prospect before us, let every true patriot, every real lover of his country, be at his post. The crisis is full of difficulty. Let us meet the event without diffidence or dismay. Meanwhile, let us copy the example of Sir FRANCIS HEAD. Let us guard the Constitution, and we are safe. I am, Sir, &c.

April 29. PUBLICOLA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING COURIER.

SIR,—Permit me to make a few observations, in reply to "R."s" remarks, which were published in the *Courier* of Saturday.

After a careful perusal of his statements, and duly considering the bearings of the illustration with which he accompanies them, I presume that his views may be justly exhibited thus:—Canada is, and has been, making yearly additions to her debt with Great Britain, although for every such increase against her, she can show a greater increase of income in her favour, in the shape of improved lands, new buildings, and other fixed capital, which could not be transported in payment of what she owes, but the existence of which renders her solvent, and enables her to contract still more debts. Her credit abroad is thus maintained upon the assurance that she is doing well, or that her internal affairs are prosperous.

The point, then, at issue between me and "R" is this; he argues that Canada is getting deeper and deeper in debt every year, although not getting poorer, and I assert that she is not yearly getting deeper in debt, and that her annual expenditure is balanced by her annual income, as nearly as may be, one year with another.

There is one most important general reflection which obtrudes itself upon my notice, and which, assuming the shape of a question, is this; if, according to "R.," we are getting annually deeper in debt, and that by no trifling deficit for many years back, at what future period, and in what way shall we be able to get honourably quit of the load? He may not, perhaps, feel himself bound to answer this query. But in the settlement of a question like the present, in which, unfortunately, we cannot proceed with arithmetical precision, the future, as well as the past, should be made to bear on its elucidation. The balance sheets of all the import and export merchants in the country could alone secure accuracy. But to proceed.

If the supposition be allowed, for I deny there is any proof of it, that our imports have for long exceeded our exports to a considerable amount, it necessarily follows that the aggregate of the annual deficits must now be an enormous sum, for which, according to "R.," interest is paid. Two or three millions would, I presume, be a moderate calculation. But, in this case, how hopeless must be our prospects, with a continued excess of imports, and with the dead weight of from £120,000 to £190,000 of interest to pay per annum! The idea of a constantly accumulating debt leads to the most extravagant conclusions, is, in my opinion, contrary to fact, and is entirely destructive of that reciprocity which is the basis of commercial intercourse between countries.

I am ready to admit that Canada owes to Britain at this moment a greater sum than she might have done twenty years ago at the same season of the year. The trade between the two countries is double now of what it was then, and the aggregate of those unavoidable balances, which will always be found between the retail and wholesale dealer, so to speak, may, in consequence, be greater. But this is entirely owing to the difficulty which the Canada merchant finds in realizing money for what he disposes of here. What he may, however, be unable to do this year, he does in the next or the one after. There is only a little delay, and it is absurd to imagine that generally debts are allowed to accumulate for "ten, twenty, or one hundred years."

Before going farther, it may be as well to remark, that when "R." speaks of the capital with which many Canadian houses have been furnished by British houses, it must be viewed in the light of partnership transactions, or permanent loans. No part of it after its first importation, but the interest which is paid for it, can be justly reckoned when we are speaking of the annual current, or of the annual value of imports and exports. I grant, however, that this current, or yearly value, is made up, in a great measure, of the annual interest of capital being loaned to Canada for "ten, twenty, or one hundred years." But what species of industry, or what enterprises in Canada engaged in, that the returns and the reproduction are so distant? Her farmers reap a harvest once a year, all the capital expended in the preparation of square timber, her great staple product, is reproduced within the year; and where then is the necessity for an annually augmenting debt, or what distant prospects warrant its increase? And yet, while we are told of our debts having been increasing for many years back, by way of consolation we are also told that we are getting richer. But I should like to know in what manner Canada absorbs this capital which, in the way of trade and upon credit, she obtains from Great Britain. I can see no way possible her circumstances with the supposition of her getting yearly deeper and deeper in debt.

Although I have a profound respect for the opinions of ADAM SMITH, I have no evidence of their correctness in the quotation which "R." gives. The very words with which it is concluded, indicate the slender grounds the author had for his views in the case in question. The picture he draws, he characterises of by no means an impossible supposition. It is for "R." to show the parallel between it and Canada.

It appears to me that "R." has allowed himself to be misled by some isolated cases, and has not given that importance to the operation of those financial laws which regulate the commercial intercourse of countries. There is a constant and necessary tendency to a balance of trade or equilibrium of exchanges. To this point the commercial relations irresistibly tend. It is as natural to imagine that a properly suspended pendulum will remain at rest, without external interference, in any other position than in the perpendicular, at which, after the most violent oscillations, it will ultimately and inevitably settle; as to suppose that one end of the commercial balance between two countries can long remain over-balanced and receive constant additions. Again, the generality of commercial transactions are completed within twelve months, so that it is natural and customary for the balance to be adjusted at the end of this time, as nearly as possible.

May 2. ENQUIRER.

Lower Canada.

The still unsettled question of the boundary line between the British possessions and the United States, has been brought under the notice of Congress, by a series of Resolutions proceeding from the Legislature of Massachusetts being laid on the table of the Senate. It is certainly to be regretted, that a matter of so much importance to both parties cannot be amicably determined, with a view to avoid the unpleasant collisions which too often arise, in the exercise of a disputed authority over the "debateable land." The decision of the King of Netherlands, so contrary to the spirit and intention of the arbitration submitted to his judgment, has been quietly rejected by both parties, and the matter still rests in an uncomfortable abeyance. Our neighbours are actively engaged in advancing their claims, and the Province of New Brunswick has not failed to regard the question with that attention which it merits. Lower Canada, on the contrary, which has an interest involving a territory of several millions of acres, covered with a fruitful growth of valuable timber, and a fertile country suited to agricultural pursuits, has tamely and dumbly looked on with a culpable indifference. Serious affrays have taken place at the *Indian Stream* between the authorities of Canada and New Hampshire, which were brought under consideration of the Assembly by a message from His Excellency. The House, however, were too much occupied with the pursuit of imaginary grievances, to attend to questions involving rights of property, the lives of the people, or the sovereignty of the country. —*Montreal Gazette.*

Yesterday, at the Quarter Sessions, before the Hon. D. B. Viger, J. A. Gagnon and B. Hall, Esqs. presiding Justices, was tried the case of the King vs. Amury Girod, for an assault and battery on C. S. De Bleury, Esq. on the 7th April last. The case occupied the most of the day, from the numerous legal discussions with which it was mingled up. The Jury eventually rendered a verdict of *guilty*, and Mr. Girod was fined £10.—*Ib.*

The weather is not cold, but it does not partake of the character of this season of the year; the frost last night dried up the streets and formed ice of the thickness of a dollar, over the pans of water. Still in the town much of the ice is gone. We saw, for the first time this season, several swallows flying over the town early this morning. The full tides of May, which are generally very high, and attended with gales, will begin to-morrow, and be about the highest on on Tuesday or Wednesday next. The weather looks rainy; but it is next to impossible that we should experience a storm sufficiently violent of carry away the great extent of ice still fixed to the space of fifteen to eighteen miles on the St. Lawrence, extending to about two miles below the port of Quebec.—*Quebec Gazette.*

Some rumours respecting the *Trial before a Court of Oyer and Terminer* for the District of St. Francis, of the Hon. W. B. Felton, in consequence of the alleged *indictment* of one of the nameless committees of the Assembly, have been in circulation. They have for authority some persons who promised to get a supply, and who still haunt the Commission. Perhaps they may be trusted; we know the day when the Government had other advisers than such men. We believe that the information on the subject is, at least, premature; that nothing is fixed, and no one has proceeded to go to St. Francis. It may be, that the Officers of the Crown have reported on the matter of a trial by jury in the District of St. Francis, where prejudices are strong against the accused, for establishing fact, by which the construction put upon the Governor's instructions would not affect Mr. Felton; but we believe that nothing has been definitively settled, and that the suggestions now in question may or may not be adopted, in the course of a week or two. How a Grand or Petty Jury can be lawfully called to sit on the general character of a public officer, seems to us a new principle. The House of Lords, or a Commission under a law, with powers to enquire and to pronounce, (as the Royal Commission,) might do so; but before a common jury, to which every one is at all times indictable, why more to an objectionable district? Why not indict in Quebec, if it be admitted that it can be done? We have never had the means of forming an opinion on the accusations against the public officer in question. We should think that the delay with which His Majesty has treated him, should not be a reason to distrust him, nor that his political opinions should be a pretext to persecution. If, indeed, English justice is to be substituted in this way, the cause of a just and kind Government will win a brilliant victory.—*Ib.*

Upper Canada.

THE CHURCH.—Sincerely attached to the Protestant Episcopal Church, both from education and conviction, it is with regret that we find the Government pursuing a course that will not fail to bring suspicion on its Ministers. We allude to the endowment plan: While the Clergy Reserves were claimed by all Protestants, and while the right of alienation by the Government was *sub judice*, waiting for the concurrence of the Legislative Council, as to their being applied to the general wants of the country, Sir John Colborne went, with indecent haste, establishing Rectories and endowing them with the disputed lands all over the country. A paper from the Register's Office, lately laid before the House, gives the names of no less than forty-four Rectories, with endowments of 400 acres of land each, and embracing in many instances, most valuable town lots. The Archdeacon of York, the Rev. Dr. Strachan, claims for his share 500 acres in the second and third concessions of York, running from the Bay; while the Archdeacon of Kingston claims 710 acres in the town and township of Kingston. This is the nucleus formed of a new church in this young country, to the exclusion of all other denominations of Christians, and the seed of future discords planted. We believe that the voluntary plan of every man paying his own clergy, is the first adapted to promote the interests of true religion. In England, Ireland, and Scotland, the people are exerting themselves to get rid of a church system that has become re-

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