

SMASHER MAGNANIMITY.

Smasherism is not new. There is nothing new under the sun, said Solomon. Smasherism is only a modification of principles with which men have long been familiar. At one time and one place they have outcropped under one semblance; at other times and places under other semblances; now as religious intolerance, then as scientific prejudice; again as political tyranny, the underlying strata being at all times and in all places substantially the same. Smasherism is only a new manifestation of political selfishness, intolerance, trickery and despotism. The true Smasher cannot conceive that others have rights which he is bound to respect; he cannot be convinced that in politics, as in private life, honesty, frankness and good feeling should predominate; his idea of politics is the dominancy of his own party, at any cost, and by any means. The creed of Smasherism is that government was instituted for the benefit of Smashers; that the national Treasury is their privy purse; that offices exist that Smashers may obtain place and salary; that, in fact, the chief end of governments that Smashers may wield power and influence, and fill their pockets at the public expense.

That this is the practical philosophy of not a few politicians in New Brunswick who that has watched their words and deeds for the last half dozen years can doubt? Probably they themselves would not, even to themselves, acknowledge the correctness of the portrait which we have drawn; but in actual practice it is true to the letter. These principles have been carried out so far as public opinion would allow. Public opinion is a slow corrector; and one not easily moved; but public opinion did at least say to Smasherism, Thus far shalt thou come and no farther. Consequently the commencement of its reign and its conclusion show differently. In the first bursts of its vigor it was very bold and intemperate; it tore with its teeth and claws whoever, in its power dared to look frowningly or doubtingly upon it. It went so far as it dared in dismissing faithful public servants, whose only fault was independence of character, and in replacing them by its own friends. In the Legislature it was noisy, swaggering, bullying. Nothing was too mean to which to stoop, if only its opponents could be injured and its own tools served. The very servants in the Assembly felt its vindictive blows; and coach drivers, who were guilty of the foul offence of Conservative proclivities were taught that altho' they did live under the boasted institutions of the great land of freedom and constitutional government, they also lived within the swoop of the kite of Smasherism.

Public opinion interposed; and a change came over the spirit of the Smasher dream. In one County their vindictive dismissal of one public officer resulted in bringing him into the Assembly in the place of the very man to whom they gave his office. In another district a vacancy occurring by the appointment of one of their supporters to a public office, was filled, despite their endeavors, by a Conservative. So Smasherdom became very much more quiet, and set about enjoying what it had still left.

But the spirit still remains, and occasionally flashing up, shows us what the consequence would be were its power at all commensurate. The giant can scarcely hobble to the door of his cave, but he still rattles his decaying teeth, and mutters at the passing pilgrims. We are just now having an instance.

Recently there has been commenced in St. John a new tri-weekly paper, called *The Colonial Empire*. Its prospectus and its first articles are conceived in such general terms that it is impossible from them to guess what part it will take in the strife of our parties, or whether it will enter that strife at all. But what its intentions are may be judged from external evidence. It seems to be generally understood that it originated with a number of gentlemen of the first character and standing in St. John, who not approving of the manner in which the government of the country has been conducted under Smasher auspices, desire to bring about a better state of things by such a political education of the people as is possible by means of a public newspaper. Knowing the influence which the press exercises in these days, and looking at the degraded condition into which a portion of it had fallen, they resolved to set going a paper which while it should advocate sound and manly political principles, should also be a corrector of the misstatements and distortions which it seems to be a chief delight of the Smasher press to disseminate con-

cerning their opponents. *The Colonial Empire* came into existence very quietly; making little flourish or pretension; attacking or abusing none of its contemporaries; saying nothing to which any one could take exception as improper. Consequently it received generally at the hands of the press kindly greeting. But Smasherdom took alarm. Had it really come to this that respectability and honesty and independence were to have fresh advocacy? that there was to be added to the press another member which would not bow down to the idol of Smasherism? Forbid it Smasherism! Forbid it Smasherism and Samuel Leonard Tilley, duly canonized in the Smasher Calendar! Forbid it the whole race of Treasury leeches! Forbid it the great organ of Smasherism, the inkstands of whose editorial corps never lack for replenishing from the foulest gutter in the obscene suburbs of the English language! Forbid it the whole tribe of Yea! Yea!

So the great organ of Smasherism has set to work. It has already, at the time of our writing, devoted three leading articles to the laudable object of vilifying the opposition generally, and the originators of the *Colonial Empire* particularly, and to an elaborate endeavor to poison the public mind concerning it. References are made to private character such as would find a place in no paper that cared for decency. All the vials of Smasher wrath are poured forth, with a profusion which is refreshing. No mean insinuation that could be collected but is pressed into service; and the most vigorous attempt is made to stir up popular and sectarian prejudices, and to play upon popular passions,—all for the object of injuring the *Colonial Empire* and those connected with it. An attack which from its first line to its last displays more of venomous ill nature, unscrupulousness and littleness of soul, it has not been our lot for many a day to see. It should seem that the fair and manly course to pursue towards a new paper is to judge it by its conduct. If one person or a number of persons desire to establish a new journal to advocate their political opinions why should it be subjected to such attacks as these? Why? because such is the spirit of Smasherism. The genuine Smasher is the most arbitrary of despots. He wants no voice heard, but his own; he would, if he could, prevent free discussion. Since he cannot do this by actual force he endeavors to find other means, such as the Smasher organ has been using towards the *Colonial Empire*.

That such means will fail in the case alluded to here can scarcely be a doubt. But the attempt appeared to us so meanly ungenerous, and at the same time so characteristic of that Smasherism which we are happy to say, is fast losing its ground in this Province, that we could not avoid giving it this notice.

LOCAL ITEMS.

We had imagined when we last wrote about the weather, that we had really experienced the severest storm of the season; but on Thursday last we found to our dismay, that, much as we had suffered, worse was in store for us. All that day the snow fell rapidly, and at night the wind rose and blew with terrific violence, heaping up huge piles of snow in what had been the roads, rendering them for the time utterly useless as channels of communication. Such was the violence of the storm that it was anticipated that some accidents might have happened to persons exposed to its fury; but we are happy to say, that the only casualty we have as yet heard of, was that of a poor horse frozen to death in his harness on the Newburg road.

During the storm, the temperature ranged unusually low.—In fact, we are informed on good authority, that early in the morning, while the storm was at its height, the mercury was solidified.

On Friday last few of our merchants pretended to open their stores, nor was it till Saturday morning, that a majority of our citizens thought it advisable to commence removing the embankments of snow which hemmed them in.

Many years have elapsed since such a severe storm has visited us, and we would fain hope that when the next one comes we may be in some more temperate latitude.

On Monday, fortunately for us all, and more especially for our lumber operators, the usual January thaw made its appearance; though late in coming, a most welcome guest. As we write rain is falling, and the snow under its melting influence, and that of the milder temperature, is slowly but surely settling away, while the bushes heretofore hidden begin to peep out from its cold, white surface.

Our representatives have gone to Head Quarters, to attend the meeting of the Legislature. The honorable member for Quebec also passed through the town, yesterday, on his way thitherward.

THE ALBERT MINES.—In the course of a lecture recently delivered before the St. John Mechanics' Institute on the County of Albert, Mr. Duval is reported in the *Colonial Empire* to have described the Albert Mines as follows:—

After Mountains came Mines, in these this County excelled. The Albert Coal Mines were first discovered in 1850 by the Messrs. Peter and John Duffey, whose attention was first called to the Coal when inspecting a Mill stream in the vicinity where a mill dam had broken away, and when the water had subsided the vein of coal appeared exposed by its action. Out of this Mine have annually been taken for the first four or five years 14,000 or 15,000 tons of Coal. This Coal on the wharfs at Hillsboro is worth about \$15 per ton. By the terms on which the mine is worked one fourth part of all that is dug must be furnished to the N. B. Oil works if required, the remainder is principally exported to the United States. From 80 to 100 men are employed in the mine during the summer season, and from 60 to 80 during the winter. It has been said by the author of one of the essays upon emigration, so lately written for the prize offered by the members of this Institute, that as to any benefit which Albert County Coal Mines are to this Province, they might just as well be situated on Junker Hill or in the bottom of the sea. Although it is much to be regretted that American capitalists have been allowed to step in and take the position which our own capitalists ought to occupy, nevertheless, the lecturer could not agree with the author of that essay, for these works, besides employing all the men above alluded to and the most of whose earnings were spent in the province, also yielded a reality of 1s. per ton upon coal taken from this Mine. This and the duties upon the Mining and other kinds of implements, important for use at their Mine, which last year amounted to \$3,000, all tended materially to the benefit of the Province.

The men employed at these works are divided into three gangs, each of which work eight and rest sixteen hours. The work is thus carried on by night as well as by day. In the vicinity of this Mine they have a school supported by taxation, but not under the late law provided by our Legislature for that purpose. This law, the lecturer thought, as it now exists might as well be a dead letter, and a good deal better, as in his opinion it never can be brought into beneficial operation; to the extent of his experience, wherever it had been introduced it had created feuds and dissensions. The way they support the school at Albert County Mines is, by a condition attached to the contract for hire of every man who undertakes to work in the Mines that he will pay six pence per month towards the support of this school. This small sum is exacted from all; then if a man desires to attend it he is charged an additional sixpence for each month; or if he is the head of a family he is charged sixpence a month for each child he sends.

Two miles east of this mine is situated the Hillsboro Plaster Works. Eleven hundred tons of Plaster were shipped from here to the United States during the past year. About the works are employed forty men and twelve horses; and connected with these works are a set of mills now about completed, which are not surpassed in any part of North America. They comprise Saw Mill, Grist Mill, and Plaster Mill; the size of the largest is 100x40, of the smallest 50x40. These mills have been entirely constructed by American Capital, and the Hon. W. H. Steeves was mentioned as almost the only Provincialist at all connected in any way with these works. The stock holders of this Company now receive an annual dividend of 10 per cent.

Next are the works at St. Mary's Point; these are called the Albert Freestone Quarry. These works were first commenced in 1857. They are owned entirely by gentlemen in the United States, and from them are annually exported about 4000 tons. The Court House at Halifax is constructed of this stone, and the new Savings Bank in this City. This kind of stone comprises the desired qualities of street building Stone, in a higher degree than any other. To this reason is owing the fact, that the new Parliament Houses in England have been built of this material. In these works 40 men are constantly employed.

Then there are the Caledonia Shale Works; the Capital of this Company amounts to £120,000 which is divided into 12,000 shares. These (and the lecturer desired all to hear it) are owned entirely by the citizens of St. John. This Company commenced its operations in '59, and manufacture annually some 800 tons into Crude Oil. The lecturer here showed to the audience a bottle filled with a dark colored fluid, which he stated was this Crude Oil, and also another containing a beautiful transparent fluid, such as may be seen in the warehouse of the Oil Company at any time, and which represented this oil after it had been purified. The Oil is first shipped to the United States; when in the crude state it is there purified, and sent back ready for use.

There is also in the Parish of Hopewell the Chemical Works, these are now, however at a complete standstill.

Scattered all along the banks of the Petitcodiac river are the Grindstone Works; and also on Grindstone Island, just off St. Mary's Point. This Island yields about £40 per annum to the revenue.

The new flag of Alabama is one star encircled by seven stars, representing the seven principal cotton States.

The following is the speech delivered at the opening of the Legislature, by His Excellency, on Tuesday last.

Mr. President, and Hon. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council.
Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

The present year has been marked by an event of a most gratifying character unprecedented in the annals of New Brunswick. The recent visit of His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, afforded to the people of the Province, the opportunity of testifying to the Crown, their loyalty to their Queen. You will, I am sure, recollect with satisfaction and pride that even in the most populous localities, where dense masses were congregated together, the people were no less enthusiastic; and I feel great pleasure in being able to assure you that His Royal Highness recognized and warmly appreciated the unanimous and eager display of their affectionate devotion to Her Majesty's person, her family and her throne. I am happy in believing that the general condition of the Province is such as to call for the expression of thankfulness. Our commerce is healthy, agriculture has prospered, the fisheries have been productive, increased attention has been successfully directed to the minerals of the Province. Our renewed activity in the ship-yards is a gratifying proof of the revival of an important branch of our industry. You will, I am confident share the satisfaction, which I feel at the progress which has been made in the establishment of an organized and drilled local Military force for the defence of the Province. The soldier like appearance of the Militia force, serving without pay, and uniformed at their own expense, called out by me during the visit of His Royal Highness, the Prince of Wales, was highly satisfactory, creditable to the force and to the Province. I have given directions that the report of the Adjutant General of Militia, shall be laid before you.

In the course of the past year the Railway from St. John to Shediac, was opened for traffic. The superior character of the work, and the regularity and safety with which the trains have been run, will it is hoped, ensure public confidence. Accounts will be laid before you showing the expenditure of those works and the revenue derived therefrom. You will observe with satisfaction that the earnings of the Road have exceeded the estimate. Measures have been adopted for procuring a provincial coinage suited to the system of decimal computation. In the meantime, I have obtained a supply of decimal coins, which will, I trust meet the present requirements of the Province.

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.
The accounts of the Revenue and expenditure of the past year will be laid before you. It affords me pleasure to inform you that the Revenue of last year exceeded the revenue of any previous year, and that it was more than sufficient to provide for all the ordinary services of the year. I have given directions that the estimates of the Revenue and expenditure of the current year shall be submitted to you. I recommend you to consider whether a uniform system of prepayment of postage on letters may be adopted with advantage.

Mr. President, and Hon. Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,
Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the House of Assembly.

I have directed the preparation of a schedule of the enquiries to be made by the enumerators, and of rules and regulations for their guidance in taking the census, which will be published in the *Royal Gazette*. I hope that the result of the inquiries will afford faithful and reliable information respecting the recent progress and present condition of the Province.

The University of New Brunswick has been organized; the number of students attending the lectures and deriving benefit from a course of academical discipline in the University, has been largely increased and the present condition of the institution affords ample ground for encouragement. The report of the Chief Superintendent of Schools will be laid before you. I recommend to your consideration whether the law which regulates the Provincial Grammar Schools may not be revised with advantage, and additional facilities accorded to parents in different parts of the Province for obtaining for their sons the benefits of some instructor in the elementary branches of a liberal education. It will afford me a sincere satisfaction, if you should devise means whereby a larger number of immigrants may be attracted to our shores; and by their industry still further promote the prosperity of the Province under the provisions of the Act to establish a Provincial Board of Agriculture, the first Provincial exhibition will be held this year. You may deem it wise to consider whether the enquiries and arrangements connected with this exhibition may not be combined with preliminary steps for the representation of the Province, both in natural products and articles at the exhibition in London.

We continue to enjoy peace and contentment. Recognizing with deep thankfulness those inestimable blessings you will I know see additional reasons for venerating the institutions which are under Providence the surest safe-guards for liberty and order.

An envoy from China is about to visit the English court. It is said he expects to perform his "kow-tow" there, crawling on his knees and knocking his head nine times against the floor before Queen Victoria's footstool.

THE EVENING POST.

Information from the Governor of the St. money must be paid without his (the Government have telegraphed whether he intends United States or the

The plot to capture to the warlike spirit Scott, was disclosed of the conspirator denounced the plot informant that, and Department, he resolved to do so, project to Gen. Se precautionary measures the additional force.

NEW-ORLEANS NEWS.
A resolution will tomorrow (Tuesday) New-Orleans a public collection of the Mississippi.
The secretary severely condemn sum of money to r loans, with the full the Disunionists w.

THE EVENING POST.
says that one of the struction in that of Palmetto wharf, n Street, where; this is the result of my of a huge platform square, powerfully and adapted to the end thick planks of hury fastened, str about twenty feet, degrees, met at the one, from the sum will slope to the r another short project on that quarter, teriorly with three iron, and provided sand-bags or cotton of four cannon ding from orifices down to Fort Sum its walls, when the formidable battery vice in effecting a struction must ca place aside or n them. At least a upon its construct and perhaps as th Charleston. Wit Policean's Point, I ready, with what have, we shall be of the Governme the surrender of their refusal, awn the question at the townspeople, aro the roar of those inquiries is attribut self, will know the strifa has indeed in earnest.

PLANS FOR
A gentleman w ton, who is in the and from his offic as to their intenti the State authori their works of del than any one com pleted their raft of troops in the fenses at Morris tire and Castle P most imperishab great care and c points of attack f ton City is the heavy guns of M age.

Their plan of voked much inqu and for the purp must be admitted. It is this: Maj contained, are r Forts Moultrie, tery, and Clial tion of all his me points opening t tively occupied. East upon Moun erected formidable their largest ord and, while the o Mount Pleasant terrupted fire u of making bre quarters of a mil