

to his purpose without some resistance—a mere Judgeship would not satisfy the old gentleman—nothing short of a Chief Justiceship could induce him to give his support to Government Railways—to the Sheriff's bill—or Dalhousie College. Neither preferred to resign in hell rather than serve in heaven, and in like manner Mr. Johnston, no doubt, preferred standing first at the Bar to sitting second on the Bench.

But, Mr. Editor, I will address 16 more arguments to prove that my conjectures in this matter are correct. I sincerely hope they are not. Should Dr. Tupper however, succeed in attaching himself to the Liberal party Eastward, it remains to be seen whether Archibald, Armand, McDonald, Blanchard and their friends, will be content to become mere planets and asteroids in a system of which Tupper is the sun; and whether you, Sir, and I, and the great mass of the Liberals throughout Nova Scotia will consent to accept a Tupper as the legitimate successor of a Howe. When this humiliaion occurs, I shall exclaim with Mark Anthony

“What a fall is here, my countrymen!” It may be, Mr. Editor, that these are mere phantoms—phantoms that I have allowed my judgment to become distorted by the sudden development of a police, so unlooked-for, so at variance with all their former opinions, as expressed through their leaders. Time will show. Meanwhile, if you consider this disconnected letter, and these crude thoughts worthy of the perusal of your readers, please substitute for my name the signature of

A LIBERAL.
Granville, April 16th.

For the Free Press.

Mr. Editor,
Johnston's course this Winter is plain enough. \$2,000 per annum is a consideration.

her rate, of twenty years' standing, are sold. For the sake of the Judgeship our petitions, re-printed Dalhousie College are trampled under foot. The Railway to Pictou—St. Peter's Canal, &c. &c., formerly denominated by him, are all truly now. Judas gets thirty pieces of silver for betraying his Master—but Johnston gets three thousand and two hundred pieces of silver annually for betraying his co-religionists—his constituents—his party.

There was a great cry of “Presbyterian Ascendancy” only a few years ago. It was a theme of declamation in our pulpits—a subject of grave deliberation in our religious gatherings—and a staple article of almost weekly comment in the Christian Messenger. But how is it now? The Presbyterians had have every thing—the Baptists west have nothing. Our Old Judge'ship It has cost us dearly. The Baptists, in fact, have been sold to the Presbyterians.

Mr. Johnston will of course leave the Executive. The East, with its Presbyterianism, will have entire control of the Administration. The rich counties of the west, with their Baptist population, will have nothing. There will be no Executive Council in the West. This is the finale of Johnston's political leadership of the denomination he professed to love, uphold and serve. Verily, we are betrayed—sold—deprived of all influence in the Executive. And for what? That Johnston may have a yearly pension of \$2,000. Is that his promised Retrenchment?

Yours sincerely,
A BAPTIST CONSERVATIVE.
Wilmot, April 19th, 1864.

[We insert the above with some reluctance, because we are not quite sure of the accuracy of our correspondent's facts, and because his language, as respects the Presbyterians is unparagonably strong. We have never looked upon our Presbyterian friends as a numerous for power, or inimical to liberal interests. As respects the facts above stated, our columns are open to those who may feel inclined to correct them.]—Ed. Free Press.

The Free Press.
THURSDAY, APRIL 21, 1864.

THE CLOVEN-FOOT.

It is done!—The whole has risen to the surface—be ready with the harpoon. The tiger, long concealed in the jungle, is in full view on the open plain.

To drop figurative language, a Bill has been introduced into the Assembly, the real object of which is to pension off James W. Johnston with an annual salary for life of THREE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED DOLLARS!! It is indeed a nice little income. Will he while enjoying it ever think of the better man than himself—to say nothing of women—whom he has tyrannically dismissed from office since last June? Will he remember of his oppressive acts of administrative injustice and cruelty sweeten the enjoyments of his declining years—now nearly run out? While his physical energies are becoming more feeble—while his mental powers are losing their former vigor, will he revenge—feed like revenge—be as sweet to him as ever? Will he still rejoice over the unfortunate family, whom his vengeance drove from St. Paul's Island? If he have a conscience, we do not envy him the pleasure of either his noon-day musings or his midnight meditations.

It will be seen in other columns upon what pretext this prodigal salary has been conferred upon the Attorney General An Equity Judge! What a have we for such an official? We have one already—whose competency is not inferior to Johnston's—pensioned off in silence, because we have nothing for him to do. The Hon. Alexander Stewart, C. B. has for some time been receiving \$1,600 per year as a pension. He was thus selected, because there was no further necessity for his services. Johnston, however, having a pliant majority to obey his mandates, is determined, now that opportunity offers, to “feather his own nest.” What goose Nova Scotians are to supply the feathers! On the hustings in May, he said, in words of burning indignation, that some person or persons had fabricated and put in circulation a libellous falsehood to the effect that he contemplated if successful at the Elections, to create an Extra Judge-

ship for himself. This said he, “is a gross slander—a monstrous falsehood.” The rage of another Judge added to the Civil List was denied again and again by Doctor Tupper in the editorial department of the Government Organ during the past Summer. Neither the Attorney General, nor any of his personal or political friends ever dreamed of any thing so absurd—so monstrous—so said the Colonist.

This Judgeship, of course, will sever the tie which binds Johnston to Annapolis. He has represented it in the Assembly for twenty years. During that period, what has he done to promote its interests? Aye, what? He has occasionally appointed a new batch of magistrates—nothing more. It is a matter of doubt whether even these were a blessing to the people. To the Bapists he promised much. To many of them he was an object of vituperation or blame. Have they realized their expectations of the great things they hoped he would do for them? Low has re-treated their petitions in reference to Dalhousie College this Winter. The Baptists, according to the last Census, a more than half the population of the whole county—the Bapists are only a fifth. When he came into office in June last, there were fifteen principal officials of joyous emoluments—thirteen of whom were Episcopalian, and only two were of other denominations—one a Methodist, the other a Baptist. These, without any cause (save a special cause, namely party political cause) were summarily dismissed, and two Episcopalian put in their places. Episcopalian now hold all the judicial offices. In these dismissals and appointments he did not consult his constituents—but the firm of Bapists & Methodists, whose interests were injured, were provided for. The Government itself was chiefly constructed of office seeking Lawyers—and it was in keeping to consult (not the yeomanry of the County—not the substantial farmers, but) the Lawyers. We should not be surprised if a Lawyer were put forward in this County to swell the majority of the present Lawyer Government. For the next few months there will be stirring political times in this County. Longley will no doubt be busy among the constituents endeavoring to persuade them to transfer their political allegiance from Johnston to Tupper and Henry, who are combining to sway the destinies of Nova Scotia for many a year to come. We hope Archibald and Blanchard will not form an alliance with them, Lawyers though they be. It cannot be that they will forget their laurels by fraternization with men, whose past has been so named to the interests of Nova Scotia. Great things are anticipated of Young Miller, the member for Richmond.

We suppose Henry means to succeed to the Attorney Generalship. Will the election of Antigonish, forgetful of the Academy story on the floors of the Assembly, confirm him in the office, if appointed? Time will show.

“Very Low.”

This is a smothering expression, which certain Worthies in this Town, with upturned noses, sarcastically use in reference to the Free Press. Very Low is it? Not one of them, who use it, is a marvellous competent Judge of newspaper merits. We are not ignorant of either their intellectual powers, their appreciation of wit, their scholarly attainments, or their literary tastes. In this respect we know them to be only better than they know themselves. We should like to see either of them attempt to write a common-place paragraph for a newspaper. It is easy to say very low—and it is an easy way of getting rid of an awkward fact that cannot be denied, and of disposing of a formidable argument that cannot be refuted. These little things do not disturb our equanimity. Their sneers or their smiles are alike indifferent to us.

A Sly Insinuation.

In discussing his resolution against Dalhousie College.

“Mr. Longley said—I am not sensible to the many disadvantages under which I labour in speaking at the present time. I feel that I have not the stimulus of influences which operate upon the mind of the Provincial Secretary this evening.”

Mr. Longley's charge against Doctor Tupper for the use of stimulants, was rather out of place. We understood that the Provincial Secretary took the pledge of Teetotalism many years ago; and if he was violated it, it would have been mere brotherly on the part of Mr. Longley to have admonished him in private, instead of procuring the Doctor's moral delinquency to the whole Province. It was taking an unfair advantage of an opponent. For shame! friend Longley.

A number of the members of the House of Assembly have presented Mr. JOHN FITZGERALD the Messenger of the House, with a handsome Photograph of Aibum. This is a well merited compliment paid to a faithful and meritorious officer, who has filled his present position for well nigh a quarter of a century.

The New Brunswick Legislature was prorogued on the 13th instant. The session of our Legislature, it is said, will run into May. What a session it has been! We suppose Johnston will leave it, singing a popular darkey melody—the refrain of which runs thus:

“I will never come back any more.”

Lawyers & Pensions.

Nova Scotia, within the last forty years, has paid an immense sum to Lawyers for doing nothing. In 1824 there were a number of Lawyers in the House of Assembly. In that year, these worthies had sufficient influence in the Legislature to create four Judges in the Common Pleas Courts in this Province—Courts which were afterward abolished because they were not needed. Four Lawyers were taken from the Assembly to preside in these courts—really unnecessary Courts, at an annual salary of \$1,800 each. After sixteen years, these Courts were abolished as useless excrescences upon the Judicature of the Country; but, meanwhile, they had cost the country \$112,000. The Judges, however, were provided for at salaries of \$1,200 each. This took place almost twenty-four years ago, and their salaries since have cost the Province \$115,000.

A few years afterwards, old Mr. Robie, then Solicitor General, was taken from the Speaker's Chair, and appointed Master of the Rolls in Chancery. This office continued in the Chancery Court was abolished by the Legislature, having cost the Province up to that time \$72,000. The incumbent was pensioned off at \$1,600 yearly; and Stewart, since the Court was abolished, has received about \$11,200. This Rolls Court, then, has already cost the Province, \$83,200.

The four Lawyers, appointed to the Common Pleas in 1824 have cost the Country up to this time, \$227,400 and the Rolls Court \$83,200, making in all \$310,600. All this for services which Nova Scotia would have been better without.

Mr. Johnston, aided by a Lawyer Government, having signally failed as a statesman, has determined to make a place for himself worth \$3,200 for services that are not needed by the country. He is determined, with mean spirited voracity, to draw means from the provincial treasury for supplying himself with bread and butter for the rest of his life. If the evil were to cease with himself it would not be so bad—for he cannot be a burden upon the Province many years at most—he is an old man. Of course as soon as a new House, less corrupt than the present Assembly—with fewer corrupt Lawyers in it—shall be returned by the people this New Judgeship will undoubtedly be abolished. Before that time, however, Johnston may have died—for his life is uncertain—and a younger man appointed in his successor, who would have to be pensioned off for life. Lawyers in Nova Scotia have swallowed for the last forty years a large amount of the people's money.

James Delap, Esq.

This gentleman, known to many of our readers, has “passed away.” He died at Lower G.ville on the 29th ult. For many years he was one of the most active men in the western section of the Province. As a ship-builder, on an extensive scale, and a prominent public man, he long occupied a large space in the public eye. He was remarkable for energy in whatever pursuit, public or private, in which he was engaged; and esteemed for his integrity in all the relations of private and public life. For several years he represented this Township in the Assembly, and in the capacity of a legislator, he exhibited a clearness of perception—a disinterestedness of purpose—and a firmness of sentiment, amid the conflicts of trying times which greatly endeared him to his constituents. His age was 76 years.

The Equity Judge, Bill (rather Johnston's pension Bill) passed its second reading in the Assembly on Monday. The division was as follows.

For—J. Campbell, Caldwell, H. Field, Payer, Kaulback, Whiteman, D. Fraser, McKay, Jost, Allison, Lawrence, King, S. General, B. B. Tobin, Hamilton, McDonald, Dinkin, Miller, Stocomb, McFarlane, LONGLEY, Burrows, Prov. Sec. J. Fraser, Fin. Sec. Shannon, More, Hill, Cowie, Robineau, McKinnon, Colm Campbell, Charles Campbell, 35.

Against—Hoffman, Blackwood, McLellan, Locke, S. Campbell, Blanchard, Robertson, Ba. com, Coffin, Ross, Archibald, Park, K. Klam—13. (Glorious minority!)

If Elections take place in any of the Counties during the present year, will they be conducted under the new Franchise Act? We believe that the former Law in reference to the franchise is repealed; and that the preliminary arrangements that are necessary to give force to the new act by the County Sessions have not been made in Annapolis; and we do not see that an Election this year can take place under either Law. This is a fix indeed. How is it in the County of Antigonish? If Mr. Henry succeeds Johnston, of course, he will have to go back to his constituents. Will somebody, who knows, inform us under which Law, if either, can an Election be run the present year?

GOLD—The products of the gold fields at Wine Harbour and Sherbrooke for the first quarter of the present year were: Wine Harbour, in January, 39 men, obtained 189 ozs. 5 dwts. 15 grs.; February, 69 men, 429 ozs. 18 dwts. 15 grs.; March, 72 men, 566 ozs. 76 dwts. 23 grs.—Sherbrooke, in January, 43 men obtained 326 ozs. 5 dwts. 14 grs.; February, 70 men, 365 ozs. 14 dwts. 6 grs.; March, 76 men 389 ozs. 5 dwts.

The very name of Dalhousie, no doubt, awakens interesting reminiscences in the mind of the Atty General. This course as respects Dalhousie College is about as creditable and straightforward as were some of his acts, not long ago, with some of the Dalhousie settlers in this County. Principle sacrificed to expediency.