

tem of tactics. His infantry, disciplined by French officers, and instructed in the European method of moving large masses in the field, proved decidedly superior in every conflict where the nature of the ground permitted a military evolution.

(To be continued.)

### Legislature of Newfoundland.

#### HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY, Saturday, Feb. 2.

Mr. SPEAKER laid before the House a letter from the hon. Mr. Secretary Crowdy, transmitting by command of his Excellency the Governor, in pursuance of the Resolutions of the 12th, 15th, and 21st January, the following documents, viz.:

Reports and Observations at present before the Secretary of State for the Colonies on the Judicature of Newfoundland.

An account of all salaries, fees and emoluments received by the various magistrates, clerks of peace, constables, and coroners, with the names of such officers; the number of licensed public houses, and amount of license-money collected.

Return of the last census of the population, with the names of, all the different public officers in the colony.

Return of table of fees received in the Courts of Law.

Ordered, that the said papers do lie on the table to be perused by the members.

On motion of Mr. PACK that this House will on Wednesday take into consideration the petition of H. A. Emerson, complaining of undue election for the district of Bonavista.

The order of the day having been read,

A bill to determine the duration of the present and all future Houses of Assembly for this Colony was read a second time and committed.

Upon this occasion, Mr. PACK, the hon. member who originated the bill, rose and spoke as follows:—

"In rising to move that this Bill be submitted to a committee of the whole House, I beg to make a few remarks; but as the bill is of such magnitude and importance to the future destinies of this country, I feel myself inadequate to do it that justice which the subject deserves. I am aware there are many persons who think this bill will not receive His Majesty's assent, because, they say, septennial parliaments have been established by the law of England since the reign of George II., and that the bill is such an one as contemplated by Lord Goderich in the twenty-first section of his Majesty's instructions to the Governor, "of an unusual and extraordinary nature." But I will endeavour to prove, in the first place, that the septennial act does not extend to the colonies, and in the second, that this bill is not of that extraordinary nature, but one of very useful tendency. On reference to the laws of Nova Scotia, published by order of the Governor, Council, and House of Assembly, I find that their first session was held on the 2d October, 1758, and the Assembly from that period did not last longer than four years, until the year 1770, when commenced the long parliament of between fourteen and fifteen years, and closed in November, 1784. The circumstance of their being permitted to sit for so long a period of time appears to me rather of a suspicious character, inasmuch as it was in this interval of time that the United States were contending for their rights and liberties in that war which secured *theirs* and maintained *ours* against the encroachment of power. I find that the next Assembly lasted for the term of eight years, from 1784 to 1792, and near the close of the last session they passed an act limiting the duration of the Assembly to seven years, with this remarkable provision—"That nothing herein contained shall be of force or effect until His Majesty's pleasure be known thereon," thereby proving to the world that the septennial act of George II., did not extend to them at least. I will now, with permission of the House, refer to another authority, "Stokes's Work on the Constitution of the British Colonies,"—and in page 243 it is stated "that the qualifications of the electors and the elected, are different in almost every colony, and so is the continuance of the House of Representatives; for in some colonies they continue during the Governor's pleasure, in other colonies they were elected annually." I need not state for the knowledge of this honourable house, but, by way of illustration, I beg to say, that the septennial act of the mother country must have had the support of a majority of the powerful and of the rich, else it could not have remained so long as 77 years on the statute-book; but I doubt not that, under the reformed parliament, a revision of this act will take place. (Hear, hear.) History is by no means silent on the matter, for we there find men of the greatest eminence, of the first talent, speaking and writing against septennial, and in favour of triennial parliaments; for by the former, they say, the representative is so secured in his seat that he will be tempted to encourage wars, extravagance, and taxation, that he and his connexions may have advantages in it; but by triennial parliaments the

power of the Assembly is so temporary, compared with the former, and the change of men which every new election produces, are securities to the public sufficient to bind them to impartiality, otherwise it would be too flagrant to be endured. At the same time whilst we find such men advocating triennial parliaments, we find others as strenuously arguing in favour of annual; but these are by some considered visionaries; however, their numbers are not to be despised, for the friends of the measure are raising a fund by public subscription to place a monument over the manes of the late venerable Major Cartwright, who was the constant friend of such a thing.—I will now ask honourable gentlemen if they would like to sit in this house during His Majesty's pleasure, for fourteen or fifteen years? And if there is any one amongst us whose love of country and patriotism would wish to devote his time to it for such a length of time? I doubt if it would be acceptable to his constituents. (Hear, and laughter.) I now move that the Bill be submitted to a committee of the whole House.

The Bill was committed accordingly to a Committee of the whole House. Mr. Hoyles in the chair.

Mr. PACK proposed that the blank be filled up with the word "three."

Mr. THOMAS seconded the proposition, and felt quite satisfied as to the period, and considered it a medium for the public good, between septennial assemblies which were too long, and annual, which, on the other hand, were too short.

Mr. KOUCH followed, by stating that, at one time, he was inclined for annual parliaments, but latterly he was convinced that that period was too short, and he should consequently support the present bill and give it his most cordial assent.

The question then being put, the bill was carried unanimously.

The SPEAKER resumed the Chair.

Mr. PACK then moved that the bill be engrossed, and committed for the third reading on Monday.

Mr. CARTER opposed the motion, observing that the time was too short, and that members were hurrying bills through the House too fast.

Mr. KENT supported the original motion, and said that the hon. member (Mr. Carter) could not make that argument apply to this bill, for he believed it was near a month ago that Mr. PACK first introduced the bill.

The bill having passed through the Committee without any amendment, was ordered to be engrossed, and read the third time on Tuesday next.

Mr. SPEAKER laid before the House copies of the former and present commission of the Justices of the Peace, for the District of St. John's, transmitted to Mr. Speaker by the hon. Mr. Secretary Crowdy, by command of his Excellency, in pursuance of a resolution of the House. Ordered to lie on the table to be perused by the members.

Mr. BROWN gave notice that on a future day he should move for leave to introduce a bill to change the name of the Island.

Adjourned.

### Council.

Wednesday, Jan. 30.

The Council met to-day, at 12 o'clock, and almost immediately afterwards a message was announced from the House of Assembly, when Mr. Hoyles and other members of that House appeared with a "bill for the regulation of Quarantine," after which strangers were admitted. His Honor the President then moved that the bill which had just been brought up should be read a first time, which was accordingly done.

His Honor the President then moved that he might be allowed to withdraw a motion (of which he had previously given notice) for leave to bring in a "bill for the consolidation of the Council and Assembly into one House," in pursuance of the recommendation contained in Lord Goderich's despatch to the Governor, of the 27th July last.

We regret our inability to give more than a brief outline of the eloquent and impressive speech delivered by the President on this occasion. He animadverted in strong terms on the tendency which the proposed measure would have to degrade the members of the Council, not merely in their own estimation, but in the general opinion of the public at large; and argued most forcibly the necessity of keeping up the respect and dignity which were justly due to that branch of the Legislature. The President stated that his reason for withdrawing his intention to introduce the proposed bill was, that the House of Assembly, having passed a resolution unanimously rejecting the measure, it would not be consistent with Parliamentary usage to bring it forward in the Council and that the question being thus disposed of, no further discussion of it was necessary.

His Honor, who was listened to throughout with the most marked attention, both by the Council and by several members of the Assembly, who were present, concluded by moving for leave to withdraw the motion, which, being seconded by the honorable the Attorney-General, was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. Secretary Crowdy then moved the second reading of the "Gunpowder Bill," which was thereupon read a second time, and ordered to be referred to a committee of the whole House on Tuesday next, to which day the Council then adjourned.—*Ledger.*

### CARBONAR STAB.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1833.

(To the Editor of the Carbonar Star.)

SIR,—In the "Mercury" of Friday last, I observed some "Conversations on Newfoundland," (I suppose you read them?) which, as I am in the habit of perusing the paper from beginning to end, (not even neglecting the advertisements), every week, did not escape my notice. The arguments of Mr. B. seemed so ridiculous and threadbare, (aye, as threadbare as his own coat) that I seized my pen, intending to refute them—"but hold," said I mentally, "I can neither mis-quote Latin phrases, even with the assistance of a dictionary, or interlard my writing with scraps of mis-applied French or Italian; in fact I possess not one of the qualifications which Mr. W., in the "Conversations," states to be necessary for the correspondent of a newspaper to be adorned with.—I threw my pen down in despair—"What shall I do," said I, "I am wholly unfit to become a writer for a newspaper, therefore my thoughts must remain buried in the abyss of my mind." While in this reverie—sitting near a good fire, my pipe in my mouth (a necessary appendage when I am thinking), and my glass of toddy near me, on the table—I fell asleep, when the following vision appeared to me. An old man worn down by anxiety, with a threadbare suit covering his skeleton figure, advanced towards me and thus spoke:—"My name is Independence, and thou seest in me the remains of what once was athletic and powerful:

"Deep in the frozen regions of the north,  
"A goddess, violated, brought me forth."

Brow-beaten by enemies—mis-represented by friends, it is, with difficulty, I can support my worn out frame on these tottering limbs, (pointing, as he spoke, to what might well have been taken for a pair of broomsticks). "And is Independence reduced to such a strait," said I, "Aye, and worse than he appears to thee! saying this he threw open his vest, and I observed the skin hanging loosely about his bones.—"Starved, literally starved!" cried I, with astonishment, "and is this the fate of Independence?" The cold, warm as the room felt to me, made the old man's teeth chatter—it might have been occasioned by the emptiness of his belly—be it as it may, I requested him to sit down near the fire, and inform me how he came in so wretched a condition.—

"Born and nurtured in the cold forests of a northern clime, I grew to manhood, hale and strong—would to heaven, that the enervating qualities of a southern one, had not induced my parent to remove from her native forests!—From the time I left the place of my nativity, my health began to decline; I was no longer the free being, who roamed untrammelled by the bonds of artificial society. My intentions were constantly warped to suit the views of this or that tyrant. At one time, my name was invoked, and I was carressed by the populace; who used me as a scape-goat, to excuse their excesses. At others, the nobles used my name as a veil to hide their infamous usurpations; but always discarding me, when their ends were answered. Sometimes a gleam of sun-shine shed its rays over me, in the person of a virtuous citizen, under whose protection I thought to recover my strength, which was fast on the wane; but even then I was abused by all parties, who declared the motives of my protector were impure, that he wished to appropriate 'all the loaves and fishes' to himself, leaving to others only the bones. Thus was I alternately abused and carressed—my friends blamed me for reducing them to a state of starvation; and my enemies detested me for the truths I was constantly ringing in their ears. I soon perceived that unless I meant to sacrifice my existence, I must change my home. I therefore removed to a little island, whose government was held up as a model for all others to imitate; here, thought I, I shall, at length, find friends—yet still was I doomed to disappointment. I found the governors tyrannical, the people deluded.—My name was the boast; slavery the reality. Irritated and disgusted that my name should be applied so preposterously, I determined to leave this poor aristocracy ridden island, and seek, elsewhere, that ease, which I had expected to find there. I crossed to France, who had now raised me up as her deity—but again my hopes were blasted. The most fearful excesses were committed to secure my tarry; but digusted with what I saw, I fled in despair. Where now, I exclaimed, shall I seek for a home?—I have sought it through the whole of the old world, but no where have I found one. I will cross the broad Atlantic, and endeavour to procure a home among the sons of that boasted republic of the States, where I

may find a welcome. By this time, continued the old man, as you must suppose, I was fast approaching the state in which you see me; but hope led me to expect better days, and—better flesh! I arrived in the New World; I was caressed by all, but under a different name; some said my name was democracy, others federalism. Thus was I tossed from one to the other; all agreed that I was necessary, yet none seemed inclined to maintain me; I was a foot-ball thrown among the multitude, to amuse them, while the designing were forging their chains. Instead of getting in better condition, every day I got in worse, until, at length, I became satisfied that Independence could not exist, but as a name. My substance was gone, and I was about to commit suicide, when news reached me, that an Island, celebrated as the resort of Cod-fish, contained many of my friends, and from whom I may expect a hearty welcome. I came, and here you see me—still, still, am I doomed to disappointment! even here

"I've felt the influence of malignant star,  
"And waged with fortune an eternal war!"

No sooner do I shew myself, than one declares I am intolerant, another, that my acts are prompted by interest; in short, they declare that my intentions are anything but what they are; some, to answer their own base ends, have represented me as kneeling at the feet of my declared enemy Intolerance; this certainly, is only a source of amusement, being too preposterous to be swallowed by any but the most credulous. Even the curs of literature—the newspaper scribblers—(those who in other countries respected, though they hated me) bark and snarl. Thou, thou! I have heard, art one of my worshippers. If so, pity me—support me—protect me!" As the old man concluded, his feelings overcame him, and he fell into my arms.—The shock awoke me, and I found I had been listening to a—shadow.

The narrative of the old man so pleased me, that I determined to send it to you for publication—warning you at the same time, to discard all idea of Independence being a friend on whom you may rely for support. By the by the vision almost put out of my head, the cause of my writing this letter.—But, as I fear to trespass too much on your paper, I would thank you to give me at your leisure, your opinion of the "Conversations."

I am,

Mr. Editor, Your's,

A FRIEND TO INDEPENDENCE.  
Carbonar, Feb. 18, 1833.

[Want of space compels us to defer, until next week, acceding to the wish of our Correspondent; at the same time, we have to inform him that, had it not been for his request, its insignificance would have prevented us from noticing it; but, wearing as the task is, we will undertake it. In the mean time we would recommend Mr. B. previously to the publication of his next "Conversations," to consult our statements of the transactions in the House of Assembly, so that he may not argue from *false premises*.]

### MARRIED.

In this town, on Wednesday evening last, by the Right Rev. Dr. Fleming, Mr. James B. Wood, Merchant, of St. John's, to Jane, eldest daughter of John Elson, Esq. of this place.

An Act relating to Marriage Licenses in the Province of Nova Scotia, 1832.

WHEREAS it is expedient that the Ministers of various denominations of Christians within this Province, should possess the Power of solemnizing Marriages by License, without publication of Banns, according to the Forms of their respective Churches, or Religious Persuasions, and it is expedient that such Power should be granted.

Be it, therefore, enacted by the Lieutenant-Governor, Council, and Assembly, That, upon the application of any Person, desiring to enter into the Marriage State, or of any Person or Persons authorized to act in their behalf, it shall and may be lawful for the Lieutenant-Governor, or Commander-in-Chief for the time being, to direct Licenses to the duly ordained and settled Ministers of any Congregation of Christians in this Province, dissenting from the Church of England, authorizing such Minister to solemnize Marriage between such Persons, without Publication of Banns, according to the Forms of the Church or Religious Persuasion to which such Minister shall belong, in the same manner as Licenses are now granted to Clergymen of the Established Church.

Provided always, That the Man or Woman so to be married, without Publication of Banns, shall belong to the same Persuasion of Christians to which the Minister to whom they require such License to be directed, shall belong.

Provided always, That nothing herein contained shall be of any force or effect until His Majesty's pleasure be known hereon.

And be it further enacted, That this Act shall continue and be in force for Three Years from the time His Majesty's Assent shall be signified thereto, and from thence to the end of the then next Session of the General Assembly. [The foregoing was intended for publication some time since, but was mislaid. Ed.]