

PUNCH'S CORRESPONDENCE.

During the past week, on account of his non-appearance last Saturday, Punch has received so many letters from distinguished individuals, that the vanity of his human nature—or wooden nature, which is often the same thing—will not allow him to keep his correspondents' communications so "private and confidential" as they might desire. Punch himself, allows very little importance to conventional rank: but then, unhappily for the world, every man is not Punch—every man has not his philosophy—his proud stoicism—his beautiful contempt of empty titles, frequently associated with empty heads—his great power, that strips humanity to its mere moral nakedness, and calls it beautiful or ugly as it then appears. Punch, therefore, will not illumine his clay with Lord Elgin's letter, but enshrine it in everlasting type.

LORD ELGIN TO PUNCH.

Elmsley Hut, April 1, 1850.

MR. PUNCH,—If I have sustained, with more than my wonted dignified neutrality, the various attacks that have been directed at me by the "clear grit" demagogues and the evil-minded men of the "League;" it is to you that I feel myself bound to attribute this unusual firmness. Yes, Mr. Punch, during my egg-compelled seclusion at Monklands, and my (on sufferance) residence at Elmsley Hut, I have read you—studied you—worn your pages next my heart, as naughty men, resolved upon penance, walk with peas, unbowed peas in their shoes—wear iron chains and hedge-hog shirts. To my friend Henry Sherwood, I am indebted for my first introduction to Punch. It was he who forwarded me the first number of your magnanimous publication. He, it may be recollected, once called me "an obscure Lord." I am now, I feel it, known in every log cabin in Canada; my "vera effigies" are hung up by grandams to frighten naughty children, and this I owe to—Punch.

You are aware, my dear Punch, that since my benevolent relation Earl Grey provided for me by the bestowal of the vice-regality of the United Provinces of Canada, I have received £7000 sterling each year from the pockets and affections of the benighted people of this highly favoured land. You also know, that within a few months a most dastardly association, called the "British League," and a ferocious pack of curs, called "Clear Grits," have been haranguing the people with a view to deprive me of this, my hard-earned and carefully saved income. Within a few months, yes the time was chosen after I had assented to that highly moral act of legislation, called the "Rebellion losses bill;" when I was secluded at Monklands, after delivery from the stones of the street of Sherbrooke, the infuriated yells of Montreal rioters, the perils of eggs and other fetid missiles, with which in the disgraced City of Eggs I was greeted, after all this, I am attacked under the name of retrenchment by Malcolm Cameron—that Jack Sheppard to my peace, and that of my responsible advisers, and am called on to "stand and deliver." Well, they have said their worst, but can they do it. My advisers tell me they have an overwhelming majority; but have they, my dear Punch—I fear not—fear their odour and mine is but unsavoury in the nostrils of the country: but you have advised me frequently, and I will take your advice; yes, Punch, the country shall be convinced of my gubernatorial magnanimity.

I will give up—of my own will give up—and pray put these lines in large and striking letters.

LORD ELGIN WILL RETIRE FROM CANADA, AND REFUND ALL THE MONEY HE HAS RECEIVED FROM THE PEOPLE; TOWARDS MAKING UP THE REBELLION FUND, AS A MARK OF CONTRITION FOR HIS SHARE IN LENDING HIS INFLUENCE TO THE PASSING OF WHAT HE NOW IS SENSIBLE WAS AN IMPOLITIC, EXTRAVAGANT AND INFAMOUS MEASURE.

Yes, Mr. Punch, I have taken counsel with myself—instructed, let me add, by the mildness and benevolence of your philosophy—and henceforth refuse to touch one penny coined from the blood of the people of Canada; I am no longer a leech on the body politic, but—

The People's best Friend,

ELGIN & KINCARDINE.

Of course, Punch instantly forwarded Lord Elgin's letter to the Hon. Robert Baldwin, who as yet, however, has wanted the courtesy to acknowledge the communication; neither has an extra *Gazette* been published to announce to the country this cheering news. But we have little doubt, however, the communication is delayed—when it is made, it will command, as it deserves, the most profound gratitude; and we doubt not that in our next we shall be able to furnish the programme of the ceremony which will solemnize the departure of Lord Elgin from the shores of Canada. He will take away its blessings in the exact proportion that he leaves its money.

The next correspondent is George Brown Esquire, of the *Globe*.

GEORGE BROWN, ESQUIRE, TO PUNCH.

George Brown, Esquire, presents compliments to Punch, and as he has received the enclosed, requests that Punch will favour him by inserting it, with George Brown Esquire's, answer in his columns.

Y. Z. TO GEORGE BROWN, ESQUIRE.

GEORGE BROWN, ESQUIRE,—The late sad and disgraceful affair (as it is miscalled) of a cabinet minister been found lying in the gutter, should not be lost sight of by you, who are the castigator general of all the acts of ministers, and to whom the people of Canada look for instruction in all things.

Your obedient Servant,
Y. Z.

GEORGE BROWN, ESQUIRE'S, REPLY TO Y. Z.

George Brown, Esquire, presents compliments to Y. Z., and does not see how he can reprove any one for lying either in the gutter or elsewhere, he himself dignifying the practice of lying anywhere and anyhow, as it may suit his convenience. At the same time he wishes to be understood, that he only lies for the good of the people, (who, as you truly observe, look to him in all things,) on the principle that the end justifies the means.

The last epistle Punch will publish is from the Editor of the *Church*:

THE EDITOR OF THE CHURCH TO PUNCH.

MR. PUNCH,—In the columns of *The Church* of April 4th, you will observe I deservedly administer a castigation to the *Canada Christian Advocate*, on the profanity and irreverence of his description of what he calls a "revival." The passage runs thus:

"We arose from praying, to give chance to speak. One arose,—spoke; another arose,—when, lo! a sound like to the rushing of a mighty wind filled the place—every believing heart praised God; the unconverted feeling the weight thereof, *without delay ran* for the door as fast as they could *run!*"

You will observe, I say, I "dislike commenting on such profanity;" and I also quote other words of a "deluded revivalist," which I truly say, I "feel a repugnance to write." These are:

"He had seen Jesus Christ—held him by the hand—and jumped with Him as high as the stool, from which the Spirit lifted him!"

I think you might approach this subject in a proper spirit, and give their just meed of praise to Churchmen who, as I observe in the article alluded to, are placed—

"Amid the shady pastures and cooling streams of the Church; safe from the influence of the distracting profanities which, ever and anon, sweep like raging whirlwinds through the ranks of the dissenting bodies."

I remain, Mr. Punch,
Yours, obediently,
THE EDITOR OF THE CHURCH.

In every word, every line written by the Editor of *The Church* in the article alluded to in the above letter, Punch cordially agrees. But he cannot blind himself to the fact that profanity is not confined to the columns of the *Canada Christian Advocate*. Punch with sorrow refers the Editor of *The Church* to his own advertising columns where, in an advertisement for subscriptions to the Church University will be found these words: "a better investment for time and ETERNITY it is impossible to conceive."