

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A FREQUENTER OF CHRIST CHURCH" informs us that the naughty letter of "OBSERVER," which appeared in the columns of the EXPOSITOR the week before last, will be the means of breaking up the choir. Alas! have we not sins enough to answer for, without having this added to the black catalogue? We are always doing something wrong—always incurring the displeasure of somebody. No sooner do we shun Scylla, than we tumble, like the "Great Britain," and without keeping a proper reckoning, upon Charybdis. How shall we appease these irritated fair ones? Can we say more than we do not believe what the Paul Pry friend of "OBSERVER" advanced? Can we do more than pledge ourselves to wear sackcloth, and cover ourselves with ashes, if they should feel inclined to impose the penance upon us; and furthermore promise never to suffer another stricture which can give them pain? Surely this is, or ought to be, atonement sufficient to soothe and cause them to abandon their cruel determination.

The WEEKLY EXPOSITOR has now been sent to certain persons in TORONTO for the last six weeks, and upwards. All parties are aware of the terms on which the paper is issued; and yet many of those to whom we here particularly allude, while admitting the receipt of the publication, which alone renders them liable, have positively refused to pay for it. We can only say that, if we do not immediately receive the amount of subscription, 12s. 6d., which the office claims from each party to whom the "EXPOSITOR" has been sent—we shall publish their names, in order that those subscribers to the paper who have had the gentlemanly feeling not to require repeated applications to be made to them for the paltry amount, may see that we have done all in our power in furtherance of what must be their interest as well as our own. The only parties who have declined it, from Toronto, are Mr. Crooks, a lawyer, and Ridout and Brothers Co.,—and this after they must have received and read several consecutive preceding numbers.—These were only sent back by them, on an announcement appearing in the notice to correspondents, that they would shortly be called upon for their subscriptions. What we have said we will do, we will do, for we are not easily turned from our purpose, unless the subscriptions be sent at once to this office, free of charge. Those who prefer paying the amount into the hands of the Post-master at Toronto, may do so, as that gentleman will be good enough to receive and transmit the amount. The remark we make in reference to Toronto, in particular, will apply to many persons elsewhere.

All parties subscribing to this paper may be supplied with the whole of the numbers from the commencement, including the Eight Years in Canada.

THE
WEEKLY EXPOSITOR.

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, DEC. 3, 1846.

UNCLE BEN.

What an accumulation of more than Augean filth will it devolve upon Lord Elgin to remove, the moment he joins his administration—an administration corrupt and rotten to the core—stinking to the nostrils, and outraging every principle of public honesty and morality. Will he attempt it? Will he not be so surrounded by the fawning creeping reptiles, who would barter their very souls for the preservation of place—so flattered—so cajoled by them—so biased by the hateful sycophancy of those, whose object it will be to keep the truth from him, as to be persuaded that they, who condemn them, are actuated by

some unworthy and partizan spirit? But disheartening and disgusting as it is to watch the acts of a Canadian Administration of the present day, who, under the cloak of Responsible Government, daily commit acts of political infamy, which were unheard of before its introduction, the honest mind is somewhat relieved by the bright certainty which offers, that this system of barefaced public vice—destructive of the first principles of private rectitude and honor, will ere long cease for ever; and that the dreadful power to do evil, and to demoralize the Province, which is now vested in the Executive of this country, will be soon sunk forever in a General Union of the British North American Provinces. Then, indeed, may we hope for a healthier tone of public feeling—a healthier mode of administering public affairs; but until then, never.

There are few men in Canada who have not heard of the letters of Uncle Ben, which, written in Kingston, by a clerk in a public office, most violently, yet justly, assailed the Government generally, and its chameleon-like head—smirking, smiling, namby-pamby voiced Sweet William, in particular. According to the principle laid down by Lord Sydenham, any man in the Government employment who did not act with that Government, was considered against it, and *a fortiori* the man who took part against the Government, being a servant of the Government (for instance, Mr. Berry, in the Gore District), was instantly dismissed from that service.

How stands the case under the perverted system which prevails at this moment? Here is a clerk, at some seventy pounds a year, in a public office—what! dismissed, as Lord Sydenham, the practical introducer of Responsible Government, would have directed? Not so; but promoted to a post near the Government, at an annual salary of some two hundred a year. And why has this person been thus chosen? Because, abandoned by nearly the whole of the Conservative press of this city, they require some subtle pen to sustain them in the shock of the attack which they are well aware will be made on them by every independent journal, anxious to set His Excellency right on public matters. It is said that arrangements have been already made to connect him with a certain journal in this city, in which he will be aided by another party, whose energies have been, at the service of every Administration we can recollect. The altered style of the leading articles in that journal will soon satisfy us if the intelligence we have received be correct. We shall watch them closely.

SHORT PIPES;

OR, PAULETT *VERSUS* WELLINGTON.

We find that a very remarkable change has been effected in the *morale* of the army. The punishment of the lash exists but in name—nay, we are wrong: not even in that—and a soldier may now strike his captain, or dash the eyes of his colonel, much to the amusement of his comrades on parade, without subjecting himself to anything worse than the mere solemn mockery of a

court martial, and perhaps an imprisonment for a few months at hard labor. The labor of drilling and guard mounting is quite hard enough as it is, and therefore the culprit only exchanges one description of punishment for another; besides he has an excellent opportunity of manifesting his independence, by misconducting himself to those who are placed in authority over him. Nay, we do not know that a six months' imprisonment is not desirable at this season of the year, particularly in Canada. It is not very pleasant to run the weekly risk of having one's nose frozen off, while pacing up and down on sentry, when the thermometer is some ten or fifteen degrees below zero; and to escape that, a man has only to commit some act that will relieve him from that sort of inconvenience.

But, not only is the punishment of the lash abolished, but a most praiseworthy and amiable desire is fast springing up to remove every thing like restriction from the soldier. It is now established, beyond the possibility of a doubt, that the Prince Albert cap, which it had originally been supposed was intended for another purpose, was in reality meant to be a receptacle for short pipes and tobacco; whence indeed, we have reason to believe, the ill-suppressed indignation of the Commander in Chief, when, with a sneer, he for the first time placed the nondescript covering on his head in her Majesty's presence, and inquired if that was the sort of thing with which she meant to crown the heads of her brave soldiers.

Let the reader picture to himself the pride and exultation with which her Majesty, at a review of the household troops in Hyde-Park, or at Hounslow, would sniff, as the most delicious incense, the perfume of some thousands of short pipes wafted by the light breeze upon her Royal nose, when the several shakos should be removed and wafted round and round, giving their spicy fragrance to the air, as the customary three cheers were pealed forth.

This is truly the march of mind. What are the discoveries of steam, of the railway, of the electric telegraph, of Warner's shell, of any, indeed, of the thousand-and-one inventions of the day—what are these, we ask, compared with the discovery made by Lord William Paulett, that the Prince Albert cap was intended as a receptacle for pipes and tobacco, and mouths formed to smoke them? What a noble sight to have seen that gallant regiment, after the heavy fatigues of the day, taking the initiative in this matter, and offering an example which cannot fail to be followed by the whole of the British army.

How keen too—how pointed the satire on the Duke of Wellington, who would not permit even officers to smoke at particular hours and places! Verily his Grace ought to be thankful for the lesson his Lieutenant-Colonel has taught him.

We subjoin the account which has been going the round of the papers of Lord William Paulett's highly exemplary conduct on the