

to a job manifestly entered into to shield Mr. Draper? And what care three-fourths of the House for Mr. Draper, that they should lend themselves to any arrangement of the kind? Mr. Crofton will do well to look to this, if he studies his own interest; else, Mr. Draper having gained his end—that of lulling the storm until he is placed beyond its reach,—will be enabled to laugh in his sleeve at the successful result of another of his heartless instances of machiavelian manœuvring and duplicity:—

"UNCLE BEN."

"In the *Montreal Expositor* of 3rd inst., we find a most virulent attack upon the present Administration, in which the editor of that journal makes use of very *very* strong language indeed, wherewith to evince his deep contempt, both of the Government and its policy, professedly with a view of enlightening His Excellency Lord Elgin on the subject of colonial corruption. 'An Administration corrupt and rotten to the core—stinking to the nostrils, and outraging every principle of public honesty and morality.'—Hard words these to use at the outset, and from their import we were led to suppose that the editor had some disclosure to make,—some most foul job to bring to light,—some hitherto unseen and unsmelt heap of filth just discovered in a dark corner of that horrid old-fashioned place 'yclept 'the Augean Stable'; in short, some most unheard-of piece of moral turpitude, of which the said Administration was found by him the said *Expositor*, to have been guilty, when, lo and behold! the monstrous offence merely consists in the promotion of a member of the public press, or 'one too who has 'done the state some service,' to an office of trust under Government! In some countries, such an occurrence would be considered matter of rejoicement to the members of the 'fourth estate'; but in Canada if a public writer have any favour shewn him, his compeers immediately raise the cry of corruption. 'This is not right, and evinces a low tone of moral feeling in those who pursue such a course, and the public cannot but come to the conclusion that those who raise such cry would not be slow to avail themselves of government patronage, even at a sacrifice of principle, which they would endeavour to make appear to be the only means of securing that patronage. So long as this spirit exists there never can be a respectable press in Canada.

"The *Expositor* further enlightens his readers by telling them that 'there are few men in Canada who have not heard of the letters of Uncle Ben'; we believe him, and may add, that some have felt them too; he is, however, mistaken, when he says they were written in Kingston by a 'clerk in a public office.' The celebrated series addressed to Mr. Draper were written in Cobourg, not by a 'clerk in a public office,' but by Mr. Crofton, a gentleman for nearly sixteen years connected with the press of the Province, and for no inconsiderable portion of that time a most able contributor to the columns of this paper, and at all times a most untiring and unflinching supporter of conservative principles, and as evinced in all his writings, a powerful advocate of British institutions and British connexion. Nor was it until he saw that these institutions and that connexion were endangered by the tortuous policy of a leading member of the government, that he gave vent to his feelings, however reluctantly, and in so doing but simply presented to the public a reflex of the thoughts and opinions of the conservatives of Upper Canada.

"Long after the series of letters to Mr. Draper were written, Mr. Crofton was appointed to a trifling office in the Customs at Kingston, to the duties of which he gave his undivided attention, and showed such an aptitude for business in that department, particularly in the statistical branch, that he could not fail in attracting the notice of the Inspector General.

"Although a political writer of no mean powers, we are constrained to say that we do not consider politics Mr. Crofton's forte; he is too honest, too straightforward in his views to be, at least in Canada, a successful politician. His forte lies in that branch of the science of political economy termed statistics; the whole bent of his mind leads him to seek for data, and Mr. Cayley did well in securing the services of one so fully competent to the performance of the important duty of collecting and reducing to form the statistics of the Province. Such an officer was much needed, the office was created, and he was made its first incumbent. No one was displaced to make way for him. The duty is laborious, but strictly non-political. Nor has Mr. C. any connexion with the Montreal press, neither is it likely he ever will, so that its members need not so greatly dread the 'altered style of the articles of that journal,' the *Expositor* does not say which he means."

EXECUTIVE TRICKERY.

The disgraceful means which have been resorted to by the Administration to bolster up their power, at the expense of all common decency, and the extraordinary conduct of the Earl Cathcart, in ratifying appointments on the eve of his secession from an office he was never designed to fill, thereby depriving the true Governor General of the country of what little patronage was left to him, cannot be more severely reprobated than it is in a speech, in reference to the same subject, which was delivered by Lord Elgin himself, (then the Hon. Mr. Bruce) in 1841, on seconding a vote of want of confidence in the Melbourne Administration. This speech is so completely a condemnation of the conduct which is now being pursued, although on a smaller scale, that we shall take an early opportunity of giving it to our readers. There Mr. Draper will read his own condemnation.

"THE EMIGRANT."

In conformity with our promise of last week, we give the letter referred to by Sir Francis Head, as having been addressed to us by Lord Durham, on the subject of the Union of the Provinces, as well as the remarks which drew from us the publication.

FROM THE "CANADIAN LOYALIST."

In the Quebec Gazette of the 1st of September, the following paragraph occurs, in reference to the work recently published on Lord Sydenham's administration:

"Lord Sydenham came to Canada disgusted with his situation in the Whig administration in England, for the express purpose of effecting the Union of the Provinces; an old project of a party in the colony, dating as far back as thirty years, which was adopted by Lord Durham as a *pis aller*, on the failure of the other old project of a Federal Union of all the British North American Provinces."

Now, with all due deference to the confessed ability, knowledge, and general correctness of the Honorable Editor of the Quebec Gazette, we cannot suffer this charge against Lord Durham

of a *pis aller* policy to remain uncontradicted. Lord Durham never was in favor of a Union of Upper and Lower Canada, for he had sagacity enough to foresee the blow to the ascendancy of British interests such a Union must effect, and was therefore a most decided opponent of the measure. We speak confidently of Lord Durham's opinions, for we believe there was no portion of his Lordship's contemplated plans for the government of Canada—and these invariably had for their basis the ascendancy of the British party—which have not been confided to us by his Lordship himself. It has been the fashion in Canada to ridicule this grand measure of Lord Durham as extravagant, and ill suited to the condition of the country; but we suspect that, at no distant day, the people of Western Canada, who have chained themselves to a majority which they already feel to be an incubus around their necks, will bitterly regret that Lord Durham's plan had not prevailed, rather than that accomplished, only with great effort, by his successor. When the proper season arrives, we trust to be able to give to the public a complete justification of the assailed administration of Lord Durham. Meanwhile, that there may be no doubt as to his views on this highly important point, we transcribe the following commentary addressed to us privately, soon after the grand meeting on the subject, held in Montreal, not five weeks before his departure from the country. The language may be considered strong, but his Lordship's annoyance at being factiously, as he had reason to believe, thwarted in his comprehensive plans, was not less so:—

"QUEBEC, October 2nd, 1838.

"DEAR SIR,—I thank you kindly for your account of the meeting, which was the first I received. I fully expected the 'outbreak' about the Union of the two Provinces: it is a pet Montreal project, beginning and ending in Montreal selfishness.

"With reference to your former letter, I beg you to be assured that I shall always avail myself of every opportunity that presents itself to me of advancing your interests.

"Yours truly,

"DURHAM.

"— — —, &c. &c. &c."

SUICIDE OF MR. ALSAGER.

The following account appears in the *London Daily News*. Mr. Alsager, whom we knew well, was the gentleman to whom is addressed the letter which appears in the "Eight Years in Canada," on the subject of our rupture with the *Times*, in consequence of the support rendered by us to Lord Durham's Administration.

"We have to announce the demise of the above gentleman, who expired at an early hour yesterday morning, at his residence in Queen Square, Brompton, from the effect of injuries inflicted by his own hand on the morning of Friday, the 6th instant. Mr. Alsager's official position and high standing in the commercial world, as city correspondent of the *Times* newspaper, was such as to occasion extreme surprise when the painful fact first became known, ten days ago.

Mr. Alsager retired to rest at his usual hour on the evening of Thursday, the 5th instant. On Friday morning he was called at 8 o'clock by one of his domestics, whom he answered in a collected manner, and was shortly afterward heard to leave his bed. Half an hour elapsed and her master not coming down stairs, the servant again knocked at his bed-room door. On this occasion Mr. Alsager called to her in a tremulous voice to 'come in,' and upon opening the door the girl observed her master resting against the