

POETRY

WHAT SHALL BE THE END OF THESE THINGS?

When another life is added
To the heaving turbid mass;
When another breath of being
Stains creation's tarnished glass;
When the first cry, weak and piteous,
Heralds long-enduring pain;
And a soul from non-existence
Springs, that ne'er can die again;
When the mother's passionate welcome
Narrow-ly, bursts forth in tears,
And the sire's gratulation
Prophesys of future years—
It is well we cannot see
What the end shall be.

When the boy upon the threshold
Of his all-comprising home
Parted the arm maternal
That unlocks him ere he roams;
When the canvas of his vessel
Flutters to the favouring gales;
Years of solitary exile
Hid behind its sunny sails;
When his pulses beat with ardour,
And his sinews stretch for toil,
And a hundred bold enterprises
Lure him to that eastern soil—
It is well we cannot see
What the end shall be.

EARL OF ELGIN.—His Excellency the Earl of Elgin made his public entry into Montreal on Saturday, the 30th of January. His Excellency was greeted with an address from the City Council, and another from the inhabitants of Montreal. The following is His Lordship's reply to the latter:—

To the Inhabitants of the City of Montreal.
GENTLEMEN.—I beg that you will accept my most sincere thanks for this Address. It is a great encouragement and support to me, when I am about to enter upon the discharge of the arduous duties confided to me by our gracious Queen, to receive a welcome so cordial from the inhabitants of this important city.

I place unqualified reliance on the assurance which you offer of your devoted loyalty and attachment to the person and Government of our beloved Sovereign, and of your anxious wish to maintain inviolate the connexion subsisting between this Colony and the parent State. I am confident, that the earnest desire entertained by Her Majesty, and by your fellow-subjects in the United Kingdom, to preserve and strengthen this connection, is prompted solely by the conviction that daily improved, it is calculated to be an advantage and a blessing to the inhabitants of both.

You are pleased to observe, that the knowledge of public affairs acquired by me in the Imperial Parliament, and in other situations of high trust, justifies the hope that I shall be guided in the execution of my functions by the great Constitutional principles familiar to British Statesmen. It will be my study and anxious endeavour to verify these favourable expectations. I am sensible that I shall best maintain the Prerogative of the Crown, and most effectually carry out the instruction with which Her Majesty has honoured me, by manifesting a due regard for the wishes and feelings of the people, and by seeking the advice and assistance of those who enjoy their confidence.

I cannot, indeed, look back to the recent history of the Province without feeling that, in resolving to conduct the administration of affairs upon these principles, I am undertaking a task of no common magnitude and difficulty. The powers of self-government, to which your Constitutions allows such full scope are given for wise purposes—to enable the people to exercise a salutary influence on the action of Government, and to render Government itself a more powerful instrument for good, by securing for it their confidence and support. If ever those powers should, unhappily, be perverted to objects of faction or personal ambition, the best efforts of a Governor-General to promote the welfare of the Province must be unavailing, and his high and honorable office can become, under such circumstances, only a source of bitter regret and disappointment.

I do not, however, shrink from the responsibility which our gracious Sovereign has commanded me to assume. I am conscious that in undertaking it, I am actuated by no other motive but the desire to perform, faithfully, my duty to her Majesty, and to the people of the Province; and, in the unanimity by which the proceedings of this day are characterized, I trust that I may perceive an earnest of that readiness to waive minor differences, and to co-operate for the advancement of the public welfare, which is indispensable to the efficient practical working of the British Constitution.

I am alive to the vast extent of the resources of this noble Province, and deeply impressed with the belief that if proper measures be

adopted, they are susceptible of rapid development. To aid in extending its trade—in drawing forth its agricultural and mineral wealth—in improving and multiplying its means of internal communication—in providing increased educational facilities for its increasing population—in conveying the blessings and comforts of civilization to the remotest settlements—in removing occasions of discussion and strife, and uniting the inhabitants of all classes and races in one bond of interest and affection,—is an object well worthy the exercise of the energies and talents of men of large and patriotic views. It will be my sincere desire to abet the endeavours of those who labor conscientiously in this behalf and my ambition to share with them their high reward—the consciousness that they have contributed to the happiness and well-being of their fellow-men.

I thank you for the cordial wishes which you express for the happiness and comfort of Lady Elgin and myself. These will not be secured if our residence among you conduces as you kindly say you feel persuaded it will, to the prosperity and happiness of the Canadian people.

Fredericton Correspondence.—Letter from Jack Robinson.

FREDERICTON, 13th Feb. 1847.

MR. EDITOR.—Nothing of very great importance has taken place here since I last wrote you. A very great number of Petitions have been presented, many interesting messages have been sent down from the Governor, and a number of Bills, chiefly local, have been introduced and many of them passed; but, as yet, there has been nothing that can be properly called a debate—Proposed measures have, with few exceptions, been either sustained or rejected with comparatively little discussion, and although the entries on the Journals show the introduction and disposal of a great many matters, the daily sittings in the House have been much shorter than usual. An additional box has been got up in the gallery, and there are now four visible Reporters of the "sayings and doings."

It seems that the increase in the number of these quill-drivers has frightened the new House, and that, henceforth, they are to have no more money from the public chest. In addition to these four, there are "Hotspur" and "Jack Robinson," encoined incorporel behind the scenes. Jack is a blunt matter of fact old sailor, who having long since abandoned the service, has, for several winters past, attended here, and amused himself by looking on and writing a few letters, just for the information of some of your readers in the County of Charlotte, "Hotspur," as his name indicates, is a hot-headed sharp-witted, clever, rogue, connected with the press; who being somewhat chagrined at the vote of the House against paying the Reporters, has concluded, by way of retaliation, to furnish the readers of the Loyalist newspaper with a series of Lampoons and Caricatures, at the expense of the new House. The fury of his wrath however, having somewhat abated, he has lately produced, and published, a number of pretty fair portraits of the new members, shewing at the same time a little leaning in favour of those whom he calls "conservatives"—and in that way, gives an excellent account of our new member Mr. Porter.

The fate of the Executive Council is still involved in uncertainty—Attempts have been made to fill up the vacancies (four in number) and although the arrangements were at one time nearly matured, it is now certain that they are all at a standstill. Mr. Wilnot, it appears, was called upon to join them, but although it was believed at first that he would accept the offer unconditionally, he afterwards required that three out of seven, or four out of nine of the number should be "Liberals." The justice of this request has not been denied but it is thought by some, that the present Council, five in number, will have to resign before the arrangements can be satisfactorily completed.

The new House is decidedly superior to the old one in point of talent.—Messrs. Baillie, Ritchie, Carman, Woodward, Wilson, and perhaps a few more of the new members, are above mediocrity, and add much to the character and appearance of the Assembly. The Revenue of last year was £127,404, being nearly the same as that of the preceding year, and £8000 more than the estimate of the Committee of Finance. The Registration Bill is again before the House, also a Bill for relief of certain land purchasers.—The School Bill will be again introduced in the course of the week ensuing. A Bill has passed to assess the County, and another to incorporate the Agricultural Society. A Petition has been presented to assess the inhabitants of Saint Andrews for the purchase of a Fire Engine.—Also to assess the County for money to pay Mr. Turner for supplies furnished for distressed Emigrants several years ago, which sum the House has repeatedly refused to grant—and numerous other Petitions from the County, on subjects of minor importance.

Messrs. Wilson and Hill are here making great exertions on behalf of the Railway. Mr. Hill, it is said, gave convincing proof of his thorough knowledge of the subject before a private meeting of the members of the House. A Bill has been prepared to remodel the Company's Charter, and a Petition is before the House for Legislative aid and encouragement.

The Speaker and Members' pay bill passed a few days ago, and although some stuck out for 20s a day, the bill passed for 15s the same as it was during the last House.

Having reached the end of my paper, I can add no more.
Yours,
JACK ROBINSON.

Ship Building.—Considerable activity will be manifested during the ensuing Spring, in that most profitable branch of our Domestic Industry.—SAR BUILDING. No less than Fourteen large Ships and Barques are at present building in this Harbor—some almost ready for launching, and others in a forward state. Many more, we believe, are building at Quaco and other outposts. Several are building on the River—at the Oromocto and other places. The largest ship ever built in this Province, which will measure about 1500 tons, is now on the Stocks, at Messrs. Owens & Duncan's Ship Yard, Portland.

The splendid new Steamer, building at Courtenay Bay, to run on the River, is fast approaching completion, and will be launched and ready at the opening of the navigation. She is owned by Capt. Akerley, and Messrs. T. Barlow & Co., by whom her Engines and Machinery are entirely constructed.—[St. John Herald.]

Monument to Lord Metcalfe.—A meeting was held at Daley's Hotel, on Monday last, to take steps for the erection of a Monument to the memory of Lord Metcalfe. The Hon. Peter McGill occupied the Chair, Major McLaughlin, the Hon. G. Moffat, and other gentlemen addressed the meeting. Suitable Resolutions were passed, the first of which was expressed in the following terms:—

That it appears to this meeting while the mother country, India and Jamaica, still continue to pour forth the united tribute of their respect and esteem for the memory of the late Lord Metcalfe, in addition to the substantial monuments commemorative of his virtues, erected during his life time, in both the Indies, it is left to the people of Canada, to the promotion of whose welfare, the late painful years of that great and good man were devoted, to add the crowning trophy to his well-earned fame, and leave to posterity some lasting proof of their admiration of his worth and their reversion of his memory.

A large committee, was also appointed to receive subscriptions, which are limited to one dollar each.—Montreal Register, 4th inst.

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

February 10.

Mr. Boyd, presented a Petition from Cochran Craig, Sub-Collector and Deputy Treasurer at Grand Manan, praying for an increase of Salary for the reasons therein set forth; referred to the Committee of Trade.

Mr. Boyd brought in a Bill to authorize the Justices of the Peace for the County of Charlotte to levy an assessment to pay off the County Debt.—read a first time.

Mr. Brown, presented a Petition from John Wilson, Esquire, and sixty-five others, inhabitants of the Town of Saint Andrews, praying that an Act may pass authorizing an assessment for the purchase of a Fire Engine for the use of the said Town; received.

Mr. Brown, presented a Petition from the President and Directors of the Charlotte County Grammar School, praying that a Grant may pass in aid towards paying the Salary of a second Teacher in the Institution; referred to the Committee of Education.

Mr. Brown, presented a Petition from James Patterson, Usher to the Charlotte County Grammar School, praying that a Grant may pass towards remunerating him for his services in that capacity; referred to the same Committee.

Mr. Brown, presented a Petition from the President Directors and Company of the St. Andrews and Quebec Railway Company, praying for aid and encouragement in the construction of a Railway from St. Andrews towards Quebec; received.

February 11.
Mr. Porter, presented a Petition from Schuyler P. Frink, of the Parish of Saint Stephen, praying to be reimbursed sums paid on Land purchases made in the year 1835, the said Lands having been subsequently surrendered to the Crown; received.

Mr. Porter, presented a Petition from John Marks, of the Parish of Saint Stephen, praying to be reimbursed a sum paid on Land purchases made in the year 1835, the said Lands having been subsequently surrendered to the Crown; received.

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.
February 10.

The Hon. Mr. Chandler, a Petition from the President and Directors of the Saint Andrews and Quebec Railway Company, praying for aid and encouragement for the reasons set forth in the Petition; received.

February 11.
The Hon. Mr. Wyer, presented the following Petitions:—

A Petition from John Wilson, Peter Smith, Thomas Sime, and one hundred and thirty other inhabitants of Charlotte County, praying an alteration may be made in the Great Road from Fredericton to Saint Andrews, according to a Line run by Mr. Allan, a Surveyor of Land, and that money may be granted to effect the alteration.

A Petition from Joseph Moore, of Charlotte County, praying for relief from the effect of a purchase made by him of Crown Lands; and—

A Petition from Monroe Hill, a licensed Schoolmaster, praying an allowance for teaching a School in Saint Stephen, six months, ending April last; received.

The Hon. Mr. Owen, presented a Petition from John Wilson, of Charlotte County, praying a grant of £250 to complete a Breakwater for Dark Harbour, Grand Manan; received.

A Petition from Daniel Keith, Pierce Butler and other Firemen, in Chatham, Northumberland, praying the privileges of being exempted from serving in the Militia, and upon Juries at the Courts of Nisi Prius, and for the further consideration of the Legislature for past services; and

A Petition from Elizabeth Spratt, praying compensation for teaching a School in the Parish of Chatham, in the County of Northumberland, for the period of four years; received.

Monday Feb. 15.

Refunding Monies paid on Crown Lands.

The House took up the order for the day, and went into Committee on Mr. Brown's Bill to reimburse certain persons for monies paid on lands purchased from the Crown, the first instalment having been paid, and the lands subsequently forfeited.

Mr. Brown said he supposed the honourable member from St. John would tell the Committee that the object of the Bill was to take £14,000 out of the Province chest; but he (Mr. B.) could assure them of the contrary. The object of the application was to relieve certain persons from the part payment of amounts which they had assumed in the purchase of Crown Lands. A mania for the purchase of Crown Lands had arisen in 1835, at a period when all the resources of the Province were placed in the Executive, the House of Assembly being at that time destitute of all power, or control over public matters in the Province. The House might, it is true, remonstrate, but it did just as they please. In the case of these mad applications for wild lands, the Executive replied that the course adopted was the right one, and under these circumstances large tracts of land were disposed of. The sales went on, the money poured in and in a short period £14,000 were realized. And the remainder was placed by way of bonds in the Treasury. Soon however a revulsion took place, and great disasters in the business of the Country followed. Many of the purchasers failed, and the conclusion arrived at was to sue them indiscriminately. This resolution when publicly known made a great noise, and then was, that all purchasers of less than 500 acres had their bonds cancelled. Next year all the parties applied to the House praying to be relieved from the balance due on their bonds, they forfeiting all they had previously paid. Afterwards these persons thought they should have something for all they had paid, but on this second reasonable application the House required "justice and their bond," they did not ask the pound of flesh nearest the heart, but they held the money. Then it was that the Executive negotiated with the present Province Treasurer, who also was a purchaser, and likewise with the Central Bank for the amount due by the Tobique Mill Company, by giving them lands to the value of the amount paid. Thomas Perley also had his claim allowed in the same manner. Even then, the House did not pretend to deny the justice of the general claims that were made, the only objection made was that it should have been done by Bill, so as to submit it for the investigation of the Council. Here Mr. Brown went into a full length statement of the whole case between the Petitioners, the House of Assembly, and the Executive. "I acknowledge," said he, "that a bargain is a bargain, but we should not forget that we have had the money of these poor persons, and that they have had nothing in return. Justice and honour therefore demand that we should give them the slight remuneration which they pay for, which after all does not amount to more than one third of what they have lost. At all events the petitioners had the same right to expect their prayer to be complied with, as those whose claims have already been granted." Unlike some other members in the House, he had not canvassed out doors; for he was no tuncian of that sort, and he therefore retorted the claim of the petitioners merely upon the justice of their cause, and the straight forward manner in which he had brought it forward.

Mr. Partelow did not know what the hon. member meant by management out of doors. If he meant by the word "management" that hon. members were canvassed for their votes out of doors, and imputed the practice to him, it was what he was not guilty of—he had never made it his practice, and he appealed to hon. members around him to bear him out in his assertion. He recollected but one exception; he once canvassed the hon. member for Charlotte himself, to vote in favour of a certain measure for the benefit of the Savings Bank, and met with a flat refusal. (Laughter.) The hon. member for Charlotte had brought up this measure in one shape or other, for five or six years in succession, and had always been defeated. The hon. member had now appealed to the new House, and had brought in this Bill to try again where he had so often sustained defeat.

Mr. Ritchie was opposed to the Bill, upon the ground that the parties had purchased the lands for speculative purposes, and the speculation proving unprofitable, they now came forward for Government to reimburse them, for it should be understood that to give them value, or land which if sold would command money was the same as giving money.

Mr. Boyd observed that in his opinion his hon. colleague deserved a great deal of credit for what had been termed his "dogged perseverance." It was by perseverance that others had at length got their claims allowed and for his part he could not see why Mr. T. E. Perley should have had his claims allowed any more than the present claimants or why the House should grant to a rich corporate body like the Tobique Mill Company, that they had even yet withheld from poor individuals. The persons who had petitioned for this Bill so pass were not speculators.—There was one of them—Mr. A. Campbell—had lost his house by fire, and in consequence of this loss of property had been obliged to forfeit his land—Another gentleman Mr. Wilson was no speculator, but he was obliged to purchase for a Mill Reserve and had paid the first instalment out of his own pocket.

Dr. Throsson also spoke in favour of the Bill.—It was a measure of justice toward the parties, as most of them had purchased for Mill Reserves.—Yankee Speculators had come on, and were purchasing large quantities of lands and selling them in the United States to Mill Companies, &c. and our mill-owners were obliged to purchase, otherwise they had reason to fear they would have been unable to procure a supply of logs for their Mills.

Mr. Hannington considered the statements made by the hon. mover of the Bill so fully answered by the hon. member for St. John, (Mr. Partelow) that he did not know how any hon. member could, after that exposition, support the Bill.

Mr. Taylor spoke briefly in favor of the bill. Dr. Earle would oppose the bill.

Hon. Mr. Wilnot would enter his protest against what had been said as to the petitioners having purchased those lands voluntarily, and for the purpose of speculating. They had been driven to the purchase of them by the conduct of Government. He considered that they had been dealt with unjustly; as Government had got the land and the money too. They should do justice and love mercy. He begged to call the attention of the Committee to the fact that the circumstances connected with the affair had very materially altered the question within a few years; which had induced him to support the measure for the last two or three years, although he had formerly opposed it.

Messrs. Connell, Hayward, Tibbits, End, and the hon. Mr. Baillie, spoke in favor of the Bill.

Messrs. Carman Street, and Hannington, opposed the bill.

Mr. Brown repudiated the idea that he intended in his opening speech to cast any imputation on the Hon. Member for St. John, (Mr. Partelow). He did not mean to cast any imputation on him, or on any other member, about management out of doors, but merely to state, for the information of the new members, that he (Mr. B.) had not canvassed them for their votes, as it was not his practice. He should say but little in closing this debate, as he had been anticipated in much that he had intended to say, by other gentlemen who had spoken. In reply to the hon. and learned member for St. John. (Mr. Ritchie) however, he would say that he differed with him altogether, for instead of applying the rule that two wrongs can never make a right, he contended that the land which was granted to Mr. Perley was right and proper, and that therefore this Bill should pass because it was right also. He (Mr. B.) had called out 'no,' when the hon. members for Kings said the House had always been adverse to this measure, for the House had once passed a Resolution in favour of allowing those claims, but the Executive did not think proper to act under its authority. As to the Hon. Member for Northumberland's fears about perjury, he hoped that Hon. Member would listen as he (Mr. B.) read the list, and then say who among them he supposed would be guilty of perjury to obtain a grant of land. (Here the Hon. Member read over the names attached to the Petition praying that the Bill