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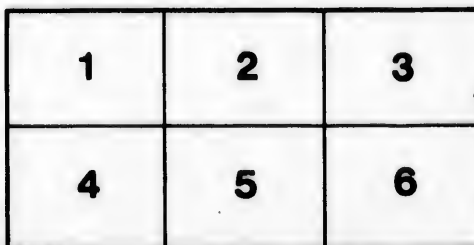
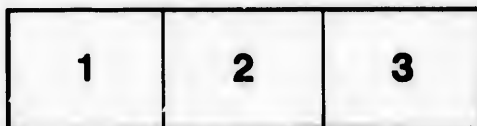
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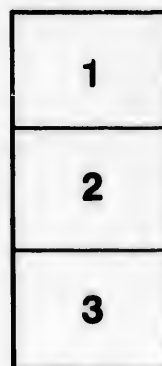
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A S K E T C H
OF THE
STATE OF AFFAIRS
IN
NEWFOUNDLAND.

BY
A LATE RESIDENT IN THAT COLONY.

LONDON :
SAUNDERS AND OTLEY, CONDUIT STREET.
1841.

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FC2172.L37 1841

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Bell Fund

LONDON:

BLATCH AND LAMPERT, PRINTERS, GROVE PLACE, BROMPTON.

30.1.42

A SKETCH,

&c.

Edwards

THE first of the two following letters was written from Newfoundland, to a literary friend resident in London, who moulded it, with certain embellishments, into an article for the Metropolitan Magazine, of August 1839. Late circumstances having brought the affairs of the Colony still more prominently, than at that period, before the Public, it has been thought advisable to publish this letter precisely in its original form, with a second containing a succinct account of public events down to the present time, the writer of both being now in England.

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Bell Fund

The Author is aware that the whole production is but a mere sketch ; nevertheless, as it is written in fairness and good faith, he conceives that it may be of some use in enlightening the public mind as to the unhappy dissensions existing in this interesting Possession of the British Crown. He has desired nothing to extenuate, nor ought set down in malice ; and whatever his errors may be, they certainly are not those of intention.

A distinguished officer, Sir John Harvey, who has been eminently successful in allaying discord and diffusing general content in New Brunswick, has lately been nominated as Captain Prescott's successor. May he be equally fortunate in Newfoundland !—and in this aspiration we sincerely believe that no one will more heartily join than his predecessor, however much the comparison consequent upon such a result might be likely to make against the reputation of that Gentleman.—

St. John's, Newfoundland, April 16th, 1839.

MY DEAR FRIEND,

You ask me to give you an idea of the present condition of this Colony, to which circumstances have lately drawn your attention ; and I have the greatest pleasure in complying with your request, regretting that my means and ability are not more adequate to your gratification on this occasion. You will find some account of the Island in Montgomery Martin's Work on the Colonies—in McGregor's British America—in Barrow's Polar Regions—and in Chappell's Voyage ; but there are only two Histories of Newfoundland to which importance can be attached. By far the most valuable of these, published in the year 1793, was written by John Reeves, Esq., the Chief Justice of the Island : the other is by the Rev. Mr. Anspach, who was for some years a resident Missionary. To these I refer you for events antecedent to the year 1818, at which period I commence. Admiral Pickmore being then lately dead, was

succeeded in the Naval Command and Civil Government by Sir Charles Hamilton. Till the peace of 1815, the Governor and Commander-in-chief had regularly returned to England in the month of October, and resumed his station here in the spring. Fixed settlements were discouraged, and grants of land were rarely made. Power was exercised somewhat despotically, and forms of law were not very strictly observed. Gradual improvements were made in these respects during Sir Charles's administration, which continued till 1825, when a very important change took place in the affairs of this Colony. The King, under authority of an Act of Parliament, granted a charter, by which was established a Supreme Court, consisting of a Chief Justice, and two Assistant Judges, having all the powers of the courts of King's Bench, Common Pleas, Exchequer, and Chancery in England ; Circuit Courts, and Courts of Quarter Sessions, were also appointed ; a system of Registration of Wills, Deeds, and Grants of Land, was adopted, and a Sheriff directed to be nominated from year to year.

An Appeal is permitted from the Inferior Courts to the Supreme Court, and from the Supreme Court to the Sovereign in Council, under certain limitations. Simultaneously with this charter, occurred the arrival of Captain Sir Thomas Cochrane, as Civil Governor only. He was assisted by an Executive Council, composed of the Judges, the Bishop of Nova Scotia, the Commandant of the Garrison, and the Collector of the Customs. The appointment of a Governor under the new system, was extremely popular; his salary and allowances, subsequently much reduced, were very liberal; he was young and fond of show; and his aides-de-camp dubbed Colonels of Militia, although no Militia existed; his days of state; the royal liveries, &c., excited a sensation, and for a while dazzled the multitude. He was also active, intelligent, and anxious for the public prosperity; and, as far as the limited means placed by the Ministry at his disposal, during the *Hume* fever of economy, permitted, he promoted the exploration of the country, and the formation of roads. But a desire for a Colonial Legislature

began to manifest itself, and various petitions having been addressed to the throne on this subject, King William the Fourth, in the year 1832, granted a Representative Constitution, which, however much censured or derided now, was then almost universally accepted as a boon. The elective suffrage may be termed nearly universal, inasmuch as it is obtained by one year's occupation of any description of dwelling. In this country, where there is no poor-rate, or direct taxation, nor, except in very few places, any rented house, it was not easy, perhaps, to adopt another mode; but, in fixing the qualification of a member at merely two years occupation of the same kind, a great error was certainly committed. This, however, did not become practically apparent in the first election: the House of Assembly, consisting of fifteen members, being composed of gentlemen, against whose station in this society, or attainments in education, no just exception could be taken. The General Legislature was completed by a remodelling of the Council, which, being com-

posed of the Chief Justice, as President, four other official members, and some private individuals, acted both in an executive and legislative capacity. The first session was opened with much formality on New Year's Day, of 1833, and some useful laws were enacted; but the Council not deeming the Legislature to possess the power of taxation, rejected a bill sent up for the purpose of fixing a duty on wine and spirits. The General Assembly was adjourned, and the matter referred to the Secretary of State. The objection of the Council was overruled, and on July the 9th the session was ended by a prorogation of three days. Mr. Tucker, the Chief Justice and President of the Council, a man of a high and sensitive mind, resigned his office, and was succeeded by Mr. Boulton. The Revenue Act, and some others, were passed, and the second session was ended on the 1st August, the parent Government having undertaken the expense of the colony for the current year. In January, 1834, commenced the third session, which

ended in June. Its only financial measures were, the correction of an error in the before-named revenue act, and the transmission of an address to the throne, praying for further pecuniary aid. The Legislature was again convened in September of the same year, and informed, that the colony must depend upon its own resources. The House of Assembly, however, could not be prevailed upon to establish any further impost, and would only authorise an issue of Treasury notes, to the amount of £5,600. On the first of November, Captain Prescott arrived, and assumed the Government, Sir Thomas Cochrane and his family departing on the sixth.

The Treasury was at this period completely exhausted; and one of the first measures of the new Governor, was, with the advice of the Council, to issue notes in accordance with the provision just mentioned. [Early in January 1835, commenced the fifth session; and with great difficulty and inconvenient delay, an act was passed fixing a general Import Duty of two and-a-half per cent. with certain modifications.

From the date of this act, April 24th, all pecuniary difficulties ceased; and at the beginning of the following year, the Governor was enabled to announce the extinction of the public debt, and the accumulation of a considerable surplus fund. During the Session of 1836, an act was passed with the previous consent of the Home Government, limiting the duration of future Houses of Assembly to four years.

The prorogation took place on the sixth of May, and the Assembly was dissolved on the twelfth of September. We now come to an important epoch in our history, and one fruitful in troubles. The Chief Justice had by this time become the idol of one party, and the abhorred of the other. By the wealthier merchants and gentry, he was adored, and looked upon as their only stay; while by the Catholic, or Liberal party, he was considered a tyrant and oppressor. He unfortunately promoted these opposite opinions, by attending public meetings and making party speeches; and instead of contenting himself with firmly and temperately resisting ag-

gression, he seemed to court occasions of contention. He made abrupt alterations wherever he had the power to do so ; and while his law was probably correct, his conduct in other respects was by no means worthy of admiration. Between the Governor and him there was understood to be no similarity of sentiment, although there was no open quarrel. Writs for a new election were immediately issued, and the Legislature was appointed to meet in January. The Catholic portion of the population was openly excited, and even indeed compelled by the priesthood to vote for candidates of their nomination ; and the conservative party were very generally defeated. Serious riots took place in Harbour Grace, and similar excesses were prevented in St. John's only by the presence of the military. Some Magistrates having made representations respecting these riots, the Governor laid them before the Council ; and on these representations occasioning the production to the Board of a returned writ, the Chief Justice perceiving it to be unsealed, immediately pronounced it to be

invalid; and the Attorney General, the only other legal member, coinciding with him in that opinion, the matter was referred to the Secretary of State, and the meeting of the Legislature was further prorogued. The Secretary of State admitted the objection, and directed a new election; a measure greatly to be regretted, as on the question being subsequently submitted for the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown, the original elections were declared to be perfectly legal. So novel a circumstance as a double election was not allowed to pass unnoticed or uncensured by the Liberals. They affected to represent it as a trick for their overthrow, although nothing could be more palpable than the impossibility of the Executive's influencing the returns, had he been disposed to make the attempt. The Conservatives now abandoned the field altogether; consequently no disturbance occurred in any district, and the session was opened on the third of July. The composition of this House of Assembly was much inferior to that of the former, the new members being in general of a low, and some of

them of the very lowest grade of society. Previously existing passions had been lately still further inflamed by a variety of prosecutions connected with the original election proceedings, and principally consequent upon presentments by the grand jury. The sentences upon those convicted of riot or assault, were by the Home Government deemed severe, and upon petition, in a great degree remitted. The first act of the House was to displace the officers appointed to it by the Crown; and their proceedings generally throughout the Session, were of a corresponding character, being violent and personal, having for their object the gratification of friends and the injury of opponents of the dominant party.

There was throughout a contest between the Council and the House of Assembly, maintained on both sides with much heat; and at length the prorogation took place, without any appropriation of money for the services of the year, the bill passed by the Assembly having been rejected by the Council. A delegation of three members of the House of Assembly, proceeded

to England for the purpose of making a statement of supposed grievances, and of instituting charges against the Chief Justice. These last were submitted to a Committee of the Privy Council, which exonerated Mr. Boulton as regarded his judicial decisions, but recommended his removal from the colony.

On the twentieth of June 1838, commenced the yearly session ; and the result of an appeal by the Council and Assembly respectively to Her Majesty on the rejection of the Appropriation Bill of the last year having been previously transmitted to the Governor, the offer of her royal mediation was communicated to both houses. The Queen recommended the adoption of that bill by the Council ; but suggested to the Assembly certain rules of conduct for its future guidance in similar cases. With infinite difficulty the bill was carried in Council by the official members present, and the casting vote of one other, the remaining three members opposing it to the utmost, and ultimately protesting against it. Thus ceased an embarrassment which had been sensibly felt by the public ; but

a new subject of discord quickly arose. An altercation took place in the streets of St. John's, between Mr. Kent, a member of the House of Assembly, and Mr. Kielley, a medical practitioner. Upon complaint made by Mr. Kent, Mr. Kielley was taken into custody by the Sergeant-at-Arms, and brought to the bar of the House on the following day, the seventh of August; and, being called upon for explanation, he, in the heat of passion, used very opprobrious language towards Mr. Kent. Upon this he was remanded till the ninth, when he was required to apologise, and, upon his refusal to do so, was committed to jail by the Speaker's warrant to the Sheriff. The next day he was, by writ of Habeas Corpus, brought before a Judge of the Supreme Court, by whose order he was released; and upon this being stated to the House by the Sheriff when directed to produce his prisoner at the bar on the 11th, both the Judge and the Sheriff were immediately arrested by the Speaker's Warrant, the former with indecent violence. Upon this being officially made known to the Governor, he sig-

nified his intention of proroguing the Assembly, and on Monday the 13th it was prorogued accordingly, for seven days. By this measure, the prisoners were at once liberated, and the members had time to cool. When the Legislature was réassembled, business proceeded, though not of course harmoniously; and on the twenty-fifth of October, the session was closed, provision having been made for the yearly routine of government.

In the previous month, Mr. Bourne, Mr. Boulton's successor in the office of Chief Justice, arrived; but by a wise provision he has not, nor will any judge in future have, a seat in the Council. A session of the Supreme Court was held in the following December, when Mr. Kielley brought an action against the Speaker and other members and officers of the House, for false imprisonment; but privilege being pleaded in demurrer, the Chief Justice and judge Des Barres decided in favor of the plea, while the remaining judge, Mr. Lilly, retained his former opinion. An appeal to her Majesty in Council has been entered, and a colonial barrister has

proceeded to London to take the necessary steps for its prosecution.

Since his departure, an elaborate opinion of her Majesty's Attorney and Solicitor General has been forwarded officially to the Governor, and has been made known to the public through the medium of the Island Gazette. This denies the power of commitment assumed by the House, and consequently tends to allay the apprehensions which could not but be entertained by the most dispassionate and impartial mind, of the evils likely to arise from an arbitrary power of imprisonment being possessed by such a body. After this little sketch of the history of Newfoundland, from the year 1818 to the present day, you will perhaps wish to know my opinion of our existing institutions, and of their probable future operation ; more especially as you may have observed in the London and provincial papers petitions to Government, on the part of merchants connected with this Island, in which not only property, but life itself, is represented to be endangered by their further continuance. These statements are extremely exaggerated,

and the prayer of the petitioners appears to me very unreasonable. The local Legislature was granted to the general request, and should not be rescinded at the desire of a party smarting under a recent defeat. A moderate qualification for representatives would undoubtedly be a great improvement, and with this, perhaps, an extension of members and division of districts, so that the Catholic and Protestant influence might be fairly balanced. Such an extension, without the qualification, would increase present evils ; for, as the remuneration to members exceeds the yearly gains of a fisherman, it is probable that a large proportion of the candidates from that uneducated class, excited by the examples already before them, would come forward, and be returned. Any undue assumption of authority on the part of the House of Assembly as at present constituted must be promptly checked ; but it will be time enough to apply for the interposition of Parliament, when its misconduct shall be of such a nature as to make apparent its utter incapacity and unfitness for its designed purpose, and the impossibility of good govern-

ment and commercial prosperity existing in conjunction with it. Notwithstanding all the disadvantages under which we have hitherto laboured, our light-houses, roads, bridges, hospital, charities, and schools, bear witness to the benefits of local legislation. The application of spiritual authority by the Roman Catholic priesthood for temporal purposes,—their interdiction of trade with certain individuals,—their denouncement of all readers of particular newspapers—these unjustifiable interferences, for a time in full operation here, have, happily, ceased, and the Roman Catholic bishop now seems well disposed to peace. The Governor, who, through much more of evil than of good report, has hitherto steered an impartial course, will, we may presume, not be found wanting in endeavours to establish harmony and tranquillity ; and the cause of much former dissension being now removed, a reasonable expectation may be entertained that he will find assistance in the prosecution of so laudable an object.

The population of the colony, by an accurate census taken in 1837, amounts to 75,094 : of

these 37,376 are Roman Catholics, 26,748 of the Established Church, and 10,636 Dissenters. This population is scattered over a line of coast extending from Cape St. John, southward to Cape Ray, a direct distance of six hundred miles; to which may be added three or four hundred more for bays and sinuosities. There are in the Island about forty families of Micmac Indians, amounting to two hundred men, women, and children. They subsist principally on venison, which they kill in the neighbourhood of the lakes, to the N.E. of St. George's Harbour. They employ themselves in hunting the martin, otter, and beaver, and sell the skins, sometimes to the establishment of Messrs. Newman in the Bay of Despair, and sometimes to the traders who occasionally touch at St. George's Bay and Bay of Islands. They are all of the Roman Catholic persuasion, and are a timid and inoffensive people. They generally pass the winter near the coast, in the vicinity of Bay Despair; and in their hunting excursions in the summer, traverse the Island between the southern and

western shores and the Bay of Exploits on the northern coast. They thus continually pass over the tract of country which was formerly inhabited by the Red Indians ; and as they have not for years seen any trace of them, it seems certain that those unhappy aborigines are extinct.

There are about 12,000 acres of land in cultivation, principally producing potatoes, turnips, and hay. Oats and barley are grown, and occasionally ripen, but are frequently cut down for fodder, in consequence of the early departure of summer.

About 3,000 children are educated by means of "The North American Society," and half that number of Roman Catholic children in schools supported by local subscription. One for girls, under the superintendence of nuns of the order of the Presentation, was established, and is mainly supported by the bishop. There are also several well-attended Sunday schools.

The sum of £2,100 has been by the Legislature voted in aid of education ; but religious jealousies and apprehensions have hitherto very much impeded the benefits expected from such

liberality. Of this sum £600 is specifically allotted to the schools above-mentioned.

The average of imports and exports united amounts to about £1,500,000. The former consist of all articles requisite for the Fisheries, and conducive to the support and enjoyment of life; the latter principally of our great staple commodities—fish and oil.

The gross annual revenue from imperial and colonial duties, quit-rents, &c., varies in amount from £35,000 to £40,000. Of this sum, £6,550 are reserved for salaries to the principal officers of the Government; and the quit-rents, &c., about £900, are appropriated to particular purposes by the Crown. All the rest is placed at the disposal of the Legislature.

I shall conclude these few statistical notices, by remarking that the ungenial climate, rocky soil, and constant recurrence of extreme distress every winter, must, at all events till some remote and uncertain period, prevent this Island from being recommended as a desirable point for emigration.

Believe me ever, my dear friend,

Most affectionately yours.

London, June 18th, 1841.

MY DEAR FRIEND.

In my former letter, I brought down the epitome of our history to April, 1839 ; and as Newfoundland has latterly engaged still more of the public attention than it did at that period, I shall continue my narrative to the present day.

On May 17th of that year, the Legislature again met in session. Mr. Archibald, the clerk of the House of Assembly by appointment of the Crown, and which appointment the Governor was directed to uphold, was at this time absent on leave. A gentleman was consequently nominated by the Governor to act for him : the House refused to admit him, and appointed another. Upon this, the Governor informed the House that, should it persist in that proceeding, he would be compelled to adjourn the Legislature till the pleasure of the Home Government should be known on the subject. The House yielded with a bad grace, and the business of the session went on. What rendered this matter, otherwise trifling, of importance, was, that the Secretary

of State, while supporting the actual occupant in his post, had conceded the right of future nomination, whenever a vacancy should occur, to the House. Had the Governor made no acting appointment, advantage would have been taken of that circumstance when the House met, to declare the situation vacant. He was therefore compelled to fill it; but it was well known that he had proposed privately to the Speaker to appoint any one whom he would mention as acceptable to the House; that the Speaker had communicated this proposition to a majority of the members; and that it had been refused.

The next subject of contention was this: A vacancy having occurred in the stipendiary magistracy of Conception Bay, Mr. Power, a Roman Catholic, and member of the House of Assembly, had received the appointment immediately on the close of the session of 1838, the salary being £120 a year. This gentleman had never been a supporter of the measures of Government, and so far was the Governor from wishing to influence his conduct as a member, or to increase his own influence in the House,

that he made it a condition, on giving the appointment, that Mr. Power should not again be returned in the event of a dissolution.

Nevertheless, the House thought fit to pass the following resolution : " That James Power, Esq., Member for Conception Bay, having vacated his seat by accepting an office of emolument under the Crown, the Speaker do notify the same to his Excellency the Governor, so that a new writ may be issued for the election of a member to serve in the place of the said James Power;" which, on being communicated to the Governor, received this answer :—

" The Governor having received a communication from the Speaker on the subject of an assumed vacancy in the representation of Conception Bay, in consequence of Mr. Power having accepted an office of emolument, acquaints the House of Assembly that no disqualification of this description is prescribed by the royal Proclamation under which the House holds its existence, or established by any subsequent law.

" His Excellency could not, under his instruc-

tions, assent to a measure of this description, even were it presented as a bill for his acceptance, unless such bill contained a suspending clause. It is utterly impossible that he can consider a resolution of the House of Assembly as establishing a legal disqualification ; therefore he must decline issuing a writ for the election of a member to serve in Mr. Power's place, he being now as legally one of the representatives of Conception Bay as at any former period."

Her Majesty's Attorney, and Solicitor General, subsequently gave an opinion entirely confirmatory of the Governor's views, which was communicated to the House on the 11th of October.

During this session a dispute arose between the Council and House of Assembly on the subject of further charges on account of the late delegation from the latter body to Her Majesty's Government. The Appropriation Bill, which had failed in 1837, but had passed in 1838, as stated in my former letter, contained a provision of £500 for this object ; but that sum had

been found insufficient ; and the House of Assembly now passed a separate bill for the sum of £713, in liquidation of claims connected therewith, and sent it up for concurrence to the Council on the 11th of June. After discussions and conferences, it was lost on the 2nd of August. It certainly was not easy to understand upon what just principle this result could be founded. The delegation had been received by the Government ; its propositions had been considered, and some of them had been favorably entertained. Its expenses also had already been partly paid. These considerations appear to have induced the Governor to take a somewhat unusual step ; for, having occasion to go down on September 14th to pass an act for the extirpation of wolves, he addressed the assembled Legislature on the subject, and recommended the Assembly to prepare a new Delegation Bill, and the Council to adopt it, declaring his readiness to assent to a measure which he considered to be founded in justice, and likely to contribute "to harmony and peace, and consequently to the prosperity of the colony."

The House of Assembly naturally acted immediately on this suggestion, and on the 17th sent up their bill. In the Council it was violently opposed by the mercantile members without exception; but the sudden and accidental departure of one of them for England, gave the preponderance to the official members, and on the 25th it was finally passed.

The other subjects of contention during this session were a Road Bill, and Loan Bill consequent thereupon; a Bill for the relief of the Poor; and a Bill for the contingent expenses of the Legislature. The two first were very properly rejected by the Council on account of the then existing public debt, the unfavourable state of the revenue, and the large amount of unexpended money voted in the last act for the formation of roads.

The Bill for the relief of the Poor contained the names of the Commissioners by whom that relief was to be administered, and also by an irrelevant clause attempted to withdraw the Hospital from its present excellent direction. In these points the bill was returned amended,

but remained without further notice in the Lower House.

The Bill for defraying the contingent expenses of the session appearing to the Council extravagant in various items, and, in the application of the public money to individual members of the House of Assembly highly improper, it was amended by the Council, and finally lost.

At the close of the session, which took place on the 12th of October, the House of Assembly passed an Address to the Queen, in which, with singular want of tact, though probably with great truth, they complained of the little regard in which they were held by the Governor, the Judges, the Council, the mercantile body, and the press. It also contained specific charges against the Governor, the Council, and Mr. Archibald, Clerk of the House.

The experience of two years having proved that no advantage or convenience was obtained by the Legislature meeting in summer instead of winter, the old practice was resorted to, and

on the 3rd of January, 1840, commenced the 5th session.

The following extracts from the Governor's speech will, in some degree, show his opinion of the points lately in dispute, and will likewise, I think, prove his desire to prevent misunderstanding, and promote peace.—

“The most urgent matter for your consideration, is the present condition of the sick and impotent poor, of orphans and idiots, combined with the just claims of those benevolent and industrious individuals who have long watched over and protected the two last-named classes of sufferers. Since April nothing has been paid on this account; and I shall place before you afflicting statements of consequent want and wretchedness.

“I am well aware, that in no part of the world should eleemosynary aid be given with more caution than in Newfoundland; but the infirmities of nature and the misfortunes occasioned by the character of our occupations are surely entitled to public commiseration and relief.

"I have transmitted, on all occasions, to the respective Legislative bodies copies of such despatches as regard my conduct in conjunction with their proceedings.

"By regulations prescribed by Her Majesty's Government, the House must be sensible that it is my duty rigidly to abide; and it will consequently be perceived, that had the Poor Bill, as sent up towards the conclusion of the late session, been fully adopted by the Council, it could not possibly have received my assent.

"I mention this to prevent misconception, and to obviate any future misunderstanding.

"In an address from the House of Assembly to her Majesty, passed at the close of that session, the subject of the last Contingency Bill is discussed at some length. As considerable time must elapse before any answer can be received, I would venture to suggest, without at all anticipating what the answer may be, that a bill, embracing such items as were originally undisputed, might, in consideration of the pain-

ful position of various claimants, be at once advantageously prepared.

“The subject of a Road Bill will, I presume, occupy your deliberations.

“The benefits arising from good roads are so well known that observations respecting them would be trite and uninteresting ; but it appears to me that while pursuing so useful an object, we should carefully avoid the evils which would inevitably result from any heavy accumulation of public debt.”

As demonstrative of the disposition of the House of Assembly, I shall copy two paragraphs only, of their address, in reply.

“Your Excellency is pleased in your Excellency’s speech, to observe upon the subject of the last Contingency Bill, and to suggest that as the subject is discussed at some length in an address from the House to Her Majesty in the last session, a Bill embracing such items as were originally undisputed, might in consideration of the painful position of various claimants, be at once advantageously prepared. We beg leave to observe that the Address to which

your Excellency alludes, was complaining of the impediments daily thrown in the way of the operation of the Assembly in Newfoundland ; and the subject of the rejection of the Contingency Bill is there introduced merely incidentally, with that of the rejection of the Academy Bill, the Grammar School Bill, the Poor Bill, and others, but by no means with a view to leave to the decision of Her Majesty's Government, matters whereof the Assembly themselves are the only constitutional judges.

“ We shall therefore consider the subject of the contingent expenses of the last session, in the same manner as we shall those of the general expenses of the civil government of the country, with a view to the public interests, as well as to the maintenance of the independence of the popular branch of the Legislature.”

Mr. Power was permitted to resume his seat ; but a resolution was passed that in future, should similar cases occur, the salary as a magistrate should be withheld by the house. On the 21st January, a Contingency Bill for the last session was passed, and sent up to the Council. As

this was merely a transcript of the former bill, it was of course returned with the same amendments as before.

On the 13th February, a circumstance occurred of so extraordinary a nature, that, but for a melancholy event subsequently connected with it, which will be detailed in its place, it might have been difficult to determine whether it was of the nature of a hoax, or of a more serious character.

A young man named Lott, in the service of Mr. Winton, the editor and printer of the Public Ledger, was seized upon in the streets by two men, at eleven o'clock at night, pinioned, blindfolded, and led for some time in silence, till, reaching a house, he was ushered into an apartment, and the bandage being removed from his eyes, he found himself in the presence of two persons fantastically dressed, and masked. They were seated at a table with the necessary implements for writing, and Lott was directed to answer such questions as should be put to him, and threatened with the direst consequences should he withhold the truth, or ever

reveal to any one what was then passing. The questions were principally as to the conduct of his master, and the sources from which he derived his information of local public matters. After some time, Lott was again blindfolded, led away by the same men as before, and on being liberated, he uncovered his eyes and found himself in the same spot from which he had been taken. He hastened home, and in great trepidation and agitation, immediately revealed to Mr. Winton all that had occurred.

On the 15th he deposed to the truth of his statement before the stipendiary Magistrates, who immediately made every effort to discover the offenders. Suspicion having fallen upon a person named Delany, door-keeper of the House of Assembly, the senior magistrate accompanied Lott to Delany's house on the 17th, for the purpose of ascertaining if he could identify the room in which he had been detained. On the 19th, this matter was taken up by the House of Assembly, and a Committee of Enquiry was appointed, which summoned before it various individuals, and amongst

others, the stipendiary Magistrates. After wasting a great deal of time, the Committee ended by making no report; but great efforts were made by certain members of the House, to reduce the salaries of the Magistrates, in consequence of their upright and independent conduct, which efforts were, in the end, defeated by a bare majority.

On February 28th, an act for the payment of certain claims for the support of aged and infant paupers, to the amount of £350, was assented to by the Governor. April 16th, an Appropriation Bill for 1840-41, with the Legislative Contingencies of the last session included, was sent up to the Council. It was clear that this bill could not become law; and the House of Assembly appeared determined again to involve the colony in the confusion and distress consequent upon the stoppage of supplies; but immediately after the bill had been sent up, dispatches which had been received on the previous day were laid before the House. They were from Lord John Russell, in answer to the Address of the session of 1839, against the Governor, the Council, and

the Clerk of the House,—who in the interim, disgusted with the treatment he had received, and unwilling to remain a source of contention, had resigned his situation.

These dispatches were so firm and so entirely exculpatory of all those officials, that the Assembly was overwhelmed with confusion, which was great in proportion to the overweening confidence with which they had previously looked to an exactly opposite result. On the above-named Supply Bill being sent back amended, a new one was prepared in conformity with the Council's amendments on the former, and sent back for concurrence on the 23rd. Separate bills for the contingencies of 1839 and 1840, were also sent up; but as they contained the same items that had already been objected to by the Council, these bills were lost.

On the 29th of April, the Legislature was again prorogued; and soon after a memorial was presented to the Governor, signed by a majority of the members of the House of Assembly, requesting him to issue warrants for the payment of such portions of the Contingency

Bills, as had not been objected to by the Council; to which request he acceded with the consent of that body, and warrants were accordingly issued to the amount of £4,300. This might have been fairly considered as an abandonment of the dispute; but it will be seen in the sequel, that such was not the intention of the parties interested.

On the 16th May, Herman Lott, before mentioned, having being sent by Mr. Winton to transact some business in Conception Bay, in passing from Carbonear to Harbour Grace, distant three miles, was in broad day waylaid by four masked ruffians, and forced into a neighbouring wood, where, after filling his mouth with earth and mud, they cut off his ears. What adds to the remarkable atrocity of this case is that Mr. Winton himself, exactly five years before, suffered in the same spot a similar brutal injury; and although rewards to an amount which must be considered great in so poor a community,—viz. £1000 in Winton's case, £300 in Lott's,—were immediately offered, and although the offenders must have

been known to many, yet all the efforts of the magistracy, and of the judge, who was on both occasions holding a term of Circuit Court at Harbour Grace, proved ineffectual for their discovery. As Mr. Winton, previously to the atrocity committed upon him, had been repeatedly denounced from the altar of the Roman Catholic Chapel as an enemy to the bishop, the priests, and their religious belief, it is too much to be feared that he suffered in consequence of the ignorant fanaticism of his assassins, who probably thought that they were performing a service acceptable to God, while they were in fact perpetrating an execrable crime. Whether poor Lott was a victim of the same blind, brutal, and perverted zeal, or that his sufferings were consequent upon and in revenge of his late revelations in St. John's, cannot as yet be determined.

Immediately after the prorogation, Mr. Morris, who had been previously appointed Colonial Treasurer, and who had a seat in the House of Assembly, as one of the members for the district of St. John's, was removed to the

Council. This gentlemen had been too active and violent as a politician to permit his elevation to be a subject of general approbation; but his intentions were honest, and as he is a Roman Catholic, his appointment to situations of both honour and profit demonstrably proved that there existed neither in theory nor practice any obstacle to the promotion of individuals of that religious persuasion. A writ was of course issued for the election of a member in Mr. Morris's vacancy. A Roman Catholic, who had acted for a time as Serjeant-at-arms of the House of Assembly by appointment of the House, but who had lost that post by the Crown upholding the life or optional tenure of its own Serjeant, was nominated returning officer. The so-called conservative party altogether stood aloof; and Mr. Douglas, known as a liberal, having been solicited by influential people of his own party, to offer himself as a candidate, announced his intention so to do; and there was every reason to believe that the election would be a mere matter of form. But the Roman Catholic bishop thought

proper to interfere, and to call upon Mr. O'Brien to become a candidate. On the Sunday before the election, an address from the bishop was read by a priest at the altar, calling upon his flock to support their religion by voting for Mr. O'Brien.

On the 20th of May, the proceedings were opened; Mr. O'Brien was proposed and seconded by Messrs Nugent and Kent respectively, the former the protégé, the latter the brother-in-law of the bishop, and the whole three having been among the original requisitionists to Mr. Douglas. The priests were on the hustings inflaming by their harangues the passions of the people; and a continuance of the same conduct, and of their interference in every way, produced its natural consequences, riot and confusion,—to such a degree that on the 28th, a guard of a hundred men was stationed at the hustings, and continued there during the remainder of the contest, which from want of judgment and firmness, and possibly of some still more important quality in the returning

officer, was not terminated till the eighteenth day of polling.

Mr. O'Brien was returned by a small majority, the more educated Catholics generally voting for Mr. Douglas; the lower and ignorant portion of that persuasion obeying the injunctions of their clergy.

The indignation excited by the whole proceeding changed the feeling of indifference at first shown by the mercantile and conservative body into one of intense interest, and they plunged into the contest with all imaginable ardour.

Thus were renewed by a Christian prelate, those emotions of jealousy and bitterness which appeared to be subsiding; and for this proceeding it seemed so impossible to assign any rational cause, that one is compelled to attribute it to a passion for discord and confusion.

The islands of Newfoundland and Bermuda having been separated from the bishopric of Nova Scotia, and formed into a new episcopate under the Right Reverend Dr. Spencer, his Lordship arrived at St. John's in the month of

May. As respects the interests of the established Church and of Protestantism in general, this appointment is judicious and beneficial. The bishop's legitimate efforts for the promotion of religion being generously supported by the society for the Propagation of the Gospel, the number of missionaries is rapidly increasing, and the happiest results may reasonably be expected from such laudable exertions.

Mr. Godfrey, one of the representatives for Conception Bay, having expired soon after the prorogation, a writ was issued for the election of another member,—which commenced at Harbour Grace on the 9th of November. The candidates on this occasion were Messrs Prendergast and Haurahan, both Catholics, and of nearly equal degree as respects property, which in either case is but small. The former had shown on some occasions an independence of priestly direction in temporal matters, while the other was known to be subservient. Prendergast was first requested to stand by a considerable number of electors ; and had the matter been left to the discretion

of the people in general, he would doubtless have been peaceably returned ; but here again, as so lately at St. John's, the Roman Catholic clergy interfered,—not as individuals, but in their clerical character,—and using all those means of influence and intimidation, which the priests of that persuasion so unfortunately possess over the unenlightened portion of their flocks. From the defective state of the election law, this contest was protracted to a period of twenty-nine days, the returning officer passing from place to place within the district to take the votes.

On the 3rd of December, the proceedings were much interrupted at Western Bay by riotous conduct, and a considerable number of Prendergast's supporters were attacked, driven away, and prevented from polling. Several individuals were severely beaten and injured ; and a magistrate named Rankin, on his way to the hustings, was for some time in considerable jeopardy. On leaving Western Bay for Carbonear, Prendergast was forty-eight ahead on the poll.

On the 7th of December, the polling commenced at this last-named place, where the election was to be concluded on the 8th. Nothing material occurred until the evening of the last day, about an hour and a half before the proceedings were to have closed, when, Pendergast's election being certain, a furious riot ensued, which compelled the returning officer to suspend the proceedings; and this being the last day mentioned in the writ, he necessarily returned it unexecuted.

On this occasion, a great many people were severely hurt: amongst the rest, a most amiable merchant and magistrate named Ridley, who had taken no part in the election, was beaten to the ground while in the act of endeavouring to restrain violence; his life was long in the utmost danger from a concussion of the brain, but happily he is, in a great degree, though not entirely, recovered. Upon this melancholy intelligence reaching St. John's, a vessel was immediately taken up, and a detachment of a hundred veterans, under command of Major Law, was embarked for Harbour Grace, where they landed

on the night of the 10th—11th. Their arrival was critically fortunate and important, for the greatest excitement and apprehension were prevalent: one house at Carbonear had been burnt to the ground, many windows broken, and other damage done. Many of the rioters were now secured, some fled, and others subsequently surrendered themselves to justice. The troops have, at the earnest request of the respectable inhabitants, been since continued at Harbour Grace and Carbonear, where the Spring Circuit Court was opened on the 27th of April, the Chief Justice presiding therein.

On the 2nd of January, the Legislature was assembled for its sixth and last session. In his opening speech the Governor pressed upon its consideration, the necessity of an immediate reform in the Election Law: this he did in firm but temperate language, which nevertheless excited the ire and indignation of the House of Assembly. The entire innocence of the people, the oppressive conduct and undue interference of officials, were of course asserted; and instead of honestly proceeding to the redress of a mani-

fest evil, they called for all the documents in the Governor's possession, all the representations and depositions which had been forwarded to him in connexion with the late disturbances.

A due regard to the officers of Government, and the lovers of peace, prevented the possibility of such a request, on the part of a body so little respected, and the mischievous motive of which was so apparent, from being complied with. He answered the application in the following terms :—

“Gentlemen, the scandalous events which occurred at two partial elections during the late recess; the ferocious conduct of a mob at Carbonear, by which one of those elections was rendered abortive; and the necessity of military interference, and protection on these occasions, are matters of general notoriety.

“I consider, that the documents already before the House, are sufficiently demonstrative of those evils—and, in the exercise of my discretion, under the existing circumstances of the colony, I must decline compliance with this address, believing that no good could result to

the community from the publication of all the representations which I have received on this subject.

“So convinced am I of the absolute necessity of an amendment of the Election Law, that I avail myself of this opportunity to state, that should, unhappily, no legislative enactment be made during this session, to secure the just exercise of the franchise, and the public tranquillity in future elections, I will not undertake the responsibility of issuing proclamations or writs for the election of a new House of Assembly, or make myself accountable for the serious consequences, the confusion and bloodshed, so likely to ensue thereupon under the present system ; —but, referring the whole affair to the supreme government, I will, as in duty bound, implicitly follow such directions as I may receive in that behalf.”

The House was apparently struck by the Governor's language ; and under a momentary apprehension of the consequences, should no concession be made on this subject, permitted the Solicitor-General to bring in a bill, which,

after much delay, was passed and sent up to the Council on the 19th March. This bill contained one clause which would have nullified all the benefits to be derived from any other part of it, and was open to amendment in other particulars. It was very considerably modified in the Council, and possibly some of the amendments there made would not have been advantageous. But on its being returned to the House of Assembly, no further step was taken in the matter, and consequently the Council had no opportunity either to support or to recede from their amendments.

A Contingency Bill, a fac-simile of that rejected in the former session, was early passed, and sent up to the Council, which refused to entertain it until the Governor should be indemnified for the sums which he had ordered to be paid at the request of the House, on account of such part of these contingencies as had been agreed to by the Council.

These items were accordingly placed in a bill of indemnity, which received the Governor's assent at the close of the Session.

The remaining charges, to the amount of nearly £1,500, were subsequently placed in the general appropriation bill, which, as tacks, were decidedly inadmissible, and insured its rejection.

I confine my observations upon this session, which was concluded on the 26th of April, to these two points, because they were of the highest importance. Experience had demonstrated the absolute necessity of a new election law, without which the franchise could not be fully exercised, or the public tranquillity preserved : and the Governor had declared his determination not to proceed to an election under the existing system, without the direction of the supreme Government. With respect to the Appropriation Bill, this formed the second instance of the stoppage of the supplies, in the short period of four years ; and this, not on points connected with the public service, but for matters applicable to members of the House of Assembly, and their immediate dependants.

The recklessness of this proceeding on the part of a majority of an Assembly in which not more than ten or twelve members were present, cannot

be too much reprobated. Almost at the moment of prorogation, which was on the next day followed by a dissolution, advices were received that a committee of the House of Commons had been appointed to ascertain the state of Newfoundland. Addresses were made in consequence to the Governor for the issue of £300, to defray the expenses of a delegation from the House of Assembly, which was agreed to by the Council, on condition of a similar sum being granted for a delegation from that body. The House of Assembly also requested the Governor to apply £5,300 to the liquidation of claims on account of aged and infant paupers, to the support of the jails, and the administration of justice.

On the 24th of May the Governor and his family, accompanied by the Colonial Secretary, embarked for England, the Attorney-General taking his departure for the same destination on the following day. These two officials are appointed as the Deputation from the Council.

You will naturally ask me, what are, in my opinion, the existing evils in Newfoundland, and in what way they can be best corrected?

The first and greatest practical evil is in the

character of the Roman Catholic bishop, the intermeddling and unquiet nature of which is probably increased by resentment against the Governor, for the representations which his Excellency has occasionally been compelled to make against him. Had there been a Vicar Apostolic of a different disposition, I am well persuaded that the Colony would long since have been at peace. There is in fact no real subject of remonstrance on the part of the community, and the demagogues have great difficulty in finding even a plausible ground of complaint.

The remaining evils are—the want of any property-qualification on the part of representatives; the almost universal suffrage; the small number of districts; and the limited amount of members, the districts being nine, and the members fifteen. Of these, St. John's returns three, and Conception Bay four. Lastly, the very imperfect state of the election law, which permits the riotous to proceed from place to place for the creation of disturbance and obstruction of the proceedings, which may be extended probably over a period of thirty days. At the second

of the two elections in 1836, the superior gentry refrained from offering themselves as candidates, disgusted at the violence which had been practised at the first, and feeling that it was utterly hopeless to withstand the priestly influence exercised against them in those districts on which the majority of the House depended. The consequence was the return generally of people of less property than in the former House, and some of them of so low a description as to make one believe that they were elected in a spirit of burlesque. In proof of the feeling entertained by the better classes of our society, I may mention that the senior barrister of our courts, a gentleman of good fortune, who was a most useful member of the first House of Assembly, having been returned to the second without his previous knowledge or consent, has never taken his seat; and the two members of the very humblest class were returned by Protestant constituencies.

Under these circumstances, the actuating principle of the House of Assembly has been personal favor or personal resentment, combined with a desire to provide for themselves. It is not, what

will be a just remuneration for any particular service?—but, who will be its recipient? that is the consideration; and to such an extent is this carried, that even a constable has been deprived of his salary, to gratify the vindictive spirit of his neighbour, a member of the House; and another member having established a printing press and set up a newspaper, the printing of the House of Assembly was immediately transferred from the former printer, the editor of the Patriot, and given to him.

The little estimation in which a House of Assembly must be held, which is in great part composed of persons unknown in the better or upper classes of society, cannot fail to produce its effect upon the Council. In addition to this, almost every amendment made by that body upon bills sent up from the lower House, is resented as an invasion of privilege. The Council consequently abstain from the introduction of bills on their side, which they conclude would only produce additional contention; and for the last three or four years their proceedings may be termed negative, having for their object the prevention of mischief.

The cure of the first-named evil must, I presume, depend upon the court of Rome, under the observation of which it is supposed to have been brought. A property-qualification for members should be established, which ought to be of an amount to shut out the lowest class, without confining the representation to the highest. A residence in the Island of two years, with a fixed income of £100 a-year, or a positive, clear, unincumbered property in goods, lands, houses, or vessels, to the amount of £500, would probably be sufficient for this purpose.

The limitation of the franchise is a matter of much difficulty. In great part of the Colony, such a thing as a rented house is comparatively unknown; and there is neither rate, assessment, nor tax, upon which to found an uniform system. The present qualification is the occupation of any description of dwelling for twelve months; and this period might be advantageously doubled, by which means limitation to a certain degree would be effected, and many of those immigrants from the mother country, who after a time pass on to the North American Colonies or to the United States, and who consequently can feel no

interest in our prosperity, would be excluded from the register. The agents of mercantile establishments, hitherto excluded, should be considered as tenants of the houses inhabited by them, belonging respectively to the firms which they conduct ; and after having been two years occupants thereof, they should be eligible as voters, and of course as candidates for the representation, if otherwise qualified.

The registration law should be amended in two important particulars. First, what constitutes a tenement should be strictly defined as dependent upon its possessing an exclusive doorway communication with the street or road, so that no house should confer the franchise on more than one individual ; secondly, no discretion should be left to the returning officer for admission of persons to vote, whose names are not in the registered list. That list should be his only guide. The neglect of these principles has been productive of great inconvenience in our contested elections.

The districts should be more minutely divided, and the number of members increased ;

the former being made twenty-four, and the latter twenty-five—the capital returning two members.

The election law should be founded, with very little modification, upon the bill of the last session, as amended by the Council. In a general election, the nominations to take place universally on the same day. In case of a contest, the period of polling to be fixed, and confined to three days : sufficient polling places, with deputies under the returning officer, to be established in each district : no unregistered person to be permitted to vote.

All these objects may be easily attained, and with very little delay, by means of the Imperial Parliament. With the exception of the trifling limitation of the franchise, the proposed alterations may be considered rather as an extension than contraction of established rights. As far as human foresight can provide for the free and just exercise of the privilege of voting, it will be secured. If an irresistible influence can still be exercised in some places, it will at least be powerless in others.

While I consider that any further limitation of the franchise beyond that already stated, is not indispensable, and that if an evil can be corrected without a diminution of existing rights, it is the preferable mode of proceeding, I am nevertheless bound to admit, that many persons whose opinions are worthy of great attention, look upon additional restriction as a *sine qua non*, without which no good can be obtained.

Should this principle be adopted, I conceive that a combination must be made of household occupancy as tenant and freehold property in possession. A rental of £10 may be taken for the former in the town of St. John's, and of £5 in other places. The dense population of the capital making that difference a just relative distinction of value.

The Freehold Suffrage may be founded on possession of a house and the ground on which it stands, of the yearly value of forty shillings, or of cultivated land to the amount of twenty acres.

It may be necessary to make some allusion to the Council. This body is appointed by

the Sovereign ; its numbers are not positively limited, but it has hitherto consisted of nine members, though for a short period, owing to an accidental circumstance, they were increased to ten. Of these, four are *ex officio* members,—the commandant, attorney general, colonial secretary, and collector of customs ; of the remaining five, the colonial treasurer is at present one, three are or have been respectable merchants, and the other is a barrister.

The division of the Executive and Legislative Council into two councils, the one executive, the other legislative, as lately established in the neighbouring colonies, has of course its advocates here. It is a matter, however, which has not hitherto excited any particular interest, and it may safely be left for future decision. Should a respectable and full House of Assembly, really representing the people, hereafter advocate such a measure, doubtless Her Majesty's Government would give it full consideration. The small amount of gentlemen of property, renders an extension of the Council by no means of easy accomplishment ; but an Execu-

tive Council might be formed of the official members of the Legislative Council, joined to an equal number of members of the House of Assembly—the continuance of the latter in the Council being dependent on their retaining their seats in the Lower House. One improvement might, however, be immediately made. The first member of Council named in the Governor's commission, becomes of right its President. He is the officer commanding the garrison, *pro. tem.*, let his rank be what it may, and however frequent may be the changes in that post, from occasional absence on leave, or other causes.

This arrangement is in every respect inconvenient. The respectability of the Board is somewhat diminished by the repeated change of its President; legislative duties are foreign to the early habits and pursuits of many officers; they are consequently too often neglected; the senior member present presides for the day, and uniformity of system is not strictly preserved, from want of a regular head to enforce it. To obviate this, a staff-officer, of the rank

of colonel, should be appointed. He ought to be aware of the combination of civil and military duties, and he should be selected by the authorities at the Horse Guards, with a view to both. When absent from the place, his seat should remain vacant, like that of any other Councillor. This alteration would be obviously beneficial also in a military sense. The commanding officer being of much higher rank than those under his orders, would be respected accordingly; his influence would be greater, and his opinions more imposing, in the adjustment of those trifling differences which must occasionally occur in all societies.

The little jealousies and suspicions of preference arising from a Commandant being attached to a particular portion of the garrison, would also be avoided.

A few additional observations will complete my sketch of Newfoundland. Religious jealousies and apprehensions are greatly in the way of the establishment of a general system of education. These are by no means confined to the Catholics, who on the contrary appear to

me much more liberal and just on this subject than those of my own persuasion. A favorite project with many individuals of the Protestant faith is an equal division of such sums as may be appropriated by the Legislature for instruction—so that Protestant and Catholic schools may be separately established. Should this measure be ever carried into effect, religious distinctions will be still more closely defined than at present, and our youth, instead of being banded together in early habits of friendship, will grow up in mutual jealousy, dislike, and estrangement. Greatly as I value public instruction, I should think it too dearly purchased at such a price.

With respect to our revenue, that for the year ending with March 1841, was the greatest ever received. The duties had been a little increased in the session of 1840, and the gross amount for the specified period was nearly £40,000. In one week during last May, £2000 were paid into the Custom House. The present and progressive accumulation of funds will admit of great additions to roads, and

various other improvements, whenever the existing impediments to the well-working of our Constitution shall be removed.

A geological survey of the island has been made. It was not of so minute a description as might be desired by men of science, because both time and funds were wanting; but it has been practically useful in dispelling visionary ideas of our mineral resources. Limestone, fine marble, granite, and slate have been discovered, as also coal of a good quality, but this is not in a convenient situation for working under present circumstances.

A Norwegian savant, Dr. Stüwitz, Zoological Professor of the University of Christiana, deputed by that body and supported by his government, has for the last two years been pursuing scientific researches in our Island, and on its banks, at St. Pierre's, and on the coast of Labrador. From this learned foreigner, much information will be doubtless derived whenever the results of his labors shall be published.

In conclusion, I copy from a Newfoundland newspaper, an account of the procession for lay-

ing the foundation stone of a Roman Catholic Cathedral, in St. John's, on the 20th of May. Educated Catholics, will, I think, learn with as much surprise as Protestants, that such an exhibition should have been made in this enlightened age; and they will judge whether the man who could project and enforce such a procession at such a period, and in a community so constituted as ours, is calculated for the important post of Vicar Apostolic, or likely to allay our unhappy differences, and second any efforts on the part of Government for the promotion of concord and peace.

CROSS BEARER,

Wearing a purple sash on each shoulder, and supported by two Acolytes in white sashes.

The Band.

A banner, with a Painting of the Sovereign Pontiff, GREGORY XVI., borne by a person in a scarlet sash.

A mason carrying on a cushion, a square, trowel, and mallet, supported on the right and left by two masons bearing the ground plans and elevation of the Church.

A marble mason carrying plans of Altars.

Masons three and three.

Model of cathedral supported by four persons in purple
and white.

A painting of Father MATHEW the Apostle of Tem-
perance.

Tradesmen in general three and three.

A painting of the REDEEMER carried by a person wearing
a white sash.

Female children, three and three.

Christian Doctrine Society, three and three.

Boys, three and three.

A painting of St. PETER.

Fishermen, three and three.

Members of the Natives' Society.

Mechanics' Society, with their own banners, three and
three.

Painting of St. PATRICK.

Benevolent Irish Society, three and three.

A banner with a painting of DANIEL O'CONNELL.

Agriculturists three and three.

Gentlemen, three and three.

A Band.

A banner with a painting of the Queen.

Ladies, three and three.

Society of Blessed Virgin MARY, preceded by two
persons bearing a painting of the Blessed Virgin
MARY.

The choir, three and three.

A priest, carrying in his hands a copper box containing
the parchment with the inscriptions, coins, latest
periodicals, &c., and supported on the right and
left by two clergymen,

One bearing in his hands a vase filled with holy water,
and the other an Asperges.

Priests, two and two.

Lastly—the Bishop supported by two Priests.

I remain, my dear Friend,

Yours affectionately, &c.

THE END.

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