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THE WEEKLY EXPOSITOR,



AUDI ALTERAM PARTEM.

**OR REFORMER OF PUBLIC ABUSES,
AND RAILWAY AND MINING INTELLIGENCE.**

Vol. 1.]

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1846.

[No. 18.]

LITERATURE.

EIGHT YEARS IN CANADA, &c.

EMBRACING A REVIEW OF THE SEVERAL ADMINISTRATIONS OF LORDS DURHAM AND SYDENHAM, SIR CHARLES BAGOT, AND LORD METCALFE ;

And Dedicated to the Memories of THE FIRST AND LAST OF THESE DISTINGUISHED DEAD.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "ECARTE," &c.]

DE OMNIBUS REBUS ET QUIBUSDAM ALIIS.

[A difficulty of arrangement having occurred with the only two London publishers to whom the following pages have been submitted, the Author has decided on reversing the usual practice, and publishing in Canada first; thus affording that means of direct communication with other metropolitan publishers, which his absence from London renders a matter of much inconvenience. It will be borne in mind, therefore, by the Canadian reader, that what is now offered to his perusal, was intended for an English public.]

[Deposited at the Office of the Registrar of the Province.]

(CHAPTER X. CONTINUED.)

enjoyed at least this advantage—that being the only wearers of that inflammable symbol of womanhood—the petticoat—they were looked upon with all the interest that mystic garment, thinly scattered among the many thousand of wild men there assembled, could not fail to inspire. Plain women were at once transformed into good-looking; while these latter, in their turn, were invested by the willing imagination with every attribute of beauty, and enjoyed a triumph which, inasmuch as it was unprecedented, and can never since have been renewed, must, even at this hour, cause them to dwell with unmingled satisfaction on the "Three Day's Celebration," and ardently desire its repetition. Had one or two women whom I know, and whom I class as something more than human, suddenly appeared in the encampment at the close of the third day, one individual sentiment would have animated the hearts of the multitude, and they must have fallen down and worshipped them, as *chef d'œuvres* of the Divinity.

Among this moving mass, a great portion of which was within the precincts of what had constituted the defences of the fort, it was not easy to thread my way so as accurately to define its limits; however, with the assistance of some of my American friends, I accomplished the circuit. But with the exception of finding here and there the stumps of a few pickets, and following the traces of the slightly raised ground which had rested against them, there was no evidence of a fortification. Everything had been levelled, and the grass grew thickly over the whole of that surface which had once been a bed of clay—extinguishing our shells, and affording shelter from our shot.

The spot of greatest interest to me was that on, or within a few feet of which, our tent had been pitched. Here, it was obvious from various indications, had stood the powder magazine against which our fire had been unceasingly directed, and as I gazed on the surrounding scene, the contrast between the past and the present which had forced itself upon my mind from the outset, became more marked. There was something piquant too in resting and sleeping on the immediate ground on which had been concentrated the whole of our attempts at destruction, and on which, at that time, we should have deemed it the highest object of our ambition to set foot. Where had stood our batteries on the opposite banks, were to be seen three or four scattered dwelling-houses painted white, as most of the buildings in the town were, and the wood that had skirted the bank; and marked the road by which our heavy cannon had been dragged up, was now cut down, and fair fields and pastures greeted the eye in its stead, until the point was gained where had stood our encampment. Here again, instead of rude tents, or rather wigwams made, by the practised hands of the willing soldiery, from the boughs and bark of trees, which afforded us shelter during the siege, was now erected a portion of the town of Miami. This, as already described, was connected with the greater mass of

buildings on the right banks by an elevated bridge which, even while I gazed, was thronged with men and horses, passing to and fro as business or inclination demanded; and as the eye circumscribed its range, resting on the long line of steamers, with their gay flags hanging droopingly in the waveless air, and embraced the well constructed piers to which they were moored, my mind could not resist a certain melancholy and sentiment of regret, that these solitudes, in which some of the most stirring incidents of my life had occurred, should have been thus invaded and destroyed. I could have loved to have beheld every feature of this scene precisely in the order in which all had been exhibited on the several occasions when I had previously made acquaintance with them, but now everything was so changed, so civilized, that I regarded whatever met my eye with a feeling of bitter disappointment, scarcely exceeded by that which I experienced in remarking the striking change which had been effected in the character, dress and demeanor of those who had once been the lords of this wild and picturesque region. True, there was, notwithstanding, a certain interest excited in me, but that interest was not the result of what I saw, but what I vainly sought to discover. I loved the ground, not for what it was, but what it had been.

I had some desire to be re-introduced to General Harrison, whose prisoner I had been so many years previously, yet whom I had never since seen, and attained my object, through Governor Woodbridge, of Detroit, who made me the offer of an introduction. I found the "Hero of Tippecanoe" a very plain and unpretending person, whom one must have known to be a soldier before venturing to pronounce that he was such, yet who seemed pleased to meet with one who had been opposed to him in the battle, the celebration of which he was there to assist in. As the introduction took place while he was in his carriage, and waiting to see the several bands of delegates, guards, &c., to pass in review before him, our conversation was fortunately of a general character, so that I escaped much of the awkwardness that must have resulted from a detailed reference to the occurrences of the 5th May, 1813. I was the more pleased that no particular allusion to the subject should have been made by him, as I had expected would have been the case, because as the General was to address the people, I was the more willing to hear his version of the story as he intended narrating it to them.

A platform, some ten or twelve feet high, had been erected in the very centre of what had been the fort, and at one o'clock precisely General Harrison, attended by many old officers—one or two of these sharers in his earlier campaigns—ascended it and addressed the auditory. A meridian sun was casting down its scorching rays upon the heads of tens of thousands, from whose brows the perspiration ran literally in streams, yet who, even amid the close pressure to which, wedged in as they were, and overtopping each other as some slight declivity in the ground permitted, all were more or less subjected, preserved a quiet and decorum of conduct worthy of the utmost admiration. Before General Harrison commenced, one or two of his supporters and military friends addressed the meeting, and they naturally gave a most vivid and one-sided description of the victory obtained on that very ground on which all were then congregated. Hurrahs, and cheers, and waving of flags, and shrill soundings of triumph attested the delight of their excited hearers, and "Tippecanoe and Tyler too"—words which had been shouted at least a thousand times a day since the first agitation of the question "who shall be President," again rent the air from some twenty or thirty thousand parched and husky throats. But when the General came forward this excitement was, even amid the order which prevailed, greatly increased. This lasted a few minutes, and then the utmost stillness prevailed.

The old warrior was habited in a plain frock-coat of home-made cloth, of the light description usually worn in summer, nankeen waistcoat and trousers, and a dark straw hat; his whole appearance being that of one who, as was indeed the fact, had, Cincinnatus-like, been taken from the plough to preside over the destinies of a confiding people. He had removed his hat, and, as he held in his hand an umbrella, which slightly cooled while it protected him from the ardent rays of the sun, his venerable, grey, and scanty hair, attenuated features, and stooping person, seemed to claim a respect and attention which a mere youthful candidate for popular favor might not have commanded. His speech was a very long one, and treated of a variety of subjects, which were touched upon with a modesty

that well merits to be recorded. He began by disclaiming the vanity of assuming to himself the possession of the qualities necessary to enable him to discharge with efficiency the high trust which his countrymen were desirous of reposing in him, and stated that, in yielding to the urgent entreaties which had been used to induce him to come forward as a candidate for the important and responsible office of President of the United States, he had done violence to his own inclinations, which had rather led to the continuance of enjoyment of those rural pursuits from which he had been taken, than to the turmoil of public life. He reiterated his conviction that he had been selected by his countrymen, not so much for any fitness to fill the office which had been flatteringly tendered to him, as because his name and political principles were deemed of advantage to their cause.

Among other topics, he naturally reverted to those services which had rendered him so popular with his countrymen. This part of his discourse was of course replete with interest to me, and I listened, fully prepared to hear, from his own lips, a repetition of all that had been been ascribed to him by the previous speakers. But nothing of the kind met my ear, and I must do General Harrison the justice to say that no man could have evinced less egotism on the subject of his military services than he did. In fact, he scarcely alluded to his victory "over the British," but principally referred to the neglect which he, as well as other old officers of the United States army, who had, at an earlier period of American history, fought under General Wayne, had experienced at the hands of the Government; and in deprecating this injustice, he pledged himself that when he should be called to the Presidential chair, as he could not after the present demonstration doubt he should be, to remove the evil. When he had concluded, he shook hands with many of the rough yeomen who pressed forward to obtain the honor, and then descended to his carriage, which was drawn towards the town, followed by the dense mass, ploughing up the hot dust which lay some inches thick on the road in so abominable a manner that, long after they had passed, it hung like an impenetrable veil in the atmosphere, and shut out the town wholly from the view of those who remained in the encampment.

But the most startling feature in this jubilee was enacted on the second night after our arrival. Oppressed with heat, and fatigued with witnessing proceedings which excited in me neither curiosity nor interest, I had, at an early hour, thrown myself upon my buffalo skin in the tent, which had then no tenant but myself, and was meditating on the humbug of the whole "celebration," when I heard several sharp cracks of the rifle, which, momentarily increasing in number, were answered by the independent fire of musketry, occasionally broken in upon by volleys, and by discharges from one or two field-pieces I jumped up, and thrusting my head through the opening of the tent, beheld a sight that did indeed recal to me the scenes of the past. The whole of the side of the camp which bordered on the ravine where we had constructed our light battery, had suddenly assumed an appearance of great brilliancy, as if the largest description of fire-flies were playing in myriads around, while the cries of combatants and the report of fire-arms, reverberating through the woods and multiplied by echo, gave an air of *vraisemblance* to the manner of an Indian night attack, which amply repaid me for what previous disappointment I had experienced. The only thing wanting was the correct delivery of the scalp-cry, which I had often heard in my youth, and had faithfully retained in memory.

It was not difficult to surmise, as proved to be the fact, that this was a sham-fight, intended to commemorate that through which we had, on a former occasion, attempted to draw the enemy from the same defences. A number of young Americans had secretly prepared themselves for the occasion, and disguised in paint and blankets, with handkerchiefs on their heads, had taken their position near the point where we had remained secreted during the movement of the Indians under Tecumseh, and extending themselves generally, under cover of the darkness, had formed a semicircle around the tents. Upon this, they, at a given signal, commenced an attack which was promptly met in the manner I have described. Nothing in the shape of a battle has to me a greater interest than the beautiful effect of small arms, when the gloom of night is invaded by the fitful and larid flashings they send forth, accompanied, as they ever are, by reports, whose multiplied reverberations fall upon the ear with a distinctness, almost with a character, that seems to result from the general slumber and stillness of nature alone.

To the victors themselves this mimic representation of scenes long since enacted, could not have imparted half the interest it produced in me. They had never practised that part they were thus seeking to describe, while I, on the contrary, with an imagination vividly impressed, recurred to it more forcibly as each war-cry was shouted, and each rifle discharged. What contributed to favor the delusion was the gloom of the evening, which while it hid from view the white and staring edifices in the distance, brought the river and adjacent forest dimly under observation. This sham fight lasted for about an hour, when the British and Indians being (by proxy) "considerably well whipped," the Americans ceased firing, and I went to console myself for the defeat by partaking of the hospitality of the Buffalo Guards in whose charge were the field pieces that had just been used.

On the afternoon of the third day, the convention having terminated, tents were everywhere being packed up preparatory to departure, and all the bustle, without much of the regularity of movement of an army about to change its ground, was apparent. Our own was one of the last tents struck, but it was very speedily and correctly done. Our hampers and provision baskets, which were originally filled with good things being now quite empty, and consequently forming a very light portion of the "camp stock," were thrust unceremoniously into the bullock waggon that again had been called into requisition for the transport of our baggage, and that night we again embarked in the small steamer in which we had left Toledo. We did not, however, owing to the intricacy of the navigation by steamer, leave until the following morning. About mid-day we were again on board the steamer that brought us across the lake, and our consorts being ready, we took our leave of General Harrison, who proceeded on a different route, and with our gay colors still flying, and our bands of music fully engaged for the amusement of the party, made the best of our way back to Detroit.

CHAPTER XI.

During the few days I remained in Detroit, after my return from Fort Meigs, an accident happened which had nearly disconcerted my plans of travelling to the centre of the Province.

The fourth regiment of United States Artillery were quartered in the town, and with the officers of this corps I passed nearly as much of my time, as I did with the gentleman at whose house I was an immediate visitor. They were a pleasant hospitable set of fellows, and Colonel Fannin, who commanded them, possessed a soundness of information and conversational powers of a very high order. He had seen a good deal of service; was a captain in command of the artillery, at the capture by the Americans of Fort Erie in 1813, and had passed a great portion of his after life in the inhospitable and unhealthy region of Florida, from which indeed his regiment had only recently been returned. The utmost harmony and unanimity existed among the officers, all of whom were men of good education and manners, and it was particularly gratifying to observe the respect, without adulation, with which they regarded their gallant and estimable colonel while he, on the other hand, ever treated them with a kindness and indulgence which lost none of its value from his scrupulous exactness of the performance of their military duties. There was nothing of that servile cringing and self debasement—that apprehension to express an opinion, contrary to that pronounced by the commanding officer,—which so often is to be found in our own service, and which, when practised to the extent I have sometimes remarked, assimilates the position of an officer of inferior rank more to the condition of a base and fawning slave, than to one placed on a perfect equality, by the commission of the Sovereign, with the proudest dignitaries of the land. And yet, I do not remember a single instance, during my frequent visits to their mess table, where the propriety or decorum of conduct, tacitly exacted by the presence of their commander, was ever lost sight of by an officer of the 4th regiment of United States artillery. I feel a deep pleasure in thus alluding to them, not only by reason of the marked civility I had ever received at their hands, but because I was, at the time, most forcibly impressed with the almost brotherly feeling which subsisted between all ranks from the colonel down to the youngest officer; and had wished that, if I ever had the good fortune to be in permanent command of a regiment, such unanimity might be the model on which our social relations should be based.

Falling into the general habit of the country, the officers of this regiment dined about two o'clock, and thus had full leisure to enjoy the long and beautiful evenings peculiar to an American summer, which, from their comparative coolness, compensate for the previous intense heat of the day. Some walked—some rode—these, more or less, enjoying the society of the very charming and accomplished women with which Detroit in a marked manner abounds; while others, too indolent either to ride, walk, or flirt, preferred adjourning from the mess table to the drawing room, and there with closed verandahs, admitting just enough of light for the purpose, discussing the intricacies of whist, aided by the very acceptable stimulant of a mint julep (such as Wooster of the 4th alone could concoct) a cold and delicious sherry cobbler, or a more exciting cock-tail, as the taste or caprice of the individual might desire.

On the third or fourth afternoon of my return to the city, I had dined with the colonel, and was in the middle of a rubber with him and two other officers—Wooster brewing his exquisite mint julep for the players—when some one entered the room, stating that a fire had broken out at Windsor, on the Canadian shore, and was then raging so furiously, the wind having suddenly risen, as to threaten destruction to the entire village. This was alarming intelligence to me for, since leaving my den at Sandwich, I had taken lodgings at the principal hotel at Windsor, and while my baggage was strewed about the rooms of this, my ponies were left in the stable under no other surveillance than that of my tiger, whose youth and general thoughtlessness prevented me from

placing much confidence in him. To add to my inquietude, it was stated that, from the direction of the fire, it was tolerably certain the hotel in which I had taken my apartments was the house then burning, and nearly obscured in smoke. Of course there was an immediate end put to whist and mint juleps for the present, and accompanied by the great brewer of the latter,—an excellent fellow who had got me safely out of an affair, in which Thellor had interfered, and proposed to be settled with rifles of a ninety to the pound bullet calibre, only a few days before,—made the best of my way to the ferry, the small steamer of which was just on the point of crossing when we arrived.

There was no question as to the quarter whence the fire proceeded. The smoke came in black and curling volumes from the direction of the hotel, and I suffered an anxiety which may well be supposed in one whose all was, in a great degree, at stake. My only hope was that the boy might have had the good sense to have caused my baggage to be removed the moment the alarm of fire had been given, but even this expectation was a very faint one, for knowing as I did his propensity to play the truant during my absence, I could scarcely "lay the flattering unction to my soul" that he was not absent on the present occasion. As we advanced across the river, a gulf of wind blew in a contrary direction and revealed in flames, not the hotel, although it had been so long enshrouded in smoke, but the barn or stable immediately behind it, in which were my unfortunate ponies. My distress at this was even greater than what I had previously entertained: I had become so attached to my horses that I could not endure even the thought of parting from them, therefore the idea of their perishing in this dreadful manner was not one calculated much to soothe me. As we neared the landing place, one vast sheet of flame burst from the now completely enveloped barn, which, fed by the straw and hay with which it was filled, tossed its large flakes into the air as if in proud rejoicing at the havoc it was creating. Still I saw no vestige of my ponies, no tiger to inform me whether they were saved or destroyed. Some person, however, from the hotel, recognizing me, ran down to the boat as she drew up to the wharf, and called out to me not to be alarmed, as my boy had, in the most courageous manner, saved both ponies and harness, and was then occupied in securing them in another stable. This certainly was a great relief, and I felt a degree of gratitude to the boy, so much the stronger in proportion to the injustice I was sensible I had been guilty of towards him. Hastily stepping on the wharf and following my informant, I went to the stable named by him and was not a little delighted to see the ponies eating their hay as calmly as though nothing had occurred to disturb them. Of course, my tiger was very garrulous, and very proud of his conduct, as he fully merited to me, and gave me an account of what he had done for the rescue.

It appeared that I was not far wrong in assuming him to have been at play with the young idlers of the village, but this circumstance had, in all probability, saved the ponies. They had assembled near the barn, which was far enough from the house not to have drawn early attention to the accident, and my boy chanced to be the first to observe the outburst of the fire. He immediately, with great presence of mind, forced open the door, and while the flames were ascending at a distant part of the barn, ran into the stalls of the ponies, which were rather near the entrance, and untying their halters led them forth without resistance on their part; and having removed and tied them, once more returned and succeeded in saving every portion of his harness, with the exception of one or two unimportant straps, which were soon and easily replaced. My waggon, which lay at some distance in the yard adjoining the barn, then was rapidly consuming, had been removed without difficulty, and had sustained no injury. That evening, on my return to my friends of the 4th, I renewed my rubber and the mint juleps, with a gusto not at all diminished by the fortunate escape of the day.

It was now the close of June, and although the weather was extremely warm, as indeed it ever is in the West about that season of the year, I began to make preparations for my departure. Having, however, no fancy to renew the misery of my "Long Woods" journey, I resolved to change my route altogether, and instead of returning by Lake St. Clair and Chatham, to take the road bordering on Lake Erie; and thus, by performing a sort of circle of about a hundred miles in extent, until arriving at what are called "the five stakes," where the roads again meet on their way downwards, not only to escape the monotony of going over ground already traversed, but of seeing more of the country. My heavy baggage was therefore shipped on board one of Mr. Dougall's vessels, then about to sail for the East, for its ultimate destination, and that which I retained as indispensable to the comforts of a journey which was not intended to be a very hurried one, was so disposed, as well as other conveniences intended for the road, that the mode of arrangement requires, in justice to my inventive genius, a passing notice.

The body of my waggon I have elsewhere stated to have been an oblong square box, about two feet deep; and to the back and front of this I had caused two packing cases, each nine inches in depth, to be fitted, of precisely corresponding size. These, with hinges, and straps that were secured by small iron padlocks, were secured to their several places by means of strong straps, passing through staples screwed on to the body of the waggon. Both—the one containing my wife's apparel, the other my own—rested on ledges that

protruded from the back and front, and fitted, when properly strapped on, so closely to the waggon, like which they were painted, that it was difficult for a stranger to know that they did not absolutely form a part of it. Nothing could be more perfect than this arrangement which, moreover, afforded abundance of room inside the waggon, already sufficiently filled in the following manner.

My past experience having induced in me but little desire to frequent the "houses of accommodation" along the road more than well could be avoided, I had determined, as the season was fine, to enter them only at night, and leave them on the following morning as soon as we had breakfasted. Accordingly, I had another oblong square box divided into compartments, and of sufficient depth to contain a ham, three or four fowls, a tongue and all corresponding et ceteras; and in order to admit the air to this, without at the same time giving ingress to the flies which abounded, I had lined the lid, which was perforated with numerous augur holes, and fastened like the cases with a padlock, with a coarse stiff green gauze, through which the air found easy entrance. This box was made wide enough to fit closely across the bottom of the waggon, where it formed a resting place for the feet. A second small case contained dishes, plates and drinking cups, as well as a pitcher, with which to supply ourselves with water when, dining under the shade of some tall and umbrageous tree. Nor were other comforts forgotten, I had purchased and filled a five gallon cask with excellent cider—a delicious beverage when oppressed by thirst in travelling—and a few bottles of wine and brandy, with a moderate portion of good cigars, and all this, to be renewed as required, composed our travelling stock.

Thus provided, I commenced my journey, and in a manner that "astonished" even "the natives." Without my being made aware of the fact, the mare had been in foal when I purchased her in Montreal, and she had thrown a colt about a month previously. This addition to my family had occasioned me a good deal of annoyance at the time of its occurrence, and believing that it was utterly impossible for a creature of that tender age to perform the journey I meditated—nearly five hundred miles—I had half formed the resolution to destroy it, but the little thing was so full of life and spirit, in short so much resembled her dam, that I had not the heart to give the order for its removal, but finally decided that it should take its chance on the road, particularly as it would have a guard and companion in my faithful and noble Hector, the splendid Newfoundland dog to whom I have already alluded, and with whom it was on the best of terms.

Thus started the caravan—for it could scarcely be called anything else—from Windsor, the whole forming a tableau that had more of the useful than the ornamental about it. The people, as we passed, ran to the doors to admire the ponies, the curs ran after the colt, whom they seemed not much to admire, and Hector ran after, and upset right and left, the curs who had the temerity to insult his little friend and charge. The whole route through the villages and more densely settled parts of the country was marked by much the same confusion, and it was only as we passed through some thick wood, or extensive valley, that our four-footed followers were allowed to proceed in peace.

The journey, along the lake shore especially, was really delightful. Although the heat of the day was great, and the musquitoes as teasing as they were abundant, we had generally the advantage of a gentle breeze from the lake shore, which blew balmy and fresh as the liquid plain over which it rolled. Between two and three o'clock in the day, when its sultriness was at its height and the air partially stilled, my search was directed for some green and shaded spot, where our usual halt was to be made, and when this could be made in the neighbourhood of a farm-house, or near a stream of running water, it was invariably taken possession of, without much regard to the meum or teum right of the property thus invaded. Generally, however, we stopped as near the road side as possible, and on one or two occasions on the border of the lake itself. Some amusing scenes were the result of this gipsy mode of travelling, and among others the following:

One beautiful day, after quitting the Talbot District, and gaining the high road leading through the Township of Mersea, in Essex, we found ourselves about the usual hour between a continuous chain of fences skirting the highway, and offering no other shelter than what was afforded by a few fruit trees overhanging the latter. We chose the neighborhood of an orchard where a number of thickly planted cherry trees, teeming with fruit which was, at that time, in its full perfection of ripeness, promised us the shade we wanted, while from the farm house which adjoined we could obtain the necessary water for our horses. I accordingly drove up to the side of the road, under cover of the cherry trees, and as there was some fresh and inviting grass crowning a small elevation formed by the gradually sloping side of what had once been a ditch, we here alighted, and having, much to the surprise of those whom business or curiosity drew along the road, opened our provision-box and spread out our ham, fowls, &c., we did ample justice to our dinner, while my tiger, who had taken the ponies to some little distance, and under cover of the same shade, gave them their oats, a feed of which was always placed in the waggon on starting in the morning.

from the place at which we passed the night. While thus discussing our mid-day meal, occasionally moistened with a draught of the cool and thirst-slaking cider, and looking at the tempting cherries above us—much in the same spirit with which an *habitué* of the classic precincts of St. Giles discusses his potatoes and point, a waggon drove up in which were several persons, and among others one who proved to be the proprietor of the farm house near us. This man jumping out, and approaching us, made a low bow, saying at the same time, "Pray, Sir, may I be so bold as to ask where you come from, where you are going to, and what you are doing?" This was out-Jonathaning Jonathan with a vengeance, and I looked up to see more particularly what sort of an animal my questioner was. I beheld nothing remarkable in his features but an expression of very surpassing impudence, which, being in no mood to gratify his curiosity, I in some degree checked by slowly repeating his words, and inquiring "if indeed it would particularly interest him to know where I came from, whither I was going, and what I was doing?" He said that it would, for that no stranger ever passed that way without his making it a point of inquiring his business in that neighborhood. I kept my temper, while I replied, that if other people chose to be silly enough to gratify his impertinent curiosity, I certainly did not intend to do so, and therefore he need not give himself further trouble on the subject. This little colloquy had of course taken place within hearing of those in the waggon, who seemed amazed to see one, who I afterwards found was considered to be the bully of the neighborhood, put down by a carivan driver or pedlar, for aught they knew to the contrary: and much whispering and shrugging of the shoulders ensued. My hero, evidently crest-fallen at the non-success of his inquisitorial power, now joined his companions, and while I was smoking the luxurious weed which ever crowned my frugal dinner, a gentlemanly looking young man, who had been a distant observer of the scene, came up, and addressing me by name, apologized for the rude behaviour of the person who had just left me, and stated that it was a practice with him to annoy every one who passed in the same way. I thanked Mr. Ambridge, who was the Postmaster of the township, for his attention, in seeking thus to explain what in some degree reflected unfavorably on his immediate neighborhood, but observed to him, I had experienced no annoyance whatever; but had rather derived amusement from the consequential language and bearing of my unceremonious interrogator. I promised as soon as the horses were put to, and our journey of the day resumed, to call at his house, about half a mile further on our route, and he left us to return home.

A few minutes afterwards, and while eating some of the tempting-looking cherries which I had despatched my tiger to purchase, the waggon returned, and the Grand Inquisitor again jumped out. He did not however, venture to renew his questions to me, but playing with a roll of papers which he held in his hand, and which in some degree gave him the appearance of being the *savant* of the village, or rather settlement, approached his own house, about twenty yards distant from us, and in a tone of much condescension said as he passed, and addressing a lad who stood near, and who had gathered the cherries for us, "I cannot learn who these people are, or where they come from, or where they are going to, or indeed anything about them, but if they choose to send in for any clover for their horses, they may have some; or if they like any milk for themselves, there is plenty, and they can have it; not indeed that I intend to make any charge for the accommodation which I offer them."

Now, all this latter part of his discourse was exceedingly fair, as far as expression went, but we had been put sufficiently on our guard by Mr. Ambridge, and had too much penetration ourselves not to perceive that the object was to obtain through an affected kindness, that gratification of his curiosity in regard to our names and business in the neighbourhood, which had been refused to his abrupt demand. I therefore took no notice of his remark, but desiring my boy, who had now finished his dinner, to put the ponies to the waggon, performed my portion of the day's duty by packing up the remnants of the "feast" in their several compartments in the box, and lifting it, cider-keg, cushions, cloaks, &c., into the vehicle. Hector, who lay at some little distance, eating the fragments of the dinner which were appropriated to himself, did not seem half to like the appearance of the Grand Inquisitor, and the occasional growl which escaped him, as that personage still lingered near watching our movements, led me to fear he would eventually get me into a serious scrape. Fortunately, however, hostilities were not declared in form, and shortly afterwards the re-invigorated ponies dashed off under their accustomed weight, leaving the "tormented" to mutter audibly as we drove off, "Although they won't tell who they are, they are glad enough to take shelter under my trees." And no doubt we were, for nine days at least, the subject of his abusive gossip to all upon whom he was in the habit of inflicting it.

The journey downward was so completely a transcript of the journey upward, with the exception of our humble dinners which, eaten as they so frequently were, under the incentive of a keen appetite sharpened by fatigue, and in some shady spot where every variety of verdant foliage played around us, that it can scarcely be necessary to dwell upon it. One discovery we, however made in domestic economy, which it may not be unimportant

to reveal, for the information of those who are interested in the science. At London we passed several days with the amiable and hospitable family of Colonel Askin, a short distance out of the town, and immediately opposite to Col. Hamilton's with whom, it will be recollected, I had sojourned on my way up in the earlier part of the year. On the morning of our departure from the residence of the former gentleman, Mrs. Askin had added to our stock of *comestibles*, which had here been re-supplied, some raspberries and cream, which she justly thought might, as the day was particularly hot, prove highly acceptable as a dessert to our lunch or dinner. We passed over some rather rough and corduroy road, and were so well shaken into an appetite, that when the usual time arrived I was glad to draw up my horses beneath a splendid oak which threw its majestic shadows temptingly around, empty the waggon, spread the cloaks, and draw forth the provender from its place of confinement. When this had been discussed, we proceeded to our raspberries and cream, but so effectually had the corduroy roads performed that office which is usually effected by means of much patience and manual labor, that, on opening the bottle in which the cream had been deposited, we found in its stead some excellent butter, which, however, *hors de saison* with the bruised and bleeding raspberries, might if we had ventured to taste it, have proved an excellent accompaniment to our cheese. This hint should not be lost. All farmers wives desirous of saving the expense of churns, and the trouble and time necessary to bring their butter to perfection, have simply to fill a few empty jars with milk, place them in the waggons in which they wend their daily way to market, choosing, of course, those roads where there is most jolting, and on their return home at night they will find their butter made, without effort. How this is to be extracted, if the jars are provided with necks, I leave it to themselves to discover. I only undertake to point out in what manner butter is to be made on a corduroy road, in Canada.

I have already said there was amusement in "astonishing the natives," not only with my hearse looking waggon and ponies, that looked, from the contrast, even smaller than they actually were, but with the other travelling members of my family—namely my large Newfoundland dog, and the active and high mettled colt, with whom Hector seemed to have formed not only a durable friendship, but an alliance defensive and offensive. Whenever the latter, guided by the instinct of fun and frolic, put back her ears and dashed into a flock of sheep or geese feeding by the roadside, the dog was sure to follow up the attack, and on more than one occasion I feared least the exasperated owner should lodge a bullet in his brain, and thus stop his gambolling for ever. On the other hand, whenever some surly cur or mastiff would pounce forward at the colt, not only would the latter kick out at her assailant, in the most furious manner but with a whining cry, evidently understood by its colleague, call upon him to the rescue. The appeal was never made in vain, and a sound drubbing to the offender was generally the result. On one occasion Hector had nearly got both himself and me into a serious scrape. We had stopped for the night, I think at Ingersoll, at an inn, the landlord of which did not seem to me to be the most amiable person in the world, and while my tiger was busied in putting up and disposing of his horses, the epicurean taste of master Hector was tempted by the appearance of a rabbit confined in a wooden cage, the door of which was but imperfectly closed. The difference between a wild rabbit and a tame one was almost as much unknown to the dog, as that of the right of property, and he paused not to consider to whom it belonged, or whether it came under the strict denomination of game. He made a dash at the door of the cage, seized the poor animal, and crunched it between his capacious jaws. Now all this might have been kept a secret until the following morning, when we should have been far removed from the indignation of the landlord, but it unfortunately happened that, in its last agony, the rabbit uttered a shrill shriek which immediately drew its owner to the yard in which the murder had been perpetrated, and there he beheld the guilty Hector with his victim in his mouth, and in all probability preparing to satisfy, with its delicate carcass, that hunger which his long journey that day had created in him. Thus caught in *flagrante delicto*, there was no pretext for evasion, and the first intimation I had of the mischief which had been done, was when, at the moment of my issuing from the stable which I had visited for the purpose of seeing my horses littered down, I saw a broomstick descending upon the head of the dog, who seemingly conscious of his guilt, dropped the rabbit and ran crouching towards me. But the fury of the landlord was not expended. He swore fearfully, not only at the dog, but at all who brought dogs with them to the house, and declared that he would shoot him that instant. Still cursing and storming, he entered the house in search of his gun, but fortunately could not find it, while I, taking advantage of the delay, led the dog to the bedroom that had been assigned to me, and thrusting him in locked the door, and put the key in my pocket. Returning to the landlord, I apologized for the destruction of his pet, attributed it to the instinct which it was impossible to subdue, and offered to pay him whatever he conceived to be a suitable recompense for the

loss of the rabbit. But the more I sought to pacify him, the more boisterous he became, nor was it until the following morning, when sleep had in some degree cooled the fumes of passion, that he listened to reason—accepted my apologies (money he refused,) and finally forgave the erring Hector.

But Hector, although but too often guilty, was once unjustly accused, and experienced all that obloquy which attaches to a dog that has the misfortune to have a bad name. Colonel Prince, who, I have already remarked, is a great amateur of field sports, and loves, moreover, to people his grounds with such birds and beasts as can be domesticated—the stately and graceful wild turkey being of the former—had a number of very fine rabbits, which were, however, nightly destroyed by an animal that was cunning enough to delay his nocturnal visits until the family had all retired to rest. On one occasion the Colonel was awakened by the noise made by the intruder into the warren, and rising and seizing his gun, beheld a large white dog slowly retiring. He might have easily shot him, but believing him to be my dog, and knowing how much I valued him* he had the generosity to refrain, and satisfied himself with calling the next day, denouncing the delinquent, and requesting that he might be kept tied up at night. It was in vain that he was told that it was perfectly impossible Hector could have been the destroyer of the rabbits, as he always slept in my own room, and never left it until I rose to dress in the morning. The Colonel could not be convinced. He had particularly remarked the dog, which was a large one with black spots on a white ground, and knew of no other in the neighbourhood which resembled him. Some time elapsed. The rabbits still disappeared, and the Colonel watched more closely. At length he beheld the intruder again, but a doubt having crossed his mind as to his identity, he examined more attentively, and found that the animal was smaller than my dog, and of a different figure. A hasty glance, in the deceptive moonlight, had led to his former error; and now all scruple being removed, he either shot him himself, or desired one of his people to do so. The dog belonged to an individual residing in what is called the Irish Settlement, some distance in the rear of the Park Farm, and used to travel thus far to enjoy the delicacy of a rabbit. I was not sorry to find that the gallant Colonel had had an opportunity of fully undeceiving himself, for Hector had too often accompanied me, when partaking, after a hard day's sporting, of the excellent "home brewed" that was liberally tendered, not to suffer all the deserved oilium of deep ingratitude, in thus repaying the hospitality extended to his master in the parlour, and to himself in the kitchen.

Such was Hector, and his companion the colt was no less a character in her way. On our arrival at Toronto, the little creature, which had commenced its journey at a month old, and had now traversed three hundred miles of road, not only drank water, but ate its oats, with the same eagerness with its older and more practised companions. It was curious enough, that whenever the ostler appeared with a measure in his hand, to hear her whinnying and scraping the floor of the stable with the utmost impatience until her portion had been given. This addiction to water and oats, even while sucking the mother, was considered so singular that they even who were the most conversant with the habits of horses, expressed the utmost astonishment on witnessing the fact. It being the period of the races, and the stable where I had put up the ponies being owned by the proprietor of several racers, there was of course a constant influx of men into it of men connected with the turf, and my little steeds were naturally to them, from the scarcity of the breed in Upper Canada, a subject of some interest. Without a single exception, all who I heard remarking on the circumstance, admitted they had never known or heard of an instance of a colt of that tender age even touching oats, much less devouring them in the impatient manner they had witnessed. It was confidently predicted, however, that not only the growth of the animal would be checked thereby, but that she would lose her hoofs. Neither the one nor the other evil, however, resulted. Indeed, but for the taste it had acquired for hard food, the colt never could have performed the journey. On reaching our final destination, it was just two months old, and had travelled upwards of five hundred miles of ground, the journaes being from five-and-twenty to forty miles a day.

An amusing occurrence took place at a later period, when, on leaving Toronto and approaching Kingston, we came within sight of the village of Napanee, on the River Trent. We had stopped about a mile from this, for the purpose of dining as usual under the shade of a tall tree, and were already engaged in our meal, when a person came up driving a team of broken-kneed horses that had counted more summers than they could ever hope to see again. He stopped his waggon near my own own, and then advancing to the ponies, which were feeding at some little distance, began to examine them with an air of much interest and curiosity. At length, when he had completed his inspection, he drew near to me, and throwing the handle of his whip across his arm, and squirting his tobacco juice some yards, not exactly in front of him, but rather on one side, commenced in a drawling voice, which at once betokened him to be, if not exactly a Yankee, of Yankee extraction, to question me as follows:—

* I had given ten pounds currency for him in Quebec.

"Well, now, Mister, them is nice little horses of yours. I should'nt care much to swop mine agin em, if you'd give me something to boot."

"I guess you would'nt have much objection," I replied, "but I have no great desire to swop with you."

"Well, I guess," he resumed, "my horses would suit your purpose better. They'd draw your wan better."

"That may be," I returned, "but I have no great fancy to deprive you of such serviceable animals. I am quite contented with these."

"You may say they are good uns," he pursued, "I guess that white un is a buster. But still I don't care if I swop, because I want them ere litte critters."

"Do you indeed: I guess though I like them too, and once for all, we don't swop, so there's an end of the matter."

"Ah! they're part of the show, I suppose," said the fellow, squirting his fragrant tobacco juice once more. "May I be so bold as to ask what you have got in that wan," and he turned and nodded his head towards it.

"All kinds of strange animals," I returned, "and that colt and dog you see there are the principal performers. They can play all sorts of tricks."

"Indeed," exclaimed the man, arching his eyebrows, "so I guessed."

"Now, I'll tell you what it is, my good friend, I think you can render me a service if you will do it. Are you going into the village?"

"I guess I am," he replied, "that is my hum" (home).

"Then will you, as you go along, apprise the people that there is a show coming into the village, and that it will stop at the tavern near the bridge. I should like to have a good audience, and you might help a poor fellow to make some money. If you do, you shall have a free admission for yourself and sweetheart, if you have one."

The yahoo seemed delighted, and promising, as he once more repaired to his team, to let the whole village know what was coming after him, flourished his whip, and succeeded in getting his unladen steeds into a jog trot.

In the course of an hour we had dined, and followed him into the village, and from the anxious and curious faces we beheld staring at us as we passed, from almost every door-way, it was easy to perceive that our arrival had been heralded by our acute Yankee friend. We, however, deemed it prudent, with a view of avoiding importunity and annoyance, not to stop in Napanee as we had originally intended, but to pass on to the first respectable-looking inn we should find, some eight or ten miles further on, thus disappointing the good people of the village of their anticipated treat. What had greatly tended to the belief that my waggon was provided with the indispensables of a show, was the circumstance of the annual migratory circus, which comes from the United States, and traverses almost the whole of the Upper Province, taking vast sums of money out of the country, having preceded me only a day or two. It was doubtless supposed that I was either a sort of "camp-follower," and entrusted with the exhibition of the least important of the "animals," or going business on my own "hook," as an humble satellite of the great caravan.

In the early part of July we reached Brockville, the place of our future residence, and I confess I felt more like a man going to be hanged, than one about to enter on the possession of a property which, however incomplete in many respects, had at least the much coveted advantage of privacy and quiet. My life, however had ever been so completely one of excitement, and I had been so much in the habit of roaming unfettered about the world, that the idea of burying my self in this secluded spot, to which I felt myself tied down by the act of purchase, had in it something appalling, and I can safely say that, during upwards of two years of my residence on it, I never was a single day utterly free from a vague and indefinable lowness of spirits which, I am convinced, arose from my painful sense of the imprisonment I had doomed myself to undergo. It was however vain to repine, and since I could not recal the excessive and inconsiderate folly which had led to my purchase of the property, I even resolved to make the most of circumstances, and bury myself alive.

Contrary to the promises made to me by the person from whom I bought it, and the declaration of my very dear friend Colonel —, that he would take great care to see everything was properly arranged before my return, (and this I had stated would be about the present period,) not one of the several alterations, which it had been agreed should be made during my absence, had been attended to. Not, however, that those portions of the soil which were susceptible of bearing fruit, and which constituted about five acres out of the fourteen, had been left untilled. On one side appeared a large patch of oats, nearly ready for the sickle; and on the other, an equal proportion of oats and field-peas, in the same state of forwardness. Between this, in the true Yankee taste of the planter, were to be seen, interspersed with carrots, onions, turnips, parsnips, beets, cucumbers, and melons, a host of pumpkins and squashes, sufficient to feed half the beasts in the country. It really was a curiosity to behold this melange

[TO BE CONTINUED IN OUR NEXT.]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We cannot but express our extreme surprise that, out of some forty or fifty persons, who receive this paper in Toronto, not one should have deemed it necessary to notice the demands that have been made from this office for the amount of their subscriptions. Where they imagine the means can be found of paying from five to seven pounds to the printers of the Expositor, we really are curious to know. We can assure them Mr. Draper does not provide us with the means (as he has Mr. Cr. Stan, for "unveiling his political infamy.") by giving us some two hundred a year under the pretence of obtaining statistical information for the Inspector General's Office. Nay, not even a "location" in the Copper Mine District has he vouchsafed to us, although we confess we certainly did think that, after the issue of our last number, he would have awarded us at least earth enough on our own native soil to have contained our bones—some six feet by three. This surely might have been spared to us, and in asking for that, we deem ourselves to be anything but unreasonable.

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

THE
WEEKLY EXPOSITOR.

MONTREAL, THURSDAY, DEC. 17, 1846.

THE CROWN LANDS DEPARTMENT.

The atrocious system which is carried on in this Department, is only equalled by the insolence and obstinacy of those against whose continuance in office, we have no hesitation in stating, three fourths of those who 've business to transact in it, feel the utmost indignation, and most loudly protest. Mr. Papineau is wholly unfit to be at the head of the Crown Lands Department. Instead of facilitating the business of the country, by causing those under him to use despatch in the settlement of the claims of individuals, every obstacle is attempted to be thrown in their way, so that delay, and expense, and uncertainty, are sure to be the portion of those who have not an immediate influence with the head of the department. Nor is Mr. Bouthillier one whit more accommodating than his much disliked chief. We are in possession of some information, in regard to the conduct of this consequential personage, and in reference to some claims preferred by a gentleman from the Upper Province, which he had great difficulty in having arranged, which we shall lay before the public at an early day. In this case, these insolent officers were at issue with the majority of the Council itself, and in such manner that it would almost lead to the belief that they must have had some immediate interest in long refusing to pay the full amount admitted by the Council, on the matter being especially referred to them by the late Lord Metcalfe.

At present we shall confine ourselves to commenting on the most extraordinary nature of a recent advertisement from that office, intimating that "all scrip, already prepared, which may remain unclaimed on the 30th of June, 1847, shall be cancelled."

By what right, we ask, dare the Commissioner of Crown Lands presume to announce that men, who have fought for their country, and to whom the Legislature of that country have voted a trifling compensation, shall lose their title to claims which have been allowed, because illness or absence, or any other unforeseen cause, may have prevented them, before the period indicated, from taking up their scrip? This we unhesitatingly pronounce to be a piece of high-handed ruffianism, without justification or example; and gladly indeed will the country hail the moment when these incapables are made to yield their places, the one to the only man who, from his industry and assiduity, should fill the office, the able Member for Kingston (Macdonald), and the other to some equally popular subordinate.

But we think we have a clue to all this public infamy. One of the very Commissioners, acting in concert with Mr. Morris and Mr. Papineau, has, or has had, in his employment a Crown Lands clerk purchasing scrip for him, and distributing his cards as a land agent. If this will not entitle him to be made a Chief Commissioner for Western Canada when the Land Agents are dispensed with, the system of making appointments will have been greatly altered indeed.

MR. HOPKIRK'S APPOINTMENT.

The Gazette of Saturday last contains the nomination of this fortunate individual as Collector of Customs at Kingston, as well as a Commissioner of the Penitentiary, vice Atcheson, out of the country. This is a nice little arrangement, which we shall endeavor to sift to the bottom.

It is well known that general indignation has been excited at the perpetration of certain cruelties in the Penitentiary of Kingston, the management of which is so gross a perversion of all justice, that it led to the resignation of the honorable and high principled men who composed the late Commission. The public are not aware perhaps, but we can assure them of the fact, that the Warden of the Penitentiary has full power to make all contracts (and these are necessarily on a large scale), with parties for the supply of the prison, without the Commissioners having the slightest voice in the matter, or exercising that supervision which it must have been one of the objects of their appointment, they should enforce.

Let the public for one moment pause to consider the manifest consequence of this infamous system. The Warden of the Penitentiary is the father of the Member for Frontenac, who was not only whipper-in to Mr. Draper and his tail last session, but, by his bullying, contrived to obtain an influence over the Executive, and to worm himself into their confidence in a manner that was denied to other members of the House who had far more legitimate claims. What more natural than to suppose that, as it was necessary to keep so useful a member in the House to support their tottering power, they should give to the Warden the means of

commanding the highest influence in the country, through whom his son's future election should be secured. The applicant who could command most votes in a contest of that kind, would be the person naturally selected, and thus, with this wand of bribery in his possession, might Mr. Henry Smith be continued as Member for Frontenac during life. We do not assert, whatever be our opinion, that such means of corruption have been resorted to; but what we will assert is, that the denial to the Commissioners of a power which should be vested in them, and not in the Warden, would seem to warrant the supposition. In any case, the principle is dangerous and full of wickedness, and cannot be too severely condemned.

And why has Mr. Hopkirk been appointed a Commissioner? Because, as a creature of the Government, he will lend all his cunning and energies to quash the enquiry which will be made into the charge of cruelty preferred against the father and supporter of him who feels his power over them, the necessity of his support to them, and who, consequently, beards them with his incessant demands. He is the last stay they have in the House. They have disgusted all other parties, yet they "lay the flattering unction to their souls" that Henry Smith will be enabled to command a certain influence in their favor by his blustering and his importunity. Believe it not, Mr. Draper: your *protégé* has no power beyond that of his stentorian voice, and your political days are numbered. What those days have been—how versatile, how puerilely, yet how shamelessly, changing—since your first entrance into public life, we shall take an opportunity of unfolding, on the arrival of the proper Governor General of the province, whose chief popularity will be based on your dismissal from an office which the united voice of the country has pronounced you unfit to retain. With the picture before his eyes which we shall draw of your political infamy, charlatanism, and deceit—a picture which we defy you to deny as your own—His Excellency cannot fail, if he would win the commendation of all honest men, to regard you as one whose connection with his Government must assuredly bring down upon it ruin the most complete.

But, apart from the other considerations involved in this most extraordinary double appointment of Mr. Hopkirk, the act is at once a slight and insult to Lord Elgin. That nobleman is alone the Governor General of Canada, and possessed of the power of distributing office; and we cannot but express our surprise that the Earl Cathcart, who is, in fact, a mere *locum tenens*, until the arrival of his successor, should have lent the sanction of his name to any appointment of the sort. Lord Elgin might not exactly have been of opinion that the ex-brewer of small beer, and the contemner and resister of the laws of the Province, was the party best qualified to fill the situation of Collector of Customs at Kingston, and Commissioner

of the Penitentiary; or, if he did think so, at least the courtesy of consulting him on the subject should have been used. There was no such pressing necessity in the matter. Kingston has been many months without a Collector of Customs, and therefore might have continued so for a few weeks longer. The season of importing and smuggling is over.

Mr. Draper, and others of his party with whom he then acted, were the first to condemn the Sydenham Administration, and this very properly—for the shameful eagerness manifested by them in seeking to make nominations to office before Sir Charles Bagot arrived in the country. True, Sir Richard Jackson, then Administrator of the Province, was not made of such malleable stuff, and he refused to sanction any appointment, unless the Executive body should declare it to be of the highest moment to the interests of the Province. He felt that his successor ought to be permitted to decide upon those appointments, and with a most proper feeling he abstained.

But this corruption is one of the necessary fruits of Responsible Government in a Colony, where place is not so much sought for the honor it confers, as for the profit it yields.

MR. PARENT AND FRENCH CANADIAN NATIONALITY.

There are few things that surprise us emanating from the quasi Government with which the country is cursed at the present day. We admit we cannot avoid the expression of some astonishment at the most extraordinary fact of Mr. Parent, the confidential clerk of the Administration, being permitted—and therefore it is obvious, sanctioned—by that most inconsistent and incapable body, to deliver at the Mechanics' Institute a public lecture, the principal feature in which, it is unhesitatingly avowed, is to show that the lecturer is "more and more persuaded that, of all the objects of our affections, that which is the most menaced, as it is that which is most for our honor to maintain, is our nationality" (!) Here is language bold enough, and not to be mistaken, and we have a right to demand—for the country has a right to know—on what principle of antagonism it is to the views and opinions of Lord Durham, and of the Union, which was proposed and carried, principally with the intention of stifling so dangerous a doctrine, that the Executive of the country have lent their sanction for the continuance of Mr. Parent, as clerk of their council-room, after the delivery of such sentiments, tacitly implying such sanction, to a course of conduct as disreputable to a public officer; as it is dangerous to the best interests of the Province.

We trust, nay we feel assured, that there is not a British journal in the Province which will not take up the subject, and press upon the Government the necessity of taking such steps in this matter as will satisfy the outraged feelings of every rightly-judging person in the country.

SIR FRANCIS HEAD'S "EMIGRANT."

We have not yet seen this work, one copy of which alone, we believe, has yet reached this city, but there is, we understand, something in it which interests ourselves, and which calls for some explanation. It was stated to us a few days ago, that Sir Francis had given, in support of certain views attributed to Lord Durham, a letter addressed by that nobleman to ourselves, on the subject of the Union of Upper and Lower Canada, and we confess our astonishment was great to know by what possibility Sir Francis Head could have obtained access to documents which have never been out of our possession, except to pass into the hands of Lord Sydenham and his Executive, by whom they were carefully returned. It however occurred to us that it was possible we might have had occasion to publish some particular letter in defence of his Lordship's conduct, and therefore referred to a file of the *Canadian Loyalist*, where we found the only letter Sir Francis Head could have had it in his power to give to the world, in anticipation of our own intention.

[The circumstances under which this communication was published, we will give in our next.]

MARRIAGE BY SPECIAL LICENCE.

As a recent ordinance of the Episcopalian Church has announced that henceforward all marriages are to be solemnized at the altar, it may be of some interest to our readers to know who, at home, are alone entitled to a special licence. The fees, including stamp duty, amount to ten guineas, and the commission before whom the parties are sworn something near fifty shillings sterling:—

1. Peers and Peeresses, and their respective children and grandchildren.
2. Privy Councillors and their children.
3. Members of Parliament, and persons who have been such, and their respective children.
4. Great Officers of State.
5. Baronets and their children.
6. Knights, including Knights Companions of the Bath.
7. Judges, Spiritual and Temporal, and their children.
8. King's Counsel.
9. Deans of Churches.
10. General Officers and Admirals.
11. State Physicians, and Physician and Surgeon General.
12. Officers of the Royal Household.
13. Doctors in Divinity.
14. Officers of the Lord Lieutenant's (of Ireland) Household—that is to say, the Private Secretary, Chaplains, Aid-de-Camps, the Steward and Comptroller of the Household, the Chamberlains and Gentleman Usher.

THE BRITISH FLAG.—Sir Francis Head prides himself much in having been the first to raise the British flag on the Government House, Toronto. We sincerely trust that it was a very different sort of flag from that which waves over Government House in Montreal. Bunting must be dear, or we should scarcely see so torn a rag as is exhibited there—scarcely larger than a lady's pocket-handkerchief, and not cleaner than a scullion's apron. We should very much like to know how much longer we are to be compelled to strain our eyes, in looking upward at this object of *vertu*.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CORPS EDITORIAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXPOSITOR.

SIR,—In no part of the British Possessions do the conductors of public journals receive less consideration for their useful labors than in Canada, and particularly in this part of the Province. And pray, what is the reason? In England, we observe them filling important political offices, and holding seats in Parliament. In the United States, we find amongst the *corps editorial*, distinguished members of Congress, and of the different State Legislatures. We recognize in the various Embassies to Foreign Governments, men who have distinguished themselves as Editors, and who have been eminent for their talent in the conducting of Public Journals. But in Canada, I should fain learn, what honors have been conferred upon the Craft? From the period when the *Quebec Gazette* was established, in the early history of the Colony, down to the time of the memorable services of William Lyon McKenzie, and his successor, the late member for Oxford, pray, what Editor has obtained an honorable office under the Government, or has been successful in his endeavors to procure the confidence of the people?—with the exception of the venerable Nestor of the Press! and his youthful contemporary, the Honorable!! member for Montmorenci, who is the person that has distinguished himself, either in the senate or the field? In the former, we have had but few; in the latter, since the days that McKenzie and O'Callaghan took to their heels, we have not observed any of the *corps editorial* remarkable for their powers in arms.—Pardon me, sir, I have omitted the name of another, General Brown! the hero of a thousand fights!—He too, once belonged to the *corps editorial*.

Sarcasm apart, whence does this state of things arise? From the want of a proper *esprit de corps* amongst themselves. The same conservative principle which brings into power in other countries, would, if carried into effect in this, be productive of the very same result. There is no want of character and ability amongst the conductors of our Press; but with one or two honorable exceptions, they are too accessible to the angry passions of human nature,—they make party questions, personal questions, and their quarrels, amongst themselves, engross too much of their time and attention, which ought to be devoted to the attainment of worthier objects, than those, to which they seem to apply themselves.

Jealousy and distrust of each other predominate amongst them, and the Editor of *soi-disant* "leading" Journals look down contemptuously on those whom they, in their haughtiness and pride, would fain consider as obscure candidates for public favor.

Is not this, Mr. Editor, the cause why the Press does not, in this Province, command that respect, which it has acquired in other countries? and why the conductors of the Press are, in comparison with the elevated position of their co-temporaries in Europe and the United States, mere "hewers of wood and drawers of water"?

The reform is in their own hands. It is kindness and confidence towards each other, by which their own rights, security and interest can always be maintained. They may then exclaim with the poet:—

"Here shall the Press the people's rights maintain,
Unawed by influence, unbribed by gain;
Here patriot truth her glorious precepts draw,
Pledged to Religion, Liberty, and Law."

J. C.



VALUABLE MILL SEATS.

NOTICE is hereby given that the LEASE of a VALUABLE MILL SEAT, situated on the South side of the Basin of the LACHINE CANAL, above the Windmill Point, and marked on the Plan as Lot No. 12, will be disposed of by PUBLIC AUCTION, at the OFFICE of PUBLIC WORKS, on TUESDAY, the TWELFTH day of JANUARY next, at NOON, the upset price to be £107 10s. cy. per annum payable half-yearly.

The plan of the Ground, and plans and specifications relative to the manner of taking the water, &c., may be seen at this Office, where any information as to terms of purchase, &c., may be obtained.

By order, THOMAS A. BEGLY, Secretary.

Department of Public Works, Montreal, Dec. 15, 1846.

St. Lawrence & Atlantic Rail-Road.

NOTICE TO TIMBER CONTRACTORS.

TENDERS will be received at the Office of the ST. LAWRENCE AND ATLANTIC RAILROAD COMPANY, till the 9TH day of JANUARY next, for the following description of TIMBER, for the superstructure of the Road from the St. Lawrence River to a point in the Township of Acton, a distance of about 45 miles; to be delivered before the 1st of August, 1847, on the line of the Road, at such points as the Engineer shall designate, namely:—

LONGITUDINAL SILLS, Sawed, 8 by 12 inches square, in lengths of 18, 24, and 36 feet, to consist of best quality merchantable Pine or Tamarac Timber, Also, Oak or Tamarac Plank for Cross Ties 22 inches thick, 6 inches wide, and 8 feet long. The whole to be good sound merchantable Timber, and Plank, free from black knots, shakers, and wanes, and in no case to be Sailing Timber.

The Timber to be delivered at Point's not exceeding one-fourth of a mile apart, on the following Division of the Road, viz.:

FIRST DIVISION, extending from the St. Lawrence River to the Richeieu, at Belœil. SECOND DIVISION, extending from the Richeieu River to the Village of St. Hyacinthe. THIRD DIVISION, from St. Hyacinthe to the Point above mentioned in the Township of Acton.

Persons Proposing will state—1st, The amount and kind of Timber they will furnish; 2nd, The price of the above Divisions they will deliver it; 3rd, The price per running foot of Sills of each kind of Timber; 4th, The price of each Cross Tie of Oak or Tamarac.

Persons offering to contract for Timber or Ties who are unknown to the Engineer or to the Directors, will be required to accompany their proposals with references as to character and ability; and in all cases where any proposal shall be accepted and a Contract entered into, the Contractor will be required to give the names of responsible persons as sureties for the faithful performance of the Contract according to the terms agreed on.

For further information, apply at the Company's Office, No. 18, Little St. James Street.

THOMAS STEERS, SECRETARY.

COMPANY'S OFFICE, 4th December, 1846.

ON SALE:—

- 1,799 pieces 2 inch Plank, 609 do Ash Boards, 365 do 1 inch Boards, 924 do 2 inch Boards, 252 do Do tongued and groved, 659 do Scantling, assorted, 229 do Plank, tongued and groved, 425 do Boards, various, 214 do 3 inch Plank, 190 do Cherry Boards, 201 do Planks and Lumber, various, 102 do Cherry Boards, 422 do Oak Plank, 143 do Black Walnut Boards, 165 do 1 1/2 inch Deals, clean, 429 do 1 inch Deals, clean, 3,195 do 1 1/2 inch Plank, 340 do 1 1/2 and 2 inch Plank, 22 do Oak Boards, 120 do Oak.

—AND— Door and Window Frames, Shutters, Sashes, &c. &c.

One Share "People's Live Steam Company." A LEASE of the Work Shops and Yards adjoining Bleary Street; also the Yard in Cote Street, to 1st May, 1847. The Rent for the whole, or each separate, will be moderate.

The Shops, Dwelling Houses, and Timber Yards, will be sold on or about the 25th April, 1847.

For particulars, apply to

JOHN G. DINNING, Assignee, Estate JOHN KELLY & Co

December 3.

WANTED.—for the EXPOSITOR OFFICE.—TWO CARRIER BOYS, who have been in the habit of taking round papers.

University of McGill College, MONTREAL.

THE CAPUT of the COLLEGE having this day received through the Principal an Official Communication of the confirmation by Her Majesty of the STATUTES of the COLLEGE, avails itself of the earliest opportunity of announcing the COURSE of LECTURES to be delivered in the College during the current Term:—

On Classical Literature—By the Rev. W. T. LEACH, A. M., Professor.

On Mathematics and Natural Philosophy—By EDMUND A. MERRIDITH, L. L. B., (P.C.D.) Principal of the College.

On History—By the Rev. JOSEPH ABBOTT, A.M. On French Literature and the French Language—By LEON D. MONTIER, Esquire.

All the above Courses will be commenced on TUESDAY next, the 22nd instant; but Students matriculating on or before the 29th instant, will be able to keep the Term.

Fees, £3 Gs. 8d. per Term, or £10 a-year. Board, including Fuel and Candle, £3 5s. a-month.

J. ABBOTT, A.M., Secretary.

Sept. 21, 1846.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that application will be made by the COMPANY of PROPRIETORS of the CHAMPLAIN and ST. LAWRENCE RAILROAD, at the next Session of the Provincial Parliament, for an Act to amend and extend certain provisions of the Act 2 Wm. 4th, chapter 58, entitled, "An Act for making a Railroad from Lake Champlain to the River St. Lawrence" and particularly the provisions of the 47th Section of the said Act, so as to authorize the said Company to extend and construct a Branch of the Champlain and the St. Lawrence Railroad from some point on the present line of the same West of the River commonly called La Petite Riviere de Montreal, in as direct a line as may be found practicable to any point upon the River Saint Lawrence at which a Bridge shall be constructed under the authority of any Act to be passed by the Legislature over the said River to communicate with the City of Montreal, and also to empower the said Company to carry their said Branch Railroad over such Bridge and thence to the City of Montreal, upon such terms and conditions as shall be fixed by Legislative enactment.

JOHN E. MILLS, Chairman. WM. D. LINDSAY, Commissioner.

RAIL-ROAD OFFICE, Montreal, November 2, 1846.

DEBTORS TO THE ESTATE OF WM. FARQUHAR.

TAKE NOTICE.

A SECOND Dividend will shortly be declared on this ESTATE; from the Debts due, the Dividend is to be paid. All unpaid on 15th December next will be placed in the hands of an Attorney for Collection JOHN G. DINNING, Assignee.

Montreal, 19th Novr. 1846.

ST. LAWRENCE AND ATLANTIC RAIL-ROAD,

NOTICE.

THE STOCKHOLDERS of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Rail-Road Company, having, at their Special General Meeting, held on the 2nd instant, unanimously resolved upon the immediate commencement of the Rail-Road, whereby the Subscribers for Shares of Stock conditional upon that resolve (received subsequent to the 30th ultimo) have become absolute, the Now Stockholders are requested to PAY the FIRST INSTALLMENT of £1 10s. Currency per Share, to the Treasurer, at the Company's Office, 18, Little St. James Street.

By order of the Board, THOMAS STEERS, Secretary.

Office of the St. Lawrence and Atlantic Rail-Road Company, Montreal, 25th August, 1846.

NOTICE.

WE the Undersigned hereby give notice, that application will be made by us at the next meeting of the Legislature to obtain a CHARTER for the purpose of CONSTRUCTING A BRIDGE ACROSS THE ST. LAWRENCE; say from the South side of said River to a point on St. Paul's Island (Isle St. Paul), and from said Island to the North bank with right of way across the said Island, and from the North bank of the River to a convenient terminus on the Canal.

- H. STEPHENS, HUGH ALLAN, JACOB C. PIERCE, D. DAVIDSON, WILLIAM DOW, JOHN LEEMING, Wm. LUNN, J. B. SMITH, J. FROTHINGHAM, Jno. YOUNG, JOHN E. MILLS, L. H. HOLTON, D. L. MACHOUGALL, BENJ. LYMAN, R. CORSE, DAVID TORRANCE,

- ANDREW SHAW, JAMES GILMISTE, Wm. DUNSTON, MORIS HAYS, JOSEPH MASSON, ROBERT MACRAY O. BERTHELET, H. JUDAN, A. LALOCQUE, H. HART, JOSEPH BOURRET, A. M. DENISSE, W. FERNATINGER, W. C. MERRIDITH, JOHN J. DAY, GEO. ELDER, JUNR.

Montreal, September 14, 1846.

DONEGANA'S HOTEL.

THE Proprietor of this UNRIVALED ESTABLISHMENT, in returning thanks to the Public for the liberal share of patronage bestowed upon his uncle (Mr. RASCO) and himself, during the twelve years they conducted the Establishment so well known as "RASCO'S HOTEL," begs to inform them that he has now removed into that

SPLENDID BUILDING

in Notre Dame Street, formerly the Property of WILLIAM BINGHAM, Esq., and the Vice Regal Residence of Lords DUNHAM and SPYNGHAM, which has been greatly enlarged and fitted with

EVERY CONVENIENCE & ORNAMENT

which Comfort and Luxury can desire. THE SITUATION is central, and within an easy distance of the Champ-de-Mars, the Cathedrals, Bishop's Church, the Banks, the Government Offices, the Court House, and other Public Buildings. The openness of the site, and the elevation upon which the Hotel stands, ensures it abundance of light and air, while it commands upon every side an Excellent View, including the River, the Island of St. Helens, and the opposite shore, the Mountain, and the adjacent Picturesque Country.

The Establishment has been furnished throughout with NEW AND COSTLY FURNITURE, and fitted in every way worthy of what it is—

THE FIRST HOTEL IN BRITISH AMERICA!! Among the conveniences will be found SIX BATHING ROOMS and a BILLIARD ROOM.

THE TABLE

will be supplied with EVERY DELICACY of the Season; and while the Proprietor will spare no expense to give satisfaction to all who may honor him with their patronage, the large number which the extent of the Establishment enables him to accommodate, will admit of making his CHARGES VERY REASONABLE.

CARRIAGES will be always in attendance, to convey parties to and from the Steamboat Wharves, and the Upper Canada and other Stage Offices. And the Proprietor will spare no exertion to make his New Establishment worthy of the liberal patronage he received as Lessee of Rasco's.

J. M. DONEGANA.

JOHN M'CLOSKEY,

SILK AND WOOLLEN DYER, AND CLOTHES CLEANER,

(From Belfast)

No. 76, St. Mary Street, Quebec Suburbs.

GENTLEMEN'S Clothes Cleaned in the best style, and the Cloth made to look as well as when new. All kinds of Stains, such as Tar, Paint, Oil, Grease, Iron Mould, Wine Stains, &c. carefully abstracted. N.B.—Persons not finding it convenient to call at his place, by sending a few lines will be punctually attended to

THE SUBSCRIBERS offer for SALE:—

- Bright Muscovado Sugar in Hhds. White Crushed Sugar in Tierces Pipes Port Wine Punchoons Cuba Honey (Clear) Bales Cuba Tobacco for Cigars Roasted Coffee in Barrels Green do in Bags Seal Coal Whale and Dog Oil Dog Barrels No. 1 Arichat Herrings Dried Herring in Boxes 10 M S superior Cuba Cigars Bees' Wax, Fustic Mahogany, Cedar Pimento in Barrels Jamaica Preserved Fruits, &c. &c.

W. H. LEAYCRAFT & CO. Sept. 3. No. 9, St. Nicholas Street.

NEW RAIL-ROAD JOURNAL.

The Weekly Expositor, OR, REFORMER OF PUBLIC ABUSES; And Railwag and Mining Intelligencer.

ALL COMMUNICATIONS having for their object redress of grievances, and well-founded complaints against any Public Department whatsoever, as well as those treating of Railways and Mining Speculations, are requested to be dropped in the Post Office, addressed to the Editor of the "WEEKLY EXPOSITOR," and all Advertisements (which are especially solicited from those who are interested in the prosperity of an Independent Paper) may be left at the Office, corner of St. Francois Xavier and Great St. James Streets.

The names of communicators of flagrant abuses or injustice will not, unless they desire it, be made known.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—Two Dollars per Annum in Montreal, and Two Dollars and a Half in the Country payable in advance.

Montreal, August 11, 1846.

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PUBLISHED BY J. TENISON, At the Office of the Proprietor, No. 1, SAINT FRANCOIS XAVIER STREET.

REÇU LE

25 JUILLET 1846