

opposed, the one driving the ball with sticks towards the goal, and the other driving it in the opposite direction; in short, a game of shinty. They have dancing too. Ye gods! such dancing! The rows of men and women, sometimes only of one sex, stand opposite to each other, exhibiting no other motion in their dancing than raising their shoulders with a peculiar jerk, bend up their knees so as to give their whole bodies, from the knees upwards, the same motion, and grinning horribly at each other, while not a foot stirs.—*Maclean's Hudson's Bay Territory.*

The Examiner.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 1850.

In that limited portion of the community who subscribe to the *Islander* were ever in want of evidence to the inherent baseness of character in the individual who has for some weeks acted as its editor, we have no hesitation in saying that Friday's No. would have abundantly supplied the want. This individual has laboured to bedaub us with filth, but he has unwittingly betrayed the vulgarity of his own nature—and his utter and complete disregard for honour, common decency and truth, without causing to us one painful feeling, or lessening us, we believe, to the slightest degree, in the estimation of the public.

In a notice to Correspondents, it intimated to the "clever author" of certain letters signed "The Dirty Face Urchin," that his lucubrations cannot be published, because "they contain too many allusions to private matters." If there be any such letters in existence—(for we presume them to be an attack upon ourselves from the selection of a signature sometimes applied to us, and as devoid of point, and truth, and meaning, as anything possibly can be)—if there be any such letters in the office of the *Islander*—which we utterly disbelieve—it is strange they are withheld from the public for the reason assigned, since we find in the same paper an article signed "D. Maclean," abusive enough on private and personal grounds to satisfy the depraved tastes of the most enthusiastic lovers of slang and slander.

The first paragraph of the article in question repudiates the connexion alleged to exist between Mr. Maclean and the officials. We never affirmed that he has been hired by the officials, but that he is hired (by John Ings of course) to do that service for the officials by opposing Responsible Government—which they are well aware will be the means of turning them out of office—and which Mr. Ings is incapable of doing himself; and we know very well that Mr. Ings has not the means to remunerate Mr. Maclean, and must therefore draw from the purses of that party for whose benefit the job is done. We do not impute crime to either party in the matter; the officials are justifiable in making use of Mr. Ings to employ Mr. Maclean in the defence of their cause; and if Mr. Maclean's circumstances are such as to render the situation he holds a desirable one, that is his misfortune and not his fault. He asserts he is "under no engagement whatever to attack or defend any particular party," but he is under an engagement, we suppose, to edit the *Islander*; and as it is the business of that paper to "attack" the Liberals, and "defend" the Tories, the difference is by no means obvious.

We can readily exculpate Mr. Maclean from the reproach of looking for office under Government. "I am neither," he says, "expecting nor desiring any appointment whatever under Government; whereas Mr. Whelan is anxiously waiting for the office of Queen's Printer." It would be useless for him to encourage any expectation or desire upon this head; for the party in power have no office to give him, and their successors are not likely to reward his apostacy and treachery by putting him into the humblest situation under the Crown. But there was a time when Mr. Maclean could have made no such disclaimer with any regard for truth; and he will readily perceive, that we refer to his application to the Colonial Office to be made Surveyor-General, at the expense of the Gentleman who now fills that situation. As to the allegation respecting the office of Queen's Printer, how can Mr. Maclean or any other person say that Mr. Whelan is "anxious" about the matter? He has never besieged the office in Downing street, nor asked the Lieutenant Governor for it; nor has he ever urged the party with whom he acts in the Assembly to take it into their consideration any claim which he might be supposed to possess, whenever,

or if ever, a change in the officers of Government should take place. In short, he has never uttered a syllable in private or in public that could be held to indicate the anxiety imputed to him. If he should, however, be selected to fill that or any other post, he will not do so without the approbation of a constituency, which the present holder of the office, though born in the Colony, cannot command.

The information respecting the mortgaging of the £30 which Mr. Whelan was to receive this Session as Member's pay, is a palpable falsehood, and could only have been communicated to Maclean, if communicated at all—by a person as mendacious as he is himself. If there were any truth in the story, it would have shewn that Mr. Whelan did not calculate without his host, and that the mortgagee was equally certain of the mortgager's re-election. If we were mean enough to adopt Mr. Maclean's system of attack, we dare say we might find wretches ready enough to whisper in our ears falsehoods affecting his private character; or if we could not find such wretches, we might follow his example and invent the calumnies ourselves. We might say—"we have been informed that Mr. Maclean was guilty of repeated acts of swindling before he came to this Island, and that he sought these shores as a refuge; or that, having grown hoary in violating elsewhere the ordinances of society he has come here to consummate his iniquity by trampling upon the ordinances of God, and scoffing at his revelations; or we might remind him of the oft-told story relating to the dog-like burial of a wife; or any thing, in short, equally "interdicted to the press;"—but such allegations would be more degrading to ourselves than injurious to our antagonist, and raise him in public favour in proportion as they lessened us.

Mr. Maclean appears to be very sore at being reminded of his rejection by the constituency of the First District. "Nothing but my own apathy or repugnance prevented my return," he says. He may fancy he was apathetic and repugnant, but every body, we are sure, believes the reverse. He canvassed the District diligently enough, and sought to impose upon the Electors with every species of misrepresentation. This did not look like "apathy" and "repugnance." He says he was only "43 votes behind" his opponent—(a very considerable number indeed)—and "there were about 100 unsolicited votes in New London alone unpollled." It is not very likely that the 100 voters would have polled for Mr. Maclean, had they been solicited; for we know that he is not remarkably popular even in that rotten section of the County, as was abundantly proved by the defeat of Mr. David Simpson two years ago, when Mr. Maclean averred that if Mr. Coles polled a majority of votes at that election, at New London, which he did, he (Mr. Maclean) would regard the fact as an expression of want of confidence in himself. But the very circumstance of these supposed 100 voters not coming forward at the late Election, proves, if it proves any thing at all, that they took remarkably little interest in Mr. Maclean's return.

Mr. Maclean has no good reason to lay the flattering unction to his soul, that we are either irritated or alarmed at what he styles his "plain dealing" with Responsible Government. His opposition is eminently serviceable to us and to the cause. The circulation of our Paper has greatly increased since he became the servant of John Ings, (not by the mean and contemptible method of sending it to different people unauthorised, telling them they can have it for one half year free of expense, if they will pay for a second half year); and we believe that the advocates to the cause of Responsible Government have nearly doubled during the same short period. We should regret, above all things, Mr. Maclean's expulsion from the editorial chair of the *Islander*; every article he pens there is an argument in our favour.

We are not anxious to quarrel with the *Islander* for asserting that our editorial headed "Who is in the right," and the letter to the Society for the Reform of Colonial Government, is "a lame and impotent defence of the Assembly." We do not write to satisfy the *Islander* and we are sure the Assembly are not particularly desirous of winning the good opinion of that paper. One thing is certain, that, up to the present moment, the *Islander* has been unable to convince the public or ourselves that the Assembly were wrong in the course pursued by them with respect to Responsible Government. The only thing, in fact, for which they have been positively blamed, is, not raising a Revenue. The

*Islander*, in a recent No., did not cast censure for refusing Supplies; and this refusal being the chief characteristic of the late Session, we may presume that the *Islander's* silence in reference to it, ought to be regarded as a justification of the Assembly in the main. The *Islander* says, "it must be abundantly plain, to every disinterested reader, that the Governor was not authorised to establish Responsible Government." If such be the fact, why did the Council resign, and why did the Governor offer three seats to the Responsible Government party? The resignation and the offer plainly indicated a different opinion in the minds of the Council, and in that of his Excellency. The Editor of the *Gazette*, in last evening's paper, appears to be of a similar opinion, for he says, the only question at issue between the Assembly and Governor is, whether or not the former will make the desired retiring allowances for the Secretary, Treasurer and Attorney General, admitting the authority of His Excellency to put in practice the system of Responsibility, should those retirements be granted. Pensions or no pensions, we strongly suspect, that before the lapse of many days it will "be abundantly plain" to the *Islander*, that it either has been grossly deceived in the opinion it has formed of the Governor's authority in this respect, or that it is seeking grossly to deceive the public.

A GOD-SEND TO THE ISLANDER AND GAZETTE.—The *Gazette* of Tuesday week published an extract from the *Pictou Eastern Chronicle*, which was made to occupy the place of a leader in the columns of our contemporary, wherein it is asserted, among other things, that the Liberals in this Island have, "in their ardent lost sight of discretion, and seriously perilled the cause they profess to have at heart;" whereat the Queen's most excellent Printer looks very cunning and exultant, and exclaims: "Dere now, dere now—one o' de great Radical papers in de oder Province are against de Responsible Government party here." What if the whole of the radical papers, not only in Nova Scotia, but in all the Provinces, had declared the Liberals in this Island to have done wrong, that would not be proof that the radical papers were in the right. But more influential Presses than the *Eastern Chronicle*—which has been more than once found coquetting between the Liberals and Tories in Nova Scotia—have sent their tribute of applause across the waters to the Liberal party in this Island. Whilst we remember that the *Eastern Chronicle* has vainly attempted to play the Sir Oracle with the Government in Nova Scotia—has endeavoured to impress the public with an idea of its importance, by occasionally finding fault with, and administering advice to, Mr. Howe and his party in that Province, we can well afford to smile at its gentle reproof, and discredit its prophecy. The *Gazette* having thus got a lift from the *Pictonian*, the *Islander* comes forward and cries, shames!—Buncan chuckles, wags his head, contentedly takes Mr. Hazard's leavings, and ostentatiously displays it to the public as having been extracted by him from the *Chronicle*. We hope they have had much comfort and consolation in the still small voice of the *Pictonian*. It is not every week that brings them such a god-send.

MEETING AT MALPEQUE.—A public meeting, convened at the request of Messrs. Clark and Montgomery, was recently held at Malpeque. After a great deal of discussion, two Resolutions were passed,—the first signified the wish of the meeting that the two members for that place would vote for passing a Revenue Bill in the approaching Session of the Legislature,—the motion thereby to be raised to be applied towards the payment of the public debt; the second Resolution expressed a cordial concurrence in the steps taken by the Liberal party to procure the introduction of Responsible Government. There are two or three observations we wish to offer in reference to this meeting. Mr. Montgomery urged Mr. Clark to join with him in calling it; it cannot therefore be said that it was a one-sided affair. It rather approved of, than condemned the late conduct of the House of Assembly, though the Malpeque people are in favor of raising a Revenue; there is, therefore, little cause for the glorification displayed by the Tories of Charlottetown, for a few days past, in speaking of this meeting. No reproach or complaint was cast upon the Assembly for withholding the Supplies.

MEETING AT BELLE CREEK, QUEEN'S COUNTY.—We are informed that on Friday evening last, a great body of the Electors of the Third District of Queen's County met Benjamin Davies, Esquire, at Belle Creek, that Gentleman having gone there on business connected with his Ship-yard. Their object was to ascertain the truth or falsehood of certain charges laid against Mr. Davies by some Tory Magistrates in the District. Mr. Davies explained, and proved the charges, with one exception to be false, and of the most ridiculous character. The accusing party were ashamed to show their faces; and the meeting, having their minds disabused of the slander propagated to the prejudice of Mr. Davies, expressed themselves highly pleased with the conduct of that Gentleman while representing them in the House.

GONE A-BEGGING.—The offices of Sheriff for Queen's and Prince Counties, have gone a begging, Mr. Davies and Mr. Clark having declared their determination not to serve—not to be sworn in, independently of the