For the Examiner.

CITY AFFAIRS.

Mr. Whelan—Sir—An article over the signature of "A. Z.," in the *Islander*, a few weeks since, attempts to charge ex-Mayor the Hon. Robt. Hutchinson with squandering the City funds in law suits and appeals created by his "not taking the Recorder's advice," and in improvements through the City, which, without a shadow of proof, the writer sums up in the following style:—"As for the so called improvements during the first two years, they cost many hundred pounds which would have been of equal benefit to the citizens if cast into the Hillsborough;" and "for plunging the City in debt *we* turned Mayor Hutchinson and his Councillors *out*," whereas two more groundless assertions could not be made by any one except he were decidedly insane, or urged to the task by the basest of motives, as I shall proceed to show, and trust you will pardon me if, in doing so, I may overstep the bounds in your columns usually allotted to correspondents, particularly when you perceive it is my design to lay before the citizens the plain truth, which would have been done some time since but I have been waiting with considerable patience to see the City accounts "published *according to law*," whereby to ascertain, if possible, the actual debt of the City, and how much of our money has been *thrown away* during the last three years.

These charges by "A. Z" are preferred against Mr. Hutchinson individually, as though he were the only person composing the Body Corporate, and he tries to blacken his conduct by contrasting it with that of the present Mayor, in the following strain:—"Put in the Hon. T. H. Haviland in his place, which he has ever since filled with credit to himself and advantage to the citizens." To those who know anything of the internal working of our Corporate Body, these charges are thrown to the wind, because they know the Mayor is merely the organ through which the City Council have their decisions carried out, and therefore is not entitled personally to censure, if the Council decide on doing wrong, nor to flattery for doing well, if the Council will that he shall do so; but I think if the citizens will take the trouble to carefully peruse the following sketch of what was done during the first two years, they will come to the honest conclusion, that neither "Mayor Hutchinson nor his Councillors" are deserving of censure for what money was expended during their time, because the Act of Incorporation obliged them to spend much of it, and the citizens have not only been greatly benefitted by the outlay, in most instances, but will continue to do so for all time to come. What, however, has been done by the Corporation since then that is deserving of even a tithe of the same remark? Aye, what?

The very first item of the City debt, and over which the Corporation had no possible control, was the County Sheriff's Bill of Costs for holding the first Civic Election. This amounted to £38 10s. 4d.! which the Mayor and Council deemed a shameful charge, and demurred long against paying it, even after the Judges of the Supreme Court had taxed the Bill, but the Recorder gave his opinion that it could not be further reduced, and ought to be paid, which was submitted to with a very bad grace. *Now* the annual Elections can be conducted for £5, and could have been done so in the first instance, or for a small sum more, had economy been used. The next item of City debt, where the Corporation was similarly situated, was the publishing and printing of the City By-Laws. These were, by the Act of Incorporation, considered illegal until published in a newspaper, which, with some other necessary printing, cost £44 12s. 4d. Then these laws were printed and bound, which cost some £50. Be it remembered, however, that the publishing, printing and binding of these Laws was done by contract, at the lowest possible rate. Then the Corporation had to take hold of the public Pumps and Wells, which were in a miserable condition, notwithstanding they were under contract to be better kept. To get these in passing order—pay the Contractor's salary—sink a well and put a Pump in it—to meet the growing wants of the inhabitants of that part of the Common near the Scotch Church—cost £127 9s 6d. Another item of unnecessary permanent cost to the City was forced upon it by the Act of Incorporation, in the shape of a Recorder (whose salary was not to exceed £100 per annum), to pay whom for two years cost £140; whereas if the Corporation had the power of obtaining what legal advice was actually necessary for conducting its business, at the cheapest rate, there is no doubt but the very best the Island could produce might have been had for £20 to £25 per annum. The Corporation had to take under its management the Fire Department, which was in an inefficient state. To amend this,—hang a Fire Bell, which had been knocking round Charlottetown some two or three years for want of a "local habitation,"—pay the men of the Engine Companies a compensation allotted to them, and also the sum of £82 to Messrs. Shantebury and Scott, awarded to them under the Island Statute, for damage done to their respective properties in attempts to arrest the spread of a fire, which occurred in the Steam Mill of the former—cost in all, say, £223 7s 6d.; and when "Mayor Hutchinson and his Councillors" honorably retired from their respective stations, they left the Fire Department in a very efficient state. *Now*, however, the present Corporation are suffering the Water Casks and a portable Pump, which, together, cost some £50 or £60, go to destruction, as if they cost nothing. These several items, it will be perceived, amount to £623 19s. 8d., the greater portion of which, by a perusal of the Act of Incorporation and the Island Statute relating to Fire Wardens, will be seen to have been forced on "Mayor Hutchinson and his Councillors."

Now come we to matters more especially under the control of the Corporation, the cost of which, though it may appear large in the aggregate, let it be borne in mind did not accumulate through wanton extravagance for matters useless to the citizens, as "A. Z." would make it appear, but strict economy and in some instances, even parsimony was evinced by "Mayor Hutchinson and his Councillors," in expending the City funds. Can the same be said relative to the conduct of the present Corporation? with whom, let them bear in mind, a day of public reckoning will take place, and the citizens are beginning to be alive to the fact, that every shilling which the Corporation have expended, contrary to the Act of Incorporation, they will be made to refund from their own resources. The first item of moment is the fitting up of the old Court House, which had been made a complete wreck of when it was reduced to a Four Market. To renovate this, find materials and pay labor to make it into a City Council Chamber, a Police and Mayor's Court, with an ante-room behind the Mayor's seat, for the records of these Courts and the City Council, make a Police Station, two strong rooms or Lock-Up for Prisoners,—fit up the old Grand Jury Room as offices for the Recorder and City Clerk, also as a depot for stolen property discovered on prisoners, and for private business connected with the Courts, introducing gas to the Court Room, Station and outside the Court and Station doors, plastering, painting getting stoves and furniture for these several rooms to make them passing decent, but without the costly Coat of Arms that now adorns the Mayor's seat, which has not brought one whit more *justice* to the citizens than they were wont to receive without this gilded bauble—(a Coat of Arms in a Court of Justice is a useless appendage, if erected, however, they should be *those of the City!* Our "wise men of Gotham," not knowing better, adopted the national Arms; did they take the Recorder's opinion on this subject?)—and, finally, to find materials and shingle one-half the roof of the Court House, the Government doing the other half, and to pay for gas and fuel, cost the sum of £282 19s. 9d. On the City taking possession of the Flour and Meal Market in the Old Court House, it was bound to furnish the citizens with another tenement for a similar purpose, and as the present Market and also the engines, and other fire apparatus in the same house might, at the caprice of the proprietor, be suddenly turned into the street, it was considered better to buy the building, so as, when required, to move all together to some suitable place, and *rent* the land on which it stands. The rent at first was but nominal, say £4 annually; now, however, it is extortionate, being £12 a-year! The purchase of the building and fitting it up cost £34 3s. 7d. Then the Government gave the City an excellent weighing machine which was erected at the head of Pownal Street Wharf, where it was comparatively useless. To make it of public utility it was necessary to find a more suitable locality. Then to move it with the stone work which surrounded it, put it where it now stands, fit up an office for the weigher and make a third lock-up for prisoners under the west wing of the City Hall, cost £23 9s. 3d. Then, as is the rule in most cities, the Police were furnished with a uniform and with badges and implements of office. These amounted, in two years, to £67 7s 9d. as a similar item in the only accounts published by the present Corporation, which, in accordance with the Act of Incorporation is but one year's details, stands the following:—"Clothing, boots and hats for Police, £108 18s. 1d!" Now, compare *this for economy* with the expenditure for the Police by "Mayor Hutchinson and his Councillors," and who are entitled to the praise and confidence of the citizens? As great inconvenience was experienced at the Meat Market, weighing quarters of beef and carcases of pork, and also by allowing horses and vehicles to crowd upon that building, new scales were erected outside of it—a space was railed around which keeps teams at a respectful distance—a quantity of stone was also procured and placed within the railing to improve the passage to and from the market. These jobs cost some £15 10s. The Hospital in the keeping of the Central Board of Health was handed over by the Government to the custody of the City, and as it could not be left without keepers, the persons filling this station asked the same compensation granted them by the Government, viz., the firewood they would annually use. This was procured, and the building was insured so that if it were destroyed by fire, the Insurance, and not the citizens would have to replace it. These, together, amounted to £7 9s. 4d. Then, as it would be extremely inconvenient to have all the cattle and horses which might be seized by the Police for being at large put into one pound at the west end of the City, it was deemed advisable to have a second pound at the east end, where a piece of land was had without rent for the first year, provided the City fenced it, which was done, and cost, including labor, some £5. Some repairs were done to the City Wharfs—a contract was entered into to repair the Pownal Street Wharf to a considerable extent, and an advance made to the contractor, to enable him to get the materials. These turned up to the amount of £54 10s. 5d.

This brings us to the assertion made by "A. Z." which every citizen in the immediate vicinity where the labor was performed knows to be without the shadow of a foundation, viz: "As for the so called improvements, they cost many hundred pounds, which would have been of equal benefit to the citizens if cast into the Hillsborough." This has special reference to the streets and the roads through the Common, the latter costing £180 17s 8d., towards the cost of which the Legislature granted £100, so that there was but £80 17s. 8d. of the City fund expended on these roads, particularly on that hill near the Protestant Church Yard, whence the material was obtained that was used on several of the streets. But let us particularize where these "many hundred pounds" were expended. That portion of King Street between Mr. K. McKenzie's corner and Mr. Hugh McKenna's corner, was raised and sidewalks formed, making it, what it never was before, a decent piece of street. The east end of Dorchester Street was much improved. Richmond Street from Queen Street, near to Mr. Haszard's Stationery Store, was raised, sidewalks formed and gravelled to the Royal Agricultural Warehouse. On the west end of the same street, along the north side of the Jail, past Mr. Samuel Collings's property, was greatly raised and sidewalks formed, and on the extreme east end of said Street and the foot of Edward Street, near Mr. Conway's, much improvement was made. Much was also done on Grafton Street between Mr. Wm. Bevan's and the Temperance Hall, in raising the Street, by earth brought from the head of Prince Street, making sidewalks and gutters, some paved, and improving about the Well in that locality. Then again by St Paul's Church, also, Mr. Jonathan Collings and Rochford Street, past Mr. Daws n's Tannery. Kent Street also came in for a heavy share of soil and labor, from the Hon. Chief Justice's to the corner beyond the residence of the Hon. G. Coles; and then on the east end of said Street from Mr Lowe's to Mr. R. Brecken's residence. Some soil and labor were also expended on Fitzroy Street between the Scotch Church and Mr. Cahill's property, and again on the east end beyond the residence of T. Pethick, Esq.; a very great improvement was also made by contract on Euston Street, from Brighton Bridge to beyond Mr. John Heartz's, but particularly between Doctor Mackieson's and Great George Street, part of which, twice in the year, was a complete bog. Here sidewalks have been made where none were before and an excellent culvert built that will last 100 years, and no person who knew that locality five years since but admits that it is one of the greatest improvements ever made on the streets in Charlottetown, "A. Z.'s" assertion to the contrary notwithstanding.

The above improvements were on the east and west streets. Now come we to the north and south streets, and commence with Rochford Street, between the Barrack and the residence of Doctor Hobkirk, which includes what is termed the West Bog; and who in this locality but will state that it was vastly improved by the first Body Corporate? Then, on Pownal Street, from the wharf at its foot to Spring Park, that part near the Kirk was raised, while near the Jail was cut down, leaving good sidewalks and gutters all along. Queen Street next received much labor, soil and improvement, from Admiral Bayfield's to Queen's Wharf; although some of the proprietors on either side of this street may have been a little annoyed at the innovations made in moving steps, cellar hatches, and other obstructions, there is not one of them who wish to fall back on the old system, because their properties have increased 50 per cent. in appearance, if not in actual value by the change. A large quantity of clay was put at the head of Queen's Wharf, sidewalks formed and gravelled to Richmond Street, gutters opened from the shore up to Euston Street, while from Mr. Skinner's corner on the west side and from the pump above Mrs. Stamper's corner on the east side, the gutters were paved down to the shore. Great George Street, from the Church Yard to Queen Square received much soil, and which of the inhabitants between Mr. John Heartz's and Admiral Bayfield's office, on the corner of Fitzroy Street, but will say that a vast improvement was made in this locality, where it often was the case after thaws or very heavy rains not impossible to travel better in a canoe than on foot? Hillsborough Street also came in for a very heavy share of labor and consequent improvement from the residence of the late Mr. T. Desbrisay to that of the Hon. E. Whelan. Which of the inhabitants between King's and Hillsborough Squares on this line of street would now vote to go back to the periodical inundations to which they were subject prior to this part of the street having been raised and guttered? Many persons on Weymouth Street, from Mr. Wm. Crabb's corner to the shore have had cause to bless the first Corporation for what was done on it, and so have those on Cumberland and Edward Streets, besides very many other localities "too numerous to mention," costing in the whole, including the purchase of stone, gravel, and other materials, £809 14s 8d. This brings us to the roads through the Common, first of which are those at Brighton. Both were much improved. Then the St. Peter's Road, from the residence of J. Longworth, Esq., to Boody Bridge, as it is called, near Mr. Beer's lime kiln, will for years retain the soil and macadamized stone placed on it during the first two years of the Corporation, none of which it has since received. But the heaviest portion of labor and consequent improvement of the Common roads was that part between the Church Yard and the north boundary of the Common where, on the one hand, was a useless hill to travellers, and on the other a dismal swamp. The hill was divided, part of its soil taken to raise and improve the swamp and much of the remainder came into the City. This was done by contract and cost some £200, including the trackage, also by contract, of a large quantity of building stone quarried out of said hill. This reminds me that several tons of said stone was exchanged for a similar amount of hard paving stone, which was piled near the residence of the Hon. W. W. Lord, and designed by "Mayor Hutchinson and his Councillors" to be used in paving gutters, but which was subsequently given to friends of the succeeding party, to ballast some of their ships, for, though it was said to have *been sold*, it was never paid for, at least no published City accounts show this fact!

By the foregoing it will be seen that the amounts expended for the various services specified, form the sum of £2474 13s. 4d. To these may be added a further sum of £739 11s. 5d. as salaries for officers, Market Clerks, Police and Contingencies. This makes a total of £3214 4s. 9., the money paid by "Mayor Hutchinson and his Councillors," as will more fully appear by the City Treasurer's published accounts of 28th July, 1856, and 7th July, 1857, respectively. But says "A. Z" some of this money was thrown away for law suits and appeals "caused by Mayor Hutchinson *not taking the Recorder's advice.*" This, in "A Z's" eyes appears a very iniquitous proceeding on the part of Mayor Hutchinson; but report says that the Hon. Mr. Haviland, as Mayor, has, in *more than one instance*, refused to take the same Recorder's advice; about this however "A. Z." is totally silent. This same "A. Z." has been heard to say publicly that *he* would not take the Recorder's advice with respect to his *own business!* Then why should he find fault with Mayor Hutchinson, or any other Mayor, if either should refuse to take such advice in *public* matters? It can be clearly seen, however, by perusing the City records—which are open for the inspection of every rate payer on the first Monday in each month, from 10 o'clock forenoon till 4 o'clock afternoon—that "A. Z." is actually or wilfully ignorant, because his assertion is without foundation, as can be seen.

The Recorder's opinion was taken in the cases instituted by the Corporation against the Hon D. Brenan and the Misses Stewarts for encroachments on the streets, and he gave his opinion that there was sufficient ground for conviction in both cases. Those parties, however, appealed. Mr. Justice Peters decided Mr. Brenan's appeal against the Corporation; and Miss Stewart's case was also disposed of to the disadvantage of the City, owing to the neglect of the Recorder in not professionally appearing for the Corporation.

The next case was that wherein the Gas Company, for having (but not damaging) some of their pipes while the City laborers were grading Hillsborough street. These pipes were but some 16 inches under ground, and the City Council unanimously refused to pay the bill, because the pipes were not laid sufficiently deep whereupon the Gas Company writted the Corporation before the Supreme Court. In this case, while the Recorder acted on the side of the City, as its attorney, on the other he was known to be the Gas Company's Solicitor before having been *made* Recorder; therefore he was like an oyster between its shells, shielded from want by both; and while, from a sort of mock modesty, he declined to give his opinion, most of the Council believed he was as a good husband is said to be, "*attached to his first love*," and therefore Wm. M. Howe, Esq., was employed to assist the Recorder to conduct the defence and procure a trial by jury. During the trial His Honor the Chief Justice recommended the step taken by the City as the only way to ascertain who was right; the jury, however, not sufficiently alive to their own or their children's interests, unwittingly gave decision in favor of the Gas Company, notwithstanding there was abundant evidence to prove that the pipes were not injured, and that they were not laid at a sufficient depth beneath the surface of the streets. The costs in these three cases came to £40 10s. 4d. and are added in with the contingencies.

Like wise generals "Mayor Hutchinson and his Councillors" did not expend all their ammunition; they looked out to have funds to pay the laborers at the street and other City work, and in the absence of sufficient assessment for this purpose, money was offered on loan which was secured to the amount of £480, £432 15s. 2d. of which remained in the Treasurer's hands when he closed his account on the 16th July, 1857. This, therefore, was the sum total of the debt incurred by "Mayor Hutchinson and his Councillors!" How fearfully large has this debt grown now without any corresponding improvements to show for it, and what is worse, we are doomed to ignorance with respect to its exact amount, because no accounts have been published at the lawful time for two years at least—the mongrel account in the *Monitor* of the 21st March last, purporting to bring up the City accounts to the 3rd January last, is not correct by a large amount from all that can be inferred, which speaks well for the tact and business-like qualities boasted about by the staff of book-keepers possessed by the Corporation.

Let us for a moment run our eye down this last account, and make some enquiries about its items; and first, "John Higgins, Assayer, £36 7s. 6d." Is not this officer under a salary of some £12 or £15 per annum? If so, how can his account in a year or even a year and a half amount to the above? Next—"Stationery, Printing and Binding, £82 0s. 11d." It is not the most difficult thing in the world to fancy that the Corporation would secure sufficient stationery for themselves, with an eye to their friend also, and that instead of keeping the *Monitor* alive by *private subscription alone*, it should be employed to do useless and unnecessary printing, and thus indirectly *make the City support it*. Yet it beggars imagination to fathom how the bill should be swelled out with binding. What on earth was there to bind, save and except the *Volume of the Corporation's folly*, calf, full bound, gilt edged? a goodly number of copies of which have, no doubt, been got up for *private* distribution. Here we see £32 more expended than was required by the first Corporation to print twice and bind about 100 volumes of the City Laws, which was necessary, but what laws has the present body published that are worth binding? There is useless expenditure here no doubt. £74 6s. 7d. is piled up in this beautiful account for the Meat and Flour Markets. It is certainly consummate folly to expend public money to make objects look worse than they did. What in the shape of improvement has been done to either of these buildings by the Corporation that could amount to the difference between the Clerk's Salaries and the above sum? £169 14s. 0d. next meets the eye for "Pumps and Wells." What has been done in this department of public utility that required some £50 over and above the contractor's salary? Any new wells sunk, any new pumps erected, or has it been given as a premium to keep the pumps *in disorder*? £225 1s. 9d. is the next item called "Fire department!" What has been done in this branch to create such a bill? Have bonuses been given to waste the Fire Apparatus? This was surely needless, for every article belonging to the department is hasting rapidly to decay. Has the above amount been swelled by making a better house than it ever was of that old shanty, commenced to be pulled down near the Victoria hotel at the time of the fire there, and the cost put into the *wrong* year of the City Accounts? The next item is, "Samuel A. Fowle, £27!" Now this is a complete blind, as "Samuel A. Fowle" is not an *Iron safe*, which is what this £27 was paid for! Here is wanton extravagance. For more than three years the Corporation existed, and all the City Records were deemed as secure as other mutable things without an iron depot. Then why throw £27 away for what was not wanted; and then as if ashamed of "paying too dear for the whistle," to place a different object in the City accounts to that which had been paid for. This in other countries would be styled a fraud! For what was this iron safe wanted, to *hold the City debt?* the Treasurer is supposed to hold the funds when there any, and surely the Police are paid enough through regular salary and rewards for *extra services* to keep the City records from fire and pillage. The Board of Health is put in for a slice to the amount of £24 3s. 6d. What has been done in this department to create such a bill? "Gas and fixtures, £40 15s. 0d." This is not enough in the City accounts by about £250 for the gas and fixtures so unequally distributed through the City at the public expense, and about which "A. Z." has been so brilliant in his selections to "blind the eyes of the flats," if he could.

As I have already exceeded the bounds allotted to myself at the outset, and much matter still remains to be taken notice of, I shall have to trouble you again on City affairs. Meantime, "A. Z" will bear in mind "there's a chiel amang us takin' notes and faith he'll prent it."

Yours,

A RATE PAYER.

Charlottetown, July 30, 1860.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

Sir—Passing down Queen Street this morning I observed that the lower arch bears on the upper side the following motto: "England's future King." It is not my intention to find fault with what the Committee have devised to honour our distinguished Visitant, as I believe them, one and all, to be actuated by a spirit of devoted loyalty to Her Majesty's throne and family. I cannot help thinking, though, that in their zeal to honor the Prince they have chosen a motto which may be construed as wanting in respect to his and our Sovereign, England's present Queen. I only wish that all the arrangements may be such as will reflect honour upon the good taste of the Committee; and will only say further, if the motto be appropriate, let it be retained; but if otherwise, let it be changed into "England's Heir Apparent," or some other to which no objection can be taken; for, not being gifted with the spirit of prophecy, and drawing my conclusions from English History, I can see there is a possibility at least that the Prince of Wales may never be Englands future King. With sentiments of dutiful regard to he Son, I for one feel disposed to pray Long live Queen Victoria. In this prayer I have no doubt the Committee will join.

I am, &c.

Charlottetown, August 6, 1860. W.

Civic Election.—An election of one Councellor for Ward No. 4. to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of John Binns, Esquire, took place yesterday. The candidates were Stephen Swabey and W. E. Dawson, Esquires. At 5 p. m., the poll was closed according to Law, when W. E. Dawson, Esquire, was declared by the Returning Officer (George Beer, Esq.,) duly elected, the numbers being,—

Dawson,	105
Swabey,	95
Majority	10—*Mon.*

"The Halifax Reporter."—This is the title of a new tri weekly Newspaper just started in Halifax, N. S., by Messrs. Croskill & Bourinot, the second number of which reached us by the last mail from thence. It professes to be independent in politics, is neatly printed, and gives promise of being conducted with a good share of editorial ability. We wish the publishers success in their undertaking.

For the Examiner.

TO HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF WALES.

Welcome, Royal scion of our Sovereign,
No potentate wearing glorious Crown
Lives enthroned so deep within a nation's heart
As our own beloved Victoria reigns—
The Bible patron, heavenly-gifted Queen!
Arbiter of Dynasties and Empires!
Champion of liberty, and the slave
Emancipator! Britain's peerless one—
First in freedom, in loving subjects first
Monarch of freemen in her British home,
And continents and islands of the seas,
Where, on ramparts, battlements and towers,
Her lion standard nobly waves supreme,
And every pulse beats for Victoria.
Hail, beloved Royal Heir Apparent, hail!
These shores speak out with heges' tongues and bid
Your Royal Highness welcome to our land.
Victoria rules and guards with parent care
This lovely Isle, from centre to the sea
Heaves in glad homage to our country's prince.
The tawny Indian, in his wigwam wild,
Feels a rude glow, and bends his stoic heart,
And comes to greet descendant of the Guelph.
The City's swollen soul gives greetings large,
But hath no tongue to tell its honest core.
The cottage of the plains and hamlets on
The mountains' sides, and o'er the valleys spread,
And on the cliffs that check the sullen sea,
Resound with bosom shouts of welcome, Prince.
Beside the bright meandering Morell,
And sunny slopes of giant Montague,
On banks o Cardigan in verdure's bloom,
And by the glassy waves of Brudenell,
And Panmure looking over the stormy deep,
And Boughton smiling mid the restless surge;
Orwell, with Pownal's spangled bay of isles;
And London's cliffs, and Glasgow's heaven-girt hills;
Grand Rustico that beards the northern waves.
With Wheatley gently flowing to the sea,
And Foxley murmuring sweetly as it runs,
And Vernon, nobler than classic Arno,
With Richmond's galaxy of Islands fair,
And all their habitants, in vigorous voice,
Attuned to loyalty, and love, and joy—
Bid welcome, all, Victoria's noble Son,
And liegely bow in thanks for visit paid.
O we, from homes afar waft o'er the sea
To Britain's shore, and fair Hibernia's Isle,
The illustrious cradles of our sires,
Whose blood untainted flows along our veins—
Fraternal feelings of their offspring's love,
And our children, echoing, swell the theme.
Again, all hail! most noble Prince, all hail!
Pomp, state, nor glittering pageantry have we—
No blazon'd banners glittering in the breeze—
No equipage in splendour's dazzling blaze—
Sages, bards, artists, sons of annal'd fame—
Statesmen great, nor philosophers renown'd—
Nor warrior men, deep scarr'd in deadly lists,
Where British valour stemm'd the bloody tide,
And conquer'd Europe's fields and India's plains—
None of the brilliant stirring things have we
To swell a cortege of famous staff,
Befitting welt your gracious visit here.
Accept then, Prince, best off ring we can give—
A British homage, manly, frankly, free,
From hearts all steel'd in loyal feeling's forge.
Thy visits made the Queen's dominions west,
Where freedom lives in freemen's ample rights,
And fond allegiance bows to generous rule—
Then back o'er ocean's way to Albion's shores.
We do implore the All-protecting hand
To guide thee safely to your royal home,
Where joy return'd to Windsor's ancient halls,
And Buckingham's stately palaces of old—
Illustrious homes of all your noble sires—
'Mid titled throng around Victoria's throne,
And magnates that point our country's compass
To liberty, humanity, and power.
Remember there Prince Edward's fertile Isle—
Creation's bud, aripening in the west,
Where the St. Lawrence rolls his giant waves.
And pray thee, tell our Queen we love her reign,
And supplicate the mighty King of kings
To spare her many long and joyous years
The matchless Monarch of a matchless race;
And say, sweet Prince, unto our Lady liege,
Sinew and muscle, nerve, and bone, and will,
And hearts and arms of Edward's Isle are true
To England: and add, our breath and blood are her's;
And tell the Royal Lady, richer in heart
Than all the gems that jewel England's crown,
We deem it glory's height to live and die
For Britain's peerless throne and rule—
Her lion standard, prestige and renown.
Yes, Son of our Sovereign, our hands, our hearts
Are God's, our Queen's, our country's, and thine,
Most noble Prince.

WERAND.

Charlottetown, August 7, 1860.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., August 7, 1860.

CORPORATION AFFAIRS.

The general civic elections for Mayor and five Councillors are now going on, as our paper goes to press. The late Mayor, Mr. Haviland, is in again in nomination, and will, of course, be elected, as there is no opposition. There is no interest felt, nor are we aware of any contests in the aldermanic elections. The Tory party, always craving for office of any kind, have long since shown a disposition to monopolize all the civic honours, and as these cannot be enjoyed without a good deal of labour, loss of time, and no recompense, the Liberals have very wisely abstained from contending against them. How the Tories have mismanaged our Corporation affairs since the first two years of Municipal Government in Charlottetown, is very ably and clearly shown in a letter signed "a Rate Payer" in our present No. That the Corporation has been a signal failure, is now, we believe, the firm conviction of a majority of our citizens of all shades of politics. We are one of those who expected better things from it, and helped to pass the law which gave it existence; and now we cannot but subscribe to the general opinion, that the improvements, if any, that have been effected in the management of our affairs, are by no means adequate to the cost they have entailed. While a large amount of money is raised by taxation, the City is wofully in debt; and we don't appear to be getting on a bit better, nor have we a more orderly town and a higher respect for the laws manifested, than when we were under the control of a Board of Magistrates. If the question were put to the vote of the citizens to-morrow—"Will you continue the expensive bauble of a Municipal Government, or will you not?" we believe that in less than two hours there would be an overwhelming majority to decide the question in the negative.

As an instance of the desire felt by the Tory party to keep the City Government in their own hands, and to have the exclusive control of its revenue, we may briefly allude to the election for a Councillor to represent Ward No. 4, which occurred on Tuesday last. Mr. J. C. Binns having relinquished the distinguished honour of a seat at the Council Board, owing to some disagreement with his colleagues about the proposal of the Government to lend the Corporation money for the repair of Queen Street wharf—Mr. Stephen Swabey, with a feeling of self-sacrifice worthy of a better cause, stepped forward to supply the vacant place. Now, Ward No. 4 being always noted for its high Tory principles, wherein members of the Political Alliance and of the Orange Lodge are believed to be very numerous—Mr. Swabey's offer to represent it stirred up a very strong feeling in opposition to him. Mr. W. E. Dawson was put in nomination to oppose him, and although he appeared to take no part personally in the contest, every one knew he was the nominee of the Tories and Orangemen, because Mr. Swabey is honorably distinguished by his abhorrence of both. Mr. Swabey, being also a vendor of spirituous liquors, had to encounter the opposition of the Sons of Temperance as such, who are also numerous in the Ward; and we have heard of some remarkable instances of zeal displayed by the latter in their virtuous public protest against a man for daring to sell openly an article which enters largely into our commercial traffic, and which they are only too happy to use when they can get it, in the secrecy and obscurity of their own domiciles. Notwithstanding all these resources on Mr. Dawson's side, our adventurous friend did not relinquish the field with much honour to his opponents. He was defeated only by ten votes out of nearly two hundred, in a Ward where the Tory party could formerly poll four-fifths of the votes. For this result he is indebted, partly to the influence exercised by his own manly and sterling character, his position and education, and partly to the disgust which is felt by many high minded Conservatives in the Ward at the hollow pretensions and very illiberal spirit manifested by certain parties with whom they formerly rowed in the same boat.

THE SELKIRK ESTATE AND THE LAND COMMISSION.

An article in the *Monitor* of Wednesday last contains the following passage in reference to the purchase of the Selkirk Estate and the Land Commission. The Government having yet done nothing to entitle them to newspaper laudation, it appears to be necessary to praise them for what they will do, *if* certain proceedings should take a favourable turn. The extract here given comes under the heading of the "puff oblique," according to Sheridan's classification of puffs in general:—

"The purchase by the Government of the Selkirk Estate is a fact of great importance, particularly at this moment, when the commissioners lately appointed to decide between the landlords and tenantry are about to commence their labors. If, by the judicious conduct of the one in disposing of the lands purchased at a cheaper rate than could have been expected, and an impartial award between the contending parties by the other, the question of the tenure of lands shall be set at rest, we may then anticipate that the tide of emigration may set toward the Island, as well as Canada or the neighboring Colonies."

Considerably more than three months have elapsed since the Government announced to the House of Assembly, that they had concluded an arrangement for the purchase of Lord Selkirk's property. We knew that a little time would be necessary to execute the deed, and, perhaps, survey the property; but whether either of these things has been done is a matter about which the public are in total ignorance. Nearly one-third of a year has passed away, and no advertisement has yet been issued by the Commissioner of Public Lands, calling on the tenants to attorn to the Government, and stating the terms on which the land would be resold to actual settlers. The real importance of the transaction depends altogether upon the terms on which the tenants may be enabled to convert their leaseholds into freeholds. If the terms are moderate, we may be able to congratulate the people of Belfast on the opportunity presented to them of becoming independent in their circumstances. If these terms are not as favourable to the tenantry as those which characterised the settlement in freehold of the Worrell Estate, the Belfast tenantry can have no great inducement to change their condition. The mere announcement that the Government are disposed to buy Lord Selkirk's estate, and yet will not complete the purchase, is of no earthly consequence to any person. Their unreasonable delay in bringing the transaction to a close is calculated to excite grave suspicion touching the sincerity of their intentions on behalf of the tenantry. It will be quite time enough to give the Government credit for performing a good act, *when they have performed it;* but we cannot see the propriety of chanting their praises at the vague announcement of their intentions.

That the Government can purchase the Selkirk Estate "at a cheaper rate than could have been expected," is quite untrue. The same property was offered to Mr. Douse, not long ago, at fifty per cent less than it has been since offered to the Government. The people of this Colony will, therefore, lose several thousands through the delay and incapacity of the present Executive in their bungling attempt to carry out the policy of their predecessors.

As regards "an impartial award" by the much talked-of Commission, we will believe it when we see it: but we doubt that the *three* Commissioners will ever agree to any report. With two of the Commissioners representing the proprietors and the Colonial Office, and therefore disposed to give judgment in favour of the former, we cannot expect that the result of their deliberations will be satisfactory to the tenantry. There is no doubt that the majority of the Commissioners will be influenced by the opinions of the local Government. That Government are avowedly opposed to the popular sentiment with regard to the questions of the Fishery Reserves, Quit Rents, and Escheat; and it appears to us, therefore, exceedingly absurd for the country districts to go to the expense and trouble of sending delegates to state the views of the tenantry to the Commissioners. We deliberately expressed our opinion, when the Commission was first proposed—and nothing has yet transpired to induce a change—that the object of its proposers is to confirm the titles of the proprietors, as far as it is possible to do so, and to ignore to the fullest extent all enquiry respecting Escheat, Quit Rents, and Fishery Reserves. But we are quite convinced that public opinion cannot be stifled by the results of its deliberations. On the contrary, we believe that the Land Question, so called, will be more fiercely agitated than in any previous year, when the Commissioners shall rest from their labours; and the means thus foolishly taken to quiet agitation will be, if not the first, the most unmistakeable signal for the overthrow of the present Government.

In its usual spirit of untruthfulness the *Islander* charges Messrs. Coles and Whelan with an attempt to frustrate, for political purposes, the efforts of the Managing Committee in preparing for the reception of the Prince of Wales, and states that their "satellites" were employed in circulating the report that His Royal Highness would not attend the Ball. Both these statements are quite false. In the first place, we cannot see what political object could be gained by attempting to defeat a great Provincial undertaking for the successful issue of which every man, woman, and child in the Colony feels a very great interest. No persons were more ready than Messrs. Coles and Whelan to place in the hands of their political opponents any amount of public money which would be required to make the celebration of the Royal visit really creditable to all our people, and so far as our small resources would admit, not unworthy of the example which we knew would be set to us by our fellow-colonists on the other side of the Straits. It is very true that Messrs. Coles and Whelan did not approve of some of the arrangements made by the Committee; but there are hundreds in the community who expressed their disapproval of various proceedings by these functionaries in much stronger terms than were used by those individuals who have been singled out for abuse by the *Islander*. We presume we have a right to express an opinion upon a matter of such public importance as that under consideration; and we have done so, not for the purpose of frustrating the efforts of the Committee, but in order that they might be induced to take a higher direction, and be influenced by a nobler and more liberal spirit in all their public conduct than appeared to characterize it at the outset of their labors.

We are charged with having, week after week, ridiculed the proceedings of the Committee, and done all in our power to prevent the sale of tickets for the Ball. The latter allegation we totally deny, and we dare our contemporary to produce one particle of evidence in support of it. As to the ridicule, the Committee themselves have outstripped all competition in that line, by chopping and changing from one thing to another almost every day since they were appointed. We might instance in proof of this, their resolve to limit the sale of tickets to a certain day, and the changing of that day—their determination at first to give no free tickets to any persons residing on the Island, and their subsequent bestowal of free tickets on themselves and on the members of the Legislature,—their arrangement for two banqueting rooms, and their abandonment of that project when public opinion was strongly expressed against it,—their changing of the pro-