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This is true Liberty, when Free-born Men, having to advise the Public, may speak free.—EURIPIDES.

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Poetry.

THE WOODS OF SUMMER.

BY THOMAS FRASER.

WRAPPED in fragrant flowers and foliage,—
Lovely are our summer woods,
Waving o'er the mountain dingle,—
Dangling where the streamlets mingle
With the meadow-margined floods.

Elder, apple, wilding cherry,
And its mate, the scarce hawthorn,
All their wealth of sweets displaying,
Up the rude steep banks are swaying
In the cool fresh breeze of morn.

Still, and solemn in their silence,—
Regal solitude's domain!—
Deep old woods, where once the Indian
Crouched beneath the oak and linden,
Stretch away o'er hill and plain.

Rich, in all their shades of verdure,
Tree with tree blend kindly now;
Loving-like, the light-leaved willow,
Drapes her tresses o'er the pillow
Of the swarth elm's burly bough.

Graceful birch and feathery maple,
Round the thick dark chestnut twine;
And the sycamore, though hoary,
Twirls his laughing leaves in glory
O'er the grim unyielding pine.

High among the wild nut fruitage,
Gay birds skim from twig to spray;
Bright-eyed squirrels half in-hiding,
Here and there, are lightly gliding
Where the broken sunbeams play.

Rilllets, with their rippling music,
Scarcely enough to thrill the calm,
Tinkle down through hidden hollows,
While the low-voiced echo follows
Singing an incessant psalm.

Slowly through the wider valley,
Sweeps the river deep and broad,
Bearing onward as it passes
Lilies, leaves and withered grasses,
Just as time bears us to God.

Mossy nooks, so softly sleeping
In their flower-gem'd robes of green,
All o'erhung with vine and bramble,
Lure the wanderer in his ramble,
From their glossy sweets to glean.

Above, beneath, around, beyond us,
Lavish nature spreads her dower,
Gorgons, without stint or measure,
Ruby, green and golden treasure,
Glistening leaf and sparkling dower!

Souls may well be here uplifted,
And the heart on joy-wings swim,
While our thanks, in strains of gladness
Sailing high o'er realms of sadness
Heavenward raise the raptur'd hymn!

All the world's cold looks forgotten,
All her ills and gloom and wrong,—
Here, with spirit forms-shape-laden,
Like the pure thoughts of a maiden,
Musing fancies round us throng.

Dreaming what earth might and should be,
Could we but remove her pain;
Could we but restrain the greedy,
Guard the weak, sustain the needy,
And let God in justice reign.

Evil, erring, all that's human,
Yet there's wondrous good in man—
God that might be all resistless,
Were he not himself so listless,
To fulfil creation's plan.

Would that man, to man, would act as
Earth's great Maker acts to all;
Love in every look expressing,
Daily breathing round him blessing,
Be his life's sphere large or small.

O! that in our own hearts ever
We could thus feel nature's sway;
Life, with fewer looks of sorrow
Often then would bring to-morrow
Brighter than the passing day!—

Often, then, upborne by blessings
High o'er all the world's gross self,
Man would rise with angel duty
Through the conscience lands of beauty,
Blessing others, bless himself.

Provincial Parliament.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

DEBATE ON AN ADDRESS IN ANSWER TO GOVERNOR'S SPEECH.

(Continued.)

Hon. Mr. COLES—As my hon. friend Mr. Whelan has prepared an amendment to the paragraph, and as he is now present to move it himself, I shall perform that office for him. [The hon. member here read the amendment which has been published.] The amendment indicates the only equitable and feasible mode of settling the question. By submitting it to the proper tribunals it will be finally disposed of. If from such reference the tenantry get nothing, they must be satisfied with their lot; and if the claims of the proprietors shall be sustained, they must be supported. As to the proposed arbitration, it is all nonsense. Let each party bring his legal advisers, and let the Court and Jury decide their relative rights, as was done in the instances of Lots 15 and 55, where twelve freeholders gave their verdict on the evidence submitted to them; from such decision an appeal would be to the Court of Chancery here, or to the English tribunals, whose decision would be binding on all parties. The government should adopt that plan, and as they have a majority at their back there will be no difficulty in disposing of the question in the manner I have indicated.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND—It is amusing to hear the hon. member lecturing the Government, and instructing them what principles they should adopt in settling the land question. If he was sincere in his present opinions, why did he not advocate them when in power for so long a period? Why oppose the hon. member Mr. Cooper's motion for the establishment of a Court of Escheat?

Hon. Mr. COLES—Wise men sometimes change their views.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND—And fools jump Jim Crow; but of all the instances of such performances I have ever known, the present course of the hon. member is the most glaring. In 1855, when he had a ready majority at his back, none were so vehement in his denunciations of Escheat as the hon. member; but now that he is no longer in the Government, when his political stock in trade is exhausted, he finds it convenient to change his views, in hopes of again deluding the people. A man who, like the late Sir Robert Peel, changes his policy while in power, and by such change forfeits his high position, is entitled to respect; but the case is reversed in this instance, and the hon. member can claim no credit for his present advocacy of Escheat.

Hon. Mr. COLES—Look at my address before I left the Government.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND—Yes, that address appeared when the hand-writing was on the wall; when the sceptre was about to depart; when the miserable Government was doomed. I shall allude, without more than a passing reference, to the last dying speech and confession of the ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the subject of the wearisome Worrel Estate. I am content to take the last report of the Commissioner of Public Lands, from whose figuring it appears that there was a sum of £122 5s. 5d. against the property on account of interest and working expenses. If such be the case, it is idle to predict the time when the purchase money will be realized from the land, the most valuable portion of which has been sold, and the residue offers but little prospect of settling so long as better soil can be obtained. After the experience of that property no one should regret the loss of the Loan Bill; for if the management of that petty property had been so unfortunate, what would necessarily have been the result of the far greater operations under the Bill. Besides there was an inherent injustice in the principle of the measure, which should at least have made each property coming within the sphere of its action, primarily and solely liable for its own costs and charges; for it is unjust that the man in King's County should be liable to pay for the property of him in Queen's; or that either should be burdened for the benefit of the resident in Prince County. It has been truly characterized as a tax upon industry for the benefit of idleness. The refusal of the British Government to guarantee the Loan; has been stigmatised as a breach of faith. It is nothing of the kind, for it will be seen that no express promise had been given; Mr. Secretary Labouchere merely suggested the possibility of some such measure, when he was informed by the late Government that great irritation was experienced at the loss of the Reserves and Rent Roll Bills. The imperial guarantee was to be contingent upon the sufficiency of our financial affairs to repay the Loan, and when they were found to be in such a state that they afforded no security for that purpose, the ministry naturally and properly withdrew the measure they had introduced. It has been asserted that the proprietors had opposed the measure. Such is not the case, for it would clearly be their interest to receive Government Debentures for their lands. The true reason of the loss of the measure is to be found in the fact that Lord Stanley was misled when he stated that we were out of debt, and had a small surplus; and had the late Government been honest they would have shown that not only were we in debt, but that the debt was annually increasing. The Journals shewed a balance against the Colony of £29,800, and it is therefore unfair and untrue to charge the British Government with a breach of faith, because they did not act on statements the falsity of which was at length brought to their notice.

Hon. Mr. COLES—The hon. member seems indignant that a breach of faith has been imputed to the British Government. Mr. Labouchere's despatch contained a promise to guarantee the Loan; and a subsequent one stated that the Lords of the Treasury would negotiate the Debentures. If these were not promises, what can be so considered? I am not to be deterred by the hon. member from calling things by their right names. I am as loyal as any man, and Her Majesty herself is accustomed to the free expression of their opinions by her people at home and abroad. The hon. member commenced by saying that I advocate Escheat because no longer in power. Last winter, when a majority of liberal members was expected to be returned to the House, I stated that if the Loan Bill should be lost I would go for Escheat. I repeat that the Bill was opposed in consequence of misrepresentations as to the finances of the Colony; amongst others that the expenditure exceeded the Revenue by £15,000. If it was for their interest that the Bill should pass, why did they run over the country getting signatures to a petition against it? The Bill was, however, withdrawn before the document was received in England.

Hon. Mr. POPE—I am anxious to have this long standing question settled, but would not endeavour to hoodwink and humbug the people as the last speaker has done; nor am I of those who would, while paying my own rent, urge others to refuse to pay theirs, as has been the course of some. As so much allusion has been made to the Worrel Estate, I will shew the committee the reasons which induced the late Government to purchase it; and I think they will agree with me that the intention was not so much to benefit the people as to provide snug offices for some of their party who stood in need of them. The reason why so high a price was given for the property, was that Mr. Mooney was becoming very troublesome in his application for an office. To pacify him, the Hon. Col. Swabey had to give up his situation of Registrar, with the understanding that when the Estate became the property of the Government, he was to be the Commissioner of Public Lands. Mr. Joseph Ball was also to be installed as Surveyor General on a handsome salary. My brother bought the estate for £8500 sterling, and sold it to the Government for £17,000 sterling. Now, who were the Commissioners appointed to value it? Joseph Dingwell, whose relatives and friends are numerous on the property; Joseph Ball, who was to receive a salary of £250 a year, and William Swabey, whose annual salary of £300 was dependent on its purchase by government. Is it likely that they would report against their own interests? They were the Commissioners to appraise one portion. For the other part, the Hons. Messrs. Thornton, Beaton, and James Dingwell, (a brother of Mr. Joseph Dingwell,) were appointed.

Well, they reported in favor of the purchase, and Mr. Ball got his £250, and Col. Swabey his £300 a year, according to promise, and they have been benefited if the country has not. I would not object to the Loan Bill, if I could believe that its operations would be self-sustaining; but with the experience of the management of the Worrel Estate to guide my judgment, I can come but to one conclusion, that the Loan would have been ruinous to the country. The accounts connected with that property shew that up to the 31st January last, the end of the financial year, but £6022 14s 10½d had been received on account of lands sold, the loss of land tax, interest, salaries, &c., amounted to £6630 6s 8d, thus giving an excess of expenditure over receipts, of £607 11s 9½d. If those figures be true what have we to expect but that in a few years the whole purchase money will be sunk? It might suit the objects of the late Government to have it in their power to compel the votes of the tenants on this estate in their favour by threats of ruin, if they did not sustain them in office; and the same corrupt results were expected from the Reserve Bill. I would ask, too, on what grounds the charge of breach of faith on the part of the British Government is based? The late Executive Council sent home false and dishonest statements, showing a balance in favour of the Colony of £6000 or £7000; and when our actual position was shewn, and the Colonial Minister found that he had been deceived, he promptly gave the reason for withdrawing the Bill from Parliament, viz: the unsatisfactory state of our finances. In the statement of our assets sent home by the late Government, the public lands were estimated at 4s sterling per acre, equal to 6s currency. Now, sir, I find a large proportion of the Worrel Estate, no less indeed than 36,800 acres were purchased by the late Government at the following rates:

6,800 acres at 1s currency	£3,400 0 0
25,000 " 5s "	6,250 0 0
5,000 " 4s "	1,000 0 0
	£10,650 0 0

while taking the fictitious valuation of the late Government—

36,800 acres at 4s stg., equal to 6s cy., would amount to	11,040 0 0
making a difference of	£390 0 0

Will the hon. leader of the late Government dare to say that he put the true value of the lands in the statement he transmitted to the Colonial Office, when he knew well that the best of the land has been taken up by men of substance who have paid their instalments, and that it would be wise to give the residue to any who would settle on it, as it will never pay the expenses? That hon. member has argued that the opposition of the proprietors had defeated the Bill; and as a proof of his assertion, stated that they had got up a petition against it, but admitted that the Bill was lost before the petition got to England. But what was to be expected from such a Government as the last? Who but robbers or madmen would estimate as worth 4s sterling, land that had been valued by their own appraisers at but 8s sterling? The hon. ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer has expressed his willingness to go with the present Government. I give him every credit for sincerity, for I believe if he could get a seat in the Executive Council he would support the present or any other Government.

Hon. Mr. THORNTON—I shall briefly give my reasons for supporting the amendment, although I have been and still am a non-Escheator, if any other feasible plan can be adopted. I have been an agent for several years, and am at present a trustee of lands, and as such it might be more for my interests personally to keep as such the tenants of those landlords' property I have the management. But I say that the sooner the whole tenantry of the Island are converted into freeholders, the better. As allusion has been made to the report of the Commissioners for valuation of the Worrel Estate, I am quite prepared to justify it; and the reasons there assigned for the Government purchasing the property operate as strongly as ever on my mind. One great result of the Land Purchase Bill is the reduction of the price of land. The purchase of the Worrel Estate by the late Government had the effect of inducing proprietors to lower their prices, as they could no longer get 20s, 30s, or even 50s per acre, while the Government would sell at rates so much lower. There is one strong argument in favor of the conversion of leasehold tenures into freeholds, which has been overlooked in the debate. I allude to the large amount of money which would be retained in the Island, but which is now remitted to absentee proprietors for rent. On the same grounds as those on which I supported the Land Purchase, I was in favour of the Loan Bill; but with reference to the latter, it was never contemplated that the whole amount of £100,000 would be drawn at once. It was only intended to be used from time to time in the purchase of properties, as they might be offered to the Government. The great bulk of the people can only become freeholders under the operation of some general measure, and not by the miserable system of the purchase of a little bit of land here and there, while the great breadth of the soil is held by large proprietors, at high prices. As an agent, I have had ample opportunities of knowing the difficulties of collecting rents, and the embarrassments under which an unfortunate season places the already indebted tenant. In many instances, unless the Landlords relieve him, his energy becomes paralyzed, and pauperism stares him in the face. Although as I said before, I am not an Escheator, yet I shall support the amendment, if no other means can be found available for the settlement of this question. As to arbitration, I have no confidence in that as a practical solution of the difficulty. The award of the arbitrators would be made subject of appeal, the legal gentlemen would take care of that, and the poor tenant would realize the fable of the wolf and the lamb.

Mr. DAVIES—All has been done that could be done on the subject of Escheat, and all had been without avail. The hon. member Mr. Cooper had been twice a delegate to obtain a Court of Escheat, and both his missions had been fruitless. The hon. member Mr. Coles had denounced the agitation as strongly as any one could, and it was too late for him now to say that it would be conceded. The recent despatches are confirmations of the proprietary titles under the original grants. Much has been said about the Worrel Estate. In my opinion that property has never been worked in such a manner as to make it self-sustaining. The first duty of the Government after purchasing it, should have been to have calculated the first cost of the land, the interest on that, the loss of land-tax, the expense of management, the comparatively valueless area of swamps, &c.; and then have fixed their tariff of charges at such a rate as would cover all these items and provide a sinking fund for the payment of the purchase money. There exists no prospect that the future purchases and payments will be better than the past. As had been said by Hon. Col. Gray, hostility has been tried long enough, and it is now our duty to take the despatch in the spirit in which it is conceived, and endeavour to stop further agitation of the titles of proprietors, which has the effect of preventing the investment of capital in land. I do not mean to say that the Worrel Estate will produce nothing, as some hon. members have argued; but I certainly think that but very little will be

received from it when finally wound up; while the Loan Bill would, if in operation, have entailed unjust burdens upon the Merchant, the Mechanic and the small Proprietor.

Mr. COOPER—Measures of various kinds have been proposed, but nothing but a Court of Escheat will ever have the effect of settling the question. Numerous and grievous wrongs have been inflicted on the people of the Island. The grants provided that the lands were to be settled with foreign protestants. Now foreigners could not hold lands under British dominion, save as tenants; and therefore it was an act of injustice to deprive British subjects of their birth-right. Lots 15 and 55 were settled in freehold, and why has not the same state of things been realised elsewhere. In New South Wales the very convicts can, after the expiration of their sentences, become freeholders. The only way to effect a just settlement is by means of a properly constituted tribunal, and the proprietors, if their case be righteous, need not fear the result of an appeal to such a tribunal.

Hon. Mr. YEO—I wonder that the hon. member did not settle the question when he went to England—his trips cost a good deal of money, but all ended in smoke. I have sold good land for £35 per 100 acres, taking cattle or any produce in payment; but I want to know how a man who cannot pay his rent, can pay for the purchase of his farm. I do not approve of the Government and their servants becoming land-jobbers, for while proprietors can get but little from their properties, the expense of Government management will eat up all the property.

(To be continued.)

W. M. Howe, Reporter.

Cleanings from late Papers.

HIGHLY IMPORTANT FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF THE SAXONIA AT NEW YORK.

SARDINIA REFUSES TO RECALL THE GRAND DUKES.—PIEDMONT REFUSES THE CONFEDERACY WITH AUSTRIA.—POSITION OF FRANCE, AUSTRIA, AND PRUSSIA.

The Steamer *Saxonia* arrived at New York on the 17th inst., bringing dates from Southampton to the 4th inst.

The London *Times* says "a telegram from Paris states that the war vessels in the different ports are being disarmed, all those in the roads are being ordered back to port. Disarmament had commenced at Toulon, and all sailors who had served five years were discharged."

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* says the Sardinian Minister of Foreign Affairs had declared to Count Reiset, the French Commissioner, that Sardinia could not accede to the wishes of France so far as to make efforts to have the Grand Dukes recalled, and that it would be preposterous to expect Piedmont to do so, contrary to the wishes and interests of Italy.

The Paris *Constitutionnel* of Wednesday has an article from M. de Cassagnac, entitled "Ingratitude of Italy," in which the Italians are reminded of the immense obstacles which beset the empire at the beginning of the war, but which were faced and surmounted by his single will, and he reminds Italy of these obstacles. He continues to show, if need be, the enormity of forgetfulness. If the Emperor persisted, it would, he says, have cost tedious sieges, fresh battles, new loans, immediate war on the Rhine, troubles in Central India, insurrections in Hungary and elsewhere, which it would have been necessary to permit and even to encourage. In a word, it would have cost the abandonment of the principles of order and the adoption of revolutionary principles, agitation renewed for the present, without speaking of a possible reverse of fortune.

The article concludes with the following monaco:—Italy must know well that if the powerful hand, which is extended for a moment over it, is withdrawn, neither the fine speeches of the English Parliament, nor the sterile sympathies of the liberal party in Europe, would hinder Austria from dominating again in Italy, and this time from Turin to Messina. It is again stated that Piedmont formally declines entering the Italian confederacy if Austria forms part of it.

The Vienna correspondence says the Prussian note of the 23d August will probably put an end to the discussion between Austria and Prussia, as it is pretty clearly proved that the Emperor Napoleon made a statement at Villafranca which was not perfectly correct.

The *Journal de St. Petersburg* also declares itself empowered to state that not only were no bases for a mediation agreed to, but not even discussed. The writer adds that, having made the experience that he was deceived at Villafranca, the Emperor Francis Joseph may probably come to the conclusion that it will be better in the future to leave diplomatic affairs to his Minister of Foreign Affairs.

PALMERSTON.—The New York *Times* gives the following pen and ink sketch of Palmerston, the British Premier:—

"Of Lord Palmerston, the Premier, it is almost needless to speak. Few foreigners have ever so much as glanced through the doorway of the British House of Commons without carrying away a mental daguerreotype of his fashion and his face. True as the dial to the sun, the veteran Viscount may be seen each day as the hour of assembling nears, marching down St. James' Park and Whitehall Gardens with a vigor and gaiety of stride that would become the boldest boxer in England. Though seventy-five years old, he retains all the buoyancy and vivacity of youth, and with his gallant air and graceful dash of dandyism, looks a sort of masculine *Nina de l'Enclos*. He is said to possess that capacity of throwing off dull care, and that freedom from stupefying principles which make up the secret of inexhaustible political faith. His chief popularity with the masses is derived from their stout faith in his undaunted English pluck. This is a quality of immense value with a nation so stout and daring as England always has been, and always will be. As was said of another great English politician,

"Even at the feast his pluck pervades the board,
And dauntless game-cocks symbolize their Lord."

Every village ale-house echoes the belief that the Premier 'Pam' eats nothing but good Southdown mutton, and drinks nothing but good English beer; and as he centers along Rotten row or down Piccadilly there is something pleasant in the pride with which each passer turns and says, 'there goes our Pam.' At home he is the delight and stay of the social circle.

"Nor gout nor toil his freshness can destroy,
But time still leaves all Eton in the boy."

In the conduct of his administrative department he is despotic and severe, and cannot brook for a moment the smallest contradiction or control. He is troubled with one or two singular prejudices. For instance, he will not permit smoking in any portion of his office, or allow any officer in his department to write with a steel pen. As a speaker he is, except on rare occasions, clumsy and confused in the construction of his sentences, and hesitating and 'haw-haw-y' in their delivery; and few who listened to him for the first time would believe that this was the statesman who claimed for every Englishman the defensive glory of the old Roman '*Civis Romanus Sum*.' Lord Palmerston has no legal offspring. His wife retains all the charm of physical and spiritual juvenility which belongs to