

# The Examiner.

"THIS IS TRUE LIBERTY, WHEN FREEBORN MEN—HAVING TO ADVISE THE PUBLIC, MAY SPEAK FREE."—EURIPIDES.

Vol. 1.]

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND, SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 1847.

[No. 4.]

## POLITICAL MEETING AT PRINCETOWN ROYALTY.

At a Meeting of the Inhabitants of Lots 17, 18, 19 and 20, and Princetown Royalty, called together by advertisement, to take into consideration the present political state of the Colony, and held at the Upper School House in the Royalty, on Friday the 20th August, Thomas McNutt, Esq., in the chair, the following Resolutions were passed, the two first by a large majority, at least two hundred against ten, and the last without a dissentient voice. The Hon. George Coles, Messrs. Rae, Montgomery, McLean and Clark, M. P. P. were present, having been requested to attend, and expressed their several opinions. It was calculated by persons who took notes, that the number present outside the building, as well as in (for many could not get admission,) was at least 360, who listened with the greatest patience and decorum, until at a late hour, the meeting broke up, after the battle had been fairly fought; and who gained and who lost, the annexed Resolutions will shew.

THOMAS McNUTT, Chairman.

1st. Whereas this meeting has been informed that two gentlemen, members of the Assembly, and Officeholders under the government of the Colony, have been delegated by several individuals residing in Charlottetown, who are chiefly merchants, to the number of fourteen, to lay before Her Majesty's Government a Petition got up and signed by the instrumentality of the accessories of these gentlemen so delegated, and their fourteen employers, praying that Sir H. V. Huntley may not be continued in the Government of the Colony, alleging as sufficient reasons various causes of complaint that remain unproved. *Therefore Resolved*, That this meeting deems a Delegation to Her Majesty's Government for the object herein specified, unwarranted by any circumstances connected with the present administration; and that this meeting further believes that the real object of the delegation is to consolidate and increase the power of a faction who have been heretofore invariably opposed to the best interests of the people; and who dread the extinction of their long and dominant unconstitutional power to be at hand, from an apparent determination on the part of Sir H. V. Huntley, for the last 12 months, to administer the Government of this Island, so far as may be practicable, in accordance with the spirit of the British Constitution and the Imperial Instructions, and thereby carry out the great principle of Colonial responsibility of acting in accordance with the well understood wishes of the people.

THOMAS McNUTT, Chairman.

2d. *Resolved*, That Sir H. V. Huntley having manifested a liberal and impartial spirit in the recent management of his administration, we deem it a duty devolving on every lover of freedom and good government, to express our hearty concurrence in the views by which His Excellency appears to be guided, and to declare that we will cheerfully give him our support, so long as his administration continues, as now, to be just, liberal and impartial.

THOMAS McNUTT, Chairman.

3d. *Resolved*, That a copy of these Resolutions be forwarded to the *Royal Gazette* and the *Examiner*, with a request that they be inserted therein; and also that a copy be transmitted to the Governor, with a request that he shall forward the same to the Colonial Minister.

THOMAS McNUTT, Chairman.

## POLITICAL MEETING AT THE HEAD OF ST. PETER'S BAY.

Mr. WHELAN, having requested a Public Meeting of his Constituents, at the Head of St. Peter's Bay, on Monday last—as may be remembered by our readers—repaired thither, accompanied by the Hon. Mr. Coles, and several other gentlemen from Town.

Although many of the farmers in that part of the country had not finished their hay-making, and the weather highly favourable for the business, we were astonished and delighted, on arriving at Mr. Sutherland's, to observe the concourse of animated and independent yeomen who had collected from all sections of the District, for the purpose of attending the Meeting, and of sanctioning or disapproving of the several matters which were to be submitted to them. From the head of Hillsborough River to Neufrage, and thence to the Southern extremity of the District, we soon recognized the familiar faces, with honest independence stamped upon their brows, who, but a year previously, had gathered, unsolicited, to record their votes in our behalf. The presence of these men formed a gratifying spectacle—whether they assembled to condemn or to approve—manifesting an alacrity, at a very short notice, in responding to the call of one of those to whom they had entrusted the protection of their dearest rights.

In front of Mr. Sutherland's house a spacious and well constructed platform was erected for the accommodation of those gentlemen who intended to address the Meeting—affording a magnificent view of the rich and varied scenery of the Bay—its waters dancing in the glorious sun-light, and the well-tilled fields on either side, offering ample testimony to the taste and industry of the agriculturist. At 2 o'clock Mr. Whelan took his seat on the platform, on which chairs were also placed for the Hon. George Coles, M. P. P., John Jardine, Esq., M. P. P. and J. P., John Macintosh, Esq., M. P. P., Donald Macdonald, Esq., M. P. P., William Swabey, Esq. Jun., J. P., and Angus Macintyre, Esq., J. P., all of whom were warmly greeted by the assemblage. Several gentlemen, who took occasion to form an estimate, concluded that upwards of four hundred people surrounded the platform; and, it is a circumstance that could be easily attested, they were, with scarcely half a dozen exceptions, all electors. Mr. Whelan rose and thanked his friends for their prompt and generous acquiescence in his wish, and requested them to appoint a Chairman and a Secretary, previously to his entering on the business, for the performance of which he had solicited their attendance. JOHN JARDINE, Esq. was then proposed to preside: the proposition was unanimously carried. Mr. EDWARD ALLEYNE was proposed Secretary to the meeting: this proposition was also unanimously carried.

Mr. WHELAN then commenced his Address to the Electors. He had two questions to put, and many explanations to offer. The first was, did they believe it would be conducive to their advantage, and to that of the Island generally, if Sir Henry Vere Huntley were continued in the Government of the Colony? He (Mr. W.) thought it would: he would give them facts and arguments for so thinking. The second question which he had to submit was, would they (the Electors of the District he had the honour to represent) sanction the course he had pursued, since his Election, in vindicating the policy of the Lieutenant Governor; in feebly assailing the influence of a Party whom he had always assailed during the whole period of his residence on the Island, whose unconstitutional ascendancy he conscientiously believed to be hostile to sound Government and rational liberty; and in using his exertions, both as a public writer, and as a private individual, in behalf of a Petition praying Her Majesty the Queen to continue His Excellency in the command of the Colony. He (Mr. W.) reminded the Electors that in his first speech to them as a candidate for their suffrages, he avowed himself an advocate of Sir H. V. Huntley, when he had good grounds for believing Sir H. V. Huntley had seen the propriety of adopting a different course of proceeding from that into which he had been unfortunately led by Mr. Pope and his party. He (Mr. W.) held the same sentiments and opinions up to the present moment. After a few further observations, in which he

vindicated his adherence to these opinions, he commenced a review of the opposition recently offered to the Governor by those who formerly professed themselves his friends, bringing the charge of recreancy home to the parties who were the readiest to prefer it against others; and took up the Petition which Messrs. Pope and Palmer have been delegated to lay before the Queen for the removal of the Governor. He read the Petition, sentence by sentence, and exposed the falsehood and sophistry of which it is made up.

He concluded his speech, which occupied about two hours and three quarters, in thanking the Electors for their patience and attention, offering as an excuse for the delay he occasioned them, the huge mass of falsehood with which their enemies had attempted to deceive them. Loud and enthusiastic applauses frequently attested the concurrence of the meeting in the observations addressed to them. He intimated that several Resolutions had been prepared by a Committee of gentlemen belonging to the District, which would be submitted to them by his honorable colleague in the Chair. If they adopted them, the questions he proposed would be fairly answered, and his conduct justified.

THE HON. GEORGE COLES was then introduced to the Meeting, on which the CHAIRMAN took occasion to observe, that in him (Mr. C.) they might recognize a sworn advocate of Liberal principles, a fact that was well established by the opposition which the Family Compact had lately offered to his election, and in which they had been signally defeated. His enemies, the Chairman continued, thought to blow him out like the snuff of a candle; but the more they blew the more plainly they found they had kindled a heap of coals, and the blaze of which, he was glad to see, is extending to every section of the Island. The Chairman concluded by proposing three cheers for Mr. Coles, which was promptly responded to, in loud and long-continued cheering.

Mr. COLES then rose and addressed the Meeting at considerable length. He thanked them for the generous reception they had given him; a circumstance that convinced him that as he is a member of the Government, and an avowed advocate of His Excellency, they entertained confidence in His Excellency's present views and intentions. He, and others who acted with him had been charged by the enemies of the Governor of an intention to abandon the Responsible Government question. The real and avowed enemies of Responsible Government, who bring the charge to which he had alluded, against his political party, seem to think that Responsible Government means opposition to Sir H. V. Huntley. This is the way in which they sought to poison the minds of the people against the Governor; but he (Mr. C.) knew they could not succeed to any very great extent. One great object of your struggles against the Compact, in former times, was the establishment of a system of Government that would be at least independent of the dominant party. This was now happily accomplished; and he (Mr. C.) trusted that the people would not be so fool-hardy as to undo all that they had been doing for many years, and hand over the Government to the entire management of one dominant Family in Charlottetown. It was easy, he said, to understand the cause of all the opposition now offered to His Excellency by the Official Party. That Party were afraid you would have too much power in the Government—and afraid, ay and well aware, that their relatives and nominees would not have the privilege of filling every vacant office, to the exclusion of real talent and merit, and to the detriment of the Public Service. Mr. Coles then adverted to the principal source of agitation in former years—the Land Question. He had no doubt that the advocates of Escheat believed their cause to be just; but whether just or unjust, it is now admitted on all sides, that if the Escheators had acted on the principle, that half a loaf was better than no