

acting as vice with a huge white Turban, as big as his dignified bottom.

As the proceedings were about to commence, the chairman gravely and slowly rose from his seat, full of that conscious dignity that great men so well know how to assume and command respect. Having placed himself in a studied and theatrical attitude, with one hand stretched out gracefully towards the Members, he now began to puff and blow till he had inflated his corporate, it had the appearance of a Snock bleaching in a high wind." His eyes seemed to strike fire with indignation, and the whole man seemed to portray vehemence pregnant with great effects, and as these turbulent passions had subsided somewhat, his tongue found utterance to the following address:—

Gentlemen.—I believe you are all acquainted with the object of this meeting, which is to sit in judgment on a certain prying character or spy, on our most audacious actors. He has (do you see) dared to arraign our conduct as leaders of this district, and leaders of the blind, which for time immemorial has been our exclusive privilege, and no one for a moment ever dared even to doubt our prerogative, some of us present have served the public in Parliament, assembled many a weary Session, we have made laws for their pigs, for their fences, the wild beast and all that, and if we have monopolized every sou of public profit for roads, bridges &c. &c. &c. if we have fleeced the poor in the dignified office of J. P. if we have grasped most of the land to the exclusion of all others; if we have charged cent per cent more than the fair dealer what matters, we have more than precedent for all these. If we have sold the vilest filth in the shape of tobacco, and kill devil impregnated with oil of vitriol and tobacco juice, the poor rogues were glad to get them, as also damaged or dam'd Bona, at ten or twelve shillings per pound, for these they were equally glad to get into our books, and once in, who would be the fools to let them out with impunity. No, 'twere better to hold the sorry rogues in perpetual subservience and thereby rule the roast. Gentlemen of the dark society, all these things we could do and more, and grow fat on the spoil. But now forsooth a pitiful knave who calls himself Rosicrucious has sprung up amongst us, who has had the audacity to impugn us in a lump, not judiciously by singling out one, but takes us collectively as a body. Now Gentlemen, what is an aggravation to the business, this same vile knave set at nought our dinners and our grog, having but little himself, yet has the presumption to be honest enough to despise our worldly acquisitions, unlike the world in general, pays us no deference for what commands the greatest homage, but lives by himself uncorrupted by the times and laughs us to scorn for our ignorance.

Something must be done with this troublesome fellow, and speak ye as to the best method. The next speaker observed that it was far easier to point out the nature of a disease than oftentimes to find a remedy, and though he acknowledged that he was as anxious to suppress the popular tide in favor of Rosicrucious as any member of the assembly, yet that did not shut his eyes against the impracticability, and singular as his observation might appear, he much doubted if the whole concentrated talent of the members were sufficient of themselves to effect the desirable object contemplated. For he said that it should be understood that in the person of R———s he had a monster to contend with, who had become besetted by his new fangled notions of justice.

It was, however, remarked by another of the divan, there was one way and only one, that carried with it any chance of success, and this was, to employ one pedagogue, a keen and notable fellow of the Jewish tribe, who for a mere trifle or favor from the rich would open the floodgates of his learned lore obtained from his old musty archives of Aberdeen College, that would overwhelm as it were a votary, or in other words by using his pen which would be worse than hell's besom, it would at once sweep him to perdition.

Yours, &c.

ROSICRUCIOUS.

(To be continued.)

Reported for the British American,
Club Room, 12th Feb. 1833.

In consequence of the heavy fall of snow this evening, some members of the Club were late in assembling, which gave rise to the following very spirited Debate.

No sooner was the roll called over, and all the Members in their places; than Mr. Hard-Bottle rose and said,—Mr. President,—before we go into any business, I consider it is necessary to make a few remarks relative to the time and manner of meeting in future. I cannot at all Sir, see the use in adjourning this club to any particular hour. If a strict attendance is not observed at the appointed time. Because Sir, in my opinion, the reason why a time is stated or named is, that members may be prepared to lay aside all private matters and attend to their public duties. And if one member has liberty to stop half an hour longer than the stated time of meeting, another will no doubt claim a similar privilege, and a third may perhaps claim an hour; and if the first be tolerated, why not the second and third? and whilst members are allowed to do what they please in this way, why appoint an hour at all? Thus you see, Mr. President, if the regular boundaries be once suffered to be trampled on, there is no knowing where they may be afterwards settled.—

There is much important business to be transacted; and if the honorable members of this club do not attend to it in due course, I much fear the scanty means at our disposal will not afford to pay "Law Clerks" to do the business for us; and even though it did, why they people may say [and with justice too] that we are mere drones who do nothing, only get clerks to work for us and make the public pay for them; and pay ourselves also. I therefore move Sir, that if any member of this Club shall be absent more than fifteen minutes after the time appointed for meeting, he shall be fined 6s. 8d. and shall be obliged to give a "feed" to the whole of "the troop."

The Doctor said, he wondered very much that his Hon. friend (Mr. Hardbottle) did not include a dozen of wine as well as the "feed." But, Mr. President, I think it would be altogether beneath the dignity of this Club to restrict the members thereof under any such penalty. Suppose Sir, that during the time of my engagement in public business my wife, should come to Town, would I not be worse than a monster not to pay her the homage due to the lady of an honourable Member of this Club? I appeal to every married man in this Club, if it be not right I should do so, and it is a question with me, if any of our young beaux would not break through the rules of this club for the sake of paying his devotions to his "Susan" if she came the way. Besides Sir, I don't see that the Hon. the House of Assembly are ever scrupulous in that way, for you may observe by the "British American," that although they adjourn to 11 o'clock, it is sometimes one o'clock before the commence their labors, and seldom they continue such labors later than four. p. m. Now Sir, taking 3 hours to be the maximum of each days labor, and that every day costs the Public Fifteen or Sixteen pounds, (although it is said the House of Assembly are the servants of the public;) would it not be extremely hard that the members of this Club who have no pay at all, and who are not the servants, but the Guardians of the Public, should be so much confined to a stated hour of attendance. And as a further illustration of the force of my argument, I beg to refer you to fifty years past, and see what the practice of the Supreme Court had been in those days, there Sir, you will find that the practice was, to notify attendance at 10 o'clock forenoon, and perhaps it would be 2 o'clock, p. m. before the Court met, and then it was only to read the Proclamations against "Vice and Immorality &c. &c." after this was done, adjourn until 10 o'clock the next day, next day meet, at one or two, then the Judge would ask if there were any "Cases ready," and because this was the harvesting time with the Lawyers, they probably had a bottle of wine, or a "picnic."