

American Indians were so remarkable. Such a trespass upon their most cherished resource of food, was unpardonable. The ancient warrior above mentioned, whose name was Nemiguanoga, again rose.

"The white man is a thief, a dog, a slave for Manno-wanto."*

This declaration, by the oldest and most venerated brave of the tribe, was equivalent to an excommunication by some of our own religious sects; and their prophet was immediately summoned to give the necessary religious sanction to the rite.

* The evil spirit of the Micmacs.
[To be continued.]

THE GOVERNOR'S VISIT TO CANADA.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir:—In common with many of the public, I am very much surprised and disappointed that you have not relieved the general anxiety respecting the journey of the Governor to Montreal. We understood that you were a kind of demi-official Editor, and would do the work which, under more regular governments, is usually, when there is such a thing, done by the *Gazette*, by which I mean that as there is no organ of the Government, or that the usual organ is employed by the opposition, it was hoped through you we might get a hint or an occasional peep behind the curtain. Now, Sir, if you really possess information, you are the most perfidious, cruel person in the universe. How can you, if you call yourself a Christian—though you may be only a back-stairs one—suffer so many of your fellow creatures to undergo all the pangs of cruel suspense on the one hand, and hope deferred on the other? How can you conceal from the expectants, what offices are to be vacant, or from the delinquent officials, on whom the blow is to fall? Many and painful are the apprehensions; for though we cannot expect Sir Henry Huntley will spare those who make no bones of trying to subvert him,—and though we know the official obligation under which Lord Elgin will find himself, yet we know nothing of his disposition. How can you, Sir, if you know any of these things, be so heartless as not to communicate them? I had hoped better things of you; and I begin to think it is all a sham that you know more than your neighbours. You affected to tell us that certain parties had formerly set up the "Constitutionalist"—that they had fought against the Government at a late Election, and done many such like things; but you do not tell us who the parties are, or whether it is they of whom the Governor is gone to complain, or whether he is gone to enter on his own defence, or to be instructed about Responsible Government, or to learn to carry out the new views about the abolition of differential duties, or what the devil else he is gone for. Now, Sir, for the love of humanity, tell us all about it, and when he is coming back, that we may set our houses in order accordingly.

Yours,
A SNATCHER.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir:—I have observed with surprise, in the report of Mr. Montgomery's speeches delivered at the Malpeque Meeting, published in a late No. of the "Examiner," that he stated that he had "during last winter, been offered office and refused to accept it." Now, as Mr. Montgomery is, of course, opposed to "secret communication" between any member of the Assembly and the Lieutenant Governor, I wonder he did not inform his constituents what office or offices—if any—he has had offered to him, and his reason for not accepting.

Perhaps Mr. Montgomery will have no objections to inform the public through the columns of the *Islander*, on the subject, as the statement, as it now stands unexplained, appears doubtful.

Yours faithfully,
AN ELECTOR OF PRINCETOWN.
September 14, 1847.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Mr. Editor:—Perusing the *Islander* of the 30th August, I perceived a statement of the fatal accident of my child, as follows:—"Accidental Death.—On Tuesday last, 24th inst, a child six years old, son of Mr. G. Owens, of Princetown Royalty, met with his death in the following singular manner. It appeared the child

had procured a short knife, and was cutting up a stick, and while drawing the blade towards him, in attempting to cut a knot off the stick, the knife slipped into his body, causing almost instant death." Now, Mr. Editor, fraught as I trust I am with Christian Charity, though with feelings intensely painful, I should be made of impenetrable stuff, sensibly and awfully affected by an event that I am unhappily the wretched victim. Whatever may be my extended charity,—however wide may be the range of my benevolence, or sympathy with those connected with the perpetrator of the catastrophe, yet I have a duty I owe to myself and the deceased; and were I not the sufferer from the sacrifice of my son, I should be wanting as a member of the community, did I allow such palpable misstatements as the above article, and other misrepresentations which have been made to pass current with impunity, or without comment. The shedding of blood, either maliciously or otherwise, calls loudly and imperiously for strict and minute investigation. The members of an inquest, however honorable, or however pure or immaculate their intentions, are not infallible—they may be misled, imposed on, by divers causes or motives; and if a Coroner's inquest or verdict was founded on such a statement, it was positively wrong and replete with error. It would not, Mr. Editor, be consistent with those views of charity, that I would be desirous to entertain to accuse the juvenile perpetrator with the wilful murder of my child, but that he slew the infant, in my mind admits not the shadow of a doubt. And if indubitable evidence had been taken, impartially investigated, and wisely digested, as most decidedly it ought, it would have been clear and manifest. I do not think that the Coroner's Inquest was conducted with that regularity that the Laws of the Island requires, or the importance of such a case so imperiously demanded. The true statement;—the child had been cutting a stick, a piece of smooth shingle, about eight inches long, but without any knot on it, as described above. He had endeavoured to fabricate a rude figure or doll, when the other boy took it out of his hand and cut off the head of the figure. The child, perhaps evincing some impatience, desirous of recovering the knife, when the other boy, Dugald Cody, threw it at him. It entered the breast about an inch and a half from the breast bone, on the right side, a little below the collar bone, between the ribs. The puncture was very small: the knife was sharp pointed; the handle stiff. It appeared by the blood that adhered to the blade to have gone the whole length. The child pulled the knife out of the wound himself. The only words he afterwards uttered were, Oh, Dugald! (the name of the boy who had inflicted the wound). The boy Dugald was sitting on the bars of the fence, about two feet and a half from the spot where the child stood, his sister holding him by the hand. After the knife was thrown, she sat down by the child, and he clasped his hands round her neck. She put her hand on the wound, and the blood issued from his mouth, exclaiming, "Dugald, you have killed him." The boy Dugald fled home, and met a girl coming from school; told her that Donald had fallen on a knife, and he was afraid he was killed. The child was carried to the house by his brother, whilst the sister was screaming out to her mother that Donald was killed, and that Dugald Cody had done it. This, Mr. Editor, is the unsophisticated truth, and the other a mere fabrication, unsupported by evidence.

GEORGE OWEN.

N. B.—The sister of the deceased is 14 years old, the boy Dugald Cody, that threw the knife, is 12, the infant 5 years and 9 months.

THE EXAMINER.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1847.

RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.

We remarked in a recent No. that the events of the late Election for the first District of Queen's County, afforded a practical illustration of the working of Responsible Government, as an existing element in the British Constitution in the Colonies.

It will be admitted that the responsibility of official people, Ministers, as it were, of the Crown, and particularly the members of an Executive Council, sworn to advise, and (tell it not in Gath!) to conceal nothing from the Representative of the Crown—is of a twofold nature: they are—that is, ought to be—responsible primarily to the Crown, and that responsibility should be exhibited, as the Lieutenant Governor has explained in his Speech at the close of the last Session, in immediately quitting the Council or resigning any official post, whether of emolument or otherwise, when the holder of office finds he cannot honorably or conscientiously coincide, (we do not mean on any isolated or unimportant occasion, but in principle or general line of action) with the Head of the Government; on the other hand, responsibility must be a responsibility to the People, and in a Colonial Government this will have its influence on public measures, by means of the necessity in which

its Head will find himself, of appointing to his Council a due portion of persons in whom the People's Representatives have placed their confidence, and demonstrated that confidence by usually supporting them in the Houses of Legislature, more particularly in that Branch which contains the Representatives of the People. Without these, if things took a due constitutional course, it would not be easy for a Government to work, and it is the approach to this which the appointment of Mr. Coles to the Executive Council, and the consequent proceedings at his Election have brought about, which induced us, in speaking of that election, to say that it afforded an illustration of the subject. We are aware that there is another definition of Responsible Government, which it is customary to speak of, more particularly in the neighbouring Provinces, and which employs the terms, "governing by heads of departments." We cannot readily discover the practicability of this scheme, for Heads of Departments can be changed in England as often as different parties gain and lose ascendancy, seeing that there is no department, the internal business and details of which are not carried on by able and business-like men, long trained to the particular trust, who never or but rarely change, and who are not responsible ministers of the Crown, but their subordinates. Now, we have no such class here, and the principals are, for the most part, necessary to the due performance of those official duties, of which they have long experience; but that such parties should so far forget the principles of the British Constitution or their own honour, as to think that they are to retain their offices for life, without gainsay or hindrance, and openly oppose the Representative of Majesty, or controul the voice of the people—cannot be tolerated; and the short-lived inconvenience of finding them successors, who will act in a more constitutional manner, is nothing in comparison to the evil of submitting to an *imperium in imperio*, to be practised both on the crown and the people. If such a state of things were permitted in any Colonial Government a guarantee of safety and perpetuity of office would be given, even though the views of the holders were ever so opposed to the Crown and people, and indeed ever so selfish and unpatriotic,—and the latter could enjoy nothing like the shadow of the influence which their fellow subjects of Great Britain peaceably exercise at every general election. The practical nature of the responsibility we seek must consist in the Lieutenant Governor making, not on slight, personal or frivolous grounds, but at proper times and seasons, such changes in Councillors and other officials as may become necessary, and as shall be in accordance with the state of the representation; and the system of office being only tenable by its occupant, "*Quam diu se bene gesserit*,"—that is, so long as he is well conducted—must be better understood.

It seems hard that any person to whom the Queen has delegated her authority, should have so limited a choice of his advisers as the present system permits: it might be, that during the whole period of office it never would occur, that he had to appoint to a vacancy. On the other hand, speaking of responsibility to the people, unless the measures of Government emanated from the Head of that Government and his Council, or were in accordance with their policy, it becomes a mere name: if they did so emanate, then before they could be carried, a majority of the People's Representatives must be brought to approve them. In other words there must be something like a coincidence in views between the Government and the Houses of Legislature, which coincidence has been lately, and in a wholesome and constitutional manner, made known by the appointment of a member of the Assembly to the Council, carrying with him the approval of the people, expressed at the time by their Representatives, and since with tolerable plainness by themselves. But be it understood, we have written these remarks not only as the subject may affect ourselves, but as applicable to the condition of other Colonies, too small to admit of the entire working of the Responsible System, as it works in Great Britain by Heads of Departments,—nevertheless, every one of them contains enough of its necessary elements to set on foot a very near and salutary approach to it—salutary as respects both the Crown and the people—salutary as shutting the door against the monopoly of office by one set of men, however originally well selected, and the enforcing one only view of public affairs—it might be in the very face of a large majority of the