

semi-epileptic attacks, prostration of strength, mental depression, decay of the vital powers, and death.

On receiving the information he had gathered, Anselmy was struck with one singular feature in the case—the prediction evinced by every patient in turn for the Angel-chamber.

It seemed a fatal fancy; for, certainly, whatever something influences it might exercise on the minds of the invalids, was not reflected in their bodies.

On the contrary, every one became rapidly worse, and the mysterious Terror—though its recurrence grew more and more frequent—seemed gradually to lose its intensity, in proportion as physical health declined, till it left the sufferers wholly undisturbed.

“Now,” said Charles, as with a deep sigh he raised his pale face from his hands, after a minute’s meditation, “come with me, and I will show you the Horror in the House.”

He walked, followed by the others, straight to the Angel-room. There it shone, with its regal couch, its superb mirrors, its glowing cabinets, its purple curtains.

“Does this,” he asked, “look like a pestilence palace—a house of pain and death?”

He struck upon one of the gilded panels as he spoke; it returned a hollow sound, like an echo of the last word, “death!”

“The next moment, Charles caught up a poker from the fire-place, and dashed in the panel.

“Stop down,” he said to Mawry. The latter did so, but started back in horror, as a sickening, loathsome odour pervaded the apartment, as from a newly opened grave.

“There lay indeed the secret of the Horror. Out of that panel crept the unseen destroyer that had sucked away the breath, the life of no less than five victims.

“From the Angel-Chamber, which had been originally intended as a luxurious bath-room, a pipe had been prepared, the other extremity of which had vent in the sloping bank of the adjacent cemetery, long since become a mass of corrupting human clay.

“When, on the previous night, Charles threw up the window, some slight odour eliminated from the burial-ground, connecting itself with the loathsome sense from which he had just escaped, at once revealed to him the latter’s origin.

“I gave you to understand, children, that this story was true; I now repeat that it is based on actual and melancholy fact.

“Many a child’s banquet have I shared in that fatal chamber with my pretty play.”

Correspondence.

ABERDUMBBEE WILLCOCK, Esq., TO THE TENANTRY OF P. E. ISLAND.

SEVENTH GREETING.

BELOVED FELLOW-COLONISTS—Although it is now some months since I last addressed you on the subject of the Land Commission, yet I beg to assure you that I have not been inattentive to passing events, as far as your interests are concerned.

I think I then pointed out to you what little sympathy had to be expected from our Proprietary, your Government, and that it was their desire to possibly could, the better to enable themselves and their masters, the proprietors, to enervate their inclinations to destroy your hopes and just expectations, and to enable their friends, the Deputies, the Havildars, the Yeas, the Palmers, the Pops, &c., to ruin you by law expenses in illegal exactions of rents and arrears of rents, which they know they have no honest claim to.

Four months have already elapsed, and no report from the Commissioners on “the Land Question?” You are, therefore, to be told, on the meeting of the Legislature, to wait with patience and forbearance until the Commissioners do report. In the meantime, of course, you will be expected to pay rents, and all other burthens imposed on you by such worthless creatures as you have composing the Government of this unfortunate Island at the present time.

losing that £750 a-year than he has the fear of God? He knows that when the bonds of slavery on the tenantry are once cast off by the freehold system instead of the leasehold, he will have no chance of seeing the freeholders out of two guineas for leases, the same as on the Westmorland property, and that his occupation as Land Agent will be numbered amongst the past.

He also knows it won't be so easy to endorse the Bank of Prince Edward Island out of another £14,000, his friendship with the President of the Bank, gentlemen, is it not laughable enough to see in print a certificate of no rogery character in that transaction from Mr. Haviland, who was not then President of the Bank—who was absent in Nova Scotia or some where else, when most of the money was endorsed out of the Bank, and who is said frequently to have declared, both in public and private, that “he did not know anything at all of such endorsement until he heard it from the same Mr. Pope.

after the bankruptcy or stoppage of payment of the party with whom Pope was connected in that business?” So much then for the (no villainy) certificate of the President of the Bank, the Mayor of the City of Charlottetown, the Commander-in-Chief of the Old Family Compact. Not he, indeed, the dear simple innocent man, why should he suspect his friend Mr. Pope, who worked so hard for him and the Government proprietors before the Royal Commissioners, and before since in the Islander newspaper. The dear innocents, what a nice pair they would make in a cage together in Barnum’s menagerie!

It has been said, and I believe is generally considered true, that a day or two before the worthlessness of the endorsed Bills by Mr. Pope became known, a large amount of money was drawn from the Bank by means of such endorsed Bills, and that after the money was so drawn, Mr. Pope himself was the first to announce the unfortunate news at the Bank some days before the arrival of the mail, that the party on whom the Bills were drawn had become bankrupt, and advised very kindly the Cashier to look after the drawer of the Bills here, and get what could be got from him, because “he (Mr. Pope) himself was not worth one sixpence!”

What a pity he did not say a trawler! Well now, Mr. Pope either told the truth (though perhaps for once in his life) or he did not; if true that he was not worth a sixpence, then by endorsing Bills which otherwise would not be taken at the Bank, was he not, through the agency of the drawer of the Bills, either receiving the money for such Bills under false pretences, or enabling his friend the drawer of the Bills to do so, to the loss or almost ruin of the Bank? And if he did not speak the truth, and that he was then worth more than sixpence, was he not acting deceitfully towards the shareholders of the Bank in so shrinking from his responsibility as endorser on the said Bills, in order to force the Bank into any compromise which the drawer—under his guidance, no doubt—might offer? If what I have said be not true—and I have heard it from two of the Directors of the Bank, as far as my memory serves me—I suppose a certificate (of no villainy) in the case can be had from the Cashier, who must be cognizant of the facts better than

Your friend and fellow-colonist, ABERDUMBBEE WILLCOCK.

ABERDUMBBEE WILLCOCK, Esq., TO THE ELECTORS OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.

A SECOND TIME SEVENTH GREETING.

BELOVED FRIENDS AND FELLOW-COLONISTS—In my last I pointed out to you how our Proprietary Government have rewarded their organ, the index or exponent of their views, W. H. Pope, for the services which he has rendered in opposing the rights of the tenantry, as well before the Royal Commissioners while here, as constantly through the columns of the Islander newspaper.

I have also shown you how largely the same W. H. Pope is interested to keep his friends in power, as he knows well he has nothing to expect from any Government favourable to the tenantry. You cannot forget how often through his editorial writings in the Islander he preached up to us Protestants the necessity of keeping out the Papists, who, to believe him, would put all of us in Purgatory or a worse place, if the person of Mr. Coles or any other Liberal favorable to the interests of the tenantry should again become the Leader of the Government!

But on finding that the good sense of the people prevailed over the vile prejudices thus sought to be engendered between his fellow-colonists, his next dodge, or rather that of the Government who retain him in their service for such unworthy purposes, was to assist the land claimants to prevent the tenantry from deriving any benefit from the Land Commission; and although he and the Government have so far succeeded in keeping the Commissioners from reporting, so as to be able to organize all possible resistance through the proprietors in England to anything favorable to us, which might possibly be contained in the report, yet now the tactics are again changed. Yes, gentlemen, by your united action you have compelled them to change. You have not quietly and orderly together; you appointed Delegates, faithful men whom you could honestly trust with your interests. Your Delegates met, and honourably and nobly discharged their duty; they fearlessly published their report—such as men trustworthy and favourably disposed towards the interests of the people who appointed them, could or would report—a report which has struck terror and dismay into the hearts of the Government, the proprietors and their lackeys—so much so, that, now the organ of the Government, the Islander, edited by the Colonial Secretary, Mr. Pope, “seeing how the current sets,” begins to trim its sails, and comes out in the advocacy of a LOAN! A LOAN of no less than £270,000!!! to purchase the proprietors’ lands for “THE PEOPLE!” Yes, gentlemen, a loan of nearly double the sum which the late Liberal Government asked, and would have obtained too, had it not been for the rascally resistance of the proprietary faction, who have hitherto kept the people here in a partial state of slavery; and because your late worthy Governor, Sir D. Daly, recommended such loan to the favourable consideration of the Queen, your would-be friend, Mr. W. H. Pope, called him “the unscrupulous Sir D. Daly!” And now, gentlemen, you have the good, the pious, the saintly, sanctified, conscientious, scrupulous W. H. Pope, of Bank endorsing notoriety, advocating not only a loan of ordinary amount, but nearly double the amount sought for by the late Liberal Government; and what is the consequence? Why that Mr. Edward Palmer, more consistent, even in error, than Mr. Pope, asks him how he can advocate a loan under the name of the Islander of the Colony? To which Mr. Pope’s editorial in the Islander replies: Oh! you mistake me, Sir, I don’t wish it at present. I only wish the Legislature would talk about it when they meet, so as to keep the refractory tenantry in good humour, and to make them believe that we mean to do something for them, if they only keep quiet until they vote for our party at the next General Election. That is what my wish as well as my meaning is. And what else, gentlemen, can be expected of such a man as Mr. Pope has been and is? The Mr. Pope with £750 a-year trombling in the balance, with the land jobbing, the “two guineas leases” to the tenants, and the Bank endorsing business—pretty much out of his grasp,—you know it is only natural for him to “jump Jim Crow,” to try to secure it. But, gentlemen, we should not forget the old saying, “When the fox preaches let the geese beware.” As it is with the fox constrictor, which bestwears its victim to make it the easier swallowed, so it is with Mr. Pope, when he becomes the advocate of anything good for the tenants; so that he may be able to “endorse” something good for himself out of the transaction. He long since proclaimed through the Islander that because Mr. Nicholas Conroy, at the last General Election, declared himself fearlessly and honestly in favour of the tenant’s cause, the Catholics were dangerous people, and should be kept down; and accordingly no Catholic, no matter what his standing in the community, or what his integrity or capacity for the management of public affairs, would be admitted to office or to a voice in the Councils of our Colony. But, gentlemen, I need scarcely ask you if we had a majority in the Assembly of such men as Mr. Conroy, whether or not the late Royal Commissioners would not be better informed, and instructed, than in the business for which they were appointed? Think of the man would W. H. Pope be permitted to display his antics, on the part of the Government, before the Commissioners, in all three counties wherever the Commissioners held their Court? Think you would your Counsel, Mr. Thompson, have to complain of the public records having been kept out of his sight, if you had such friends as Mr. Conroy in the Government? I trust, gentlemen, these simple questions will sink deeply in your minds, and let our rulers see plainly that we must have the leasehold abolished. If not by a Protestant exclusive Government, that we shall and will make another Government that will grant or obtain our rights. Whether such Government be Turk, Jew, or Heathen, for the purpose of obtaining our just demands, is

not material to us. It is said of a certain class of politicians that no good can be got of them unless they be well kicked; and that the better you kick them the more likely you are to get your demands from them. Need I ask you, gentlemen, what has been the cause of W. H. Pope’s pretended conversion to the necessity of abolishing the leasehold tenure? Was it not the certainty of being kicked out of office and out of his £750 per year? With such a memorable example before us, of the fear of kicks, will we not keep our limbs well exercised, and be prepared for the kicking match that will kick all such nuisances out of the way of our rights, and proclaim to the world THAT WE SHALL AND MUST BE FREE.

Your faithful friend, ABERDUMBBEE WILLCOCK.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR—In the Examiner of the 21st of January, I saw a very incorrect statement of my agency reported, as evidence given by the Hon. T. H. Haviland before the Land Commissioners; and it is necessary to publish a true statement, instead of attempting to correct the errors which would require too much space, and I shall confine this to as few words as will convey the facts.

In the year 1819, in the presence of Lord James Townshend, I received the agency for his Township, No. 56, from Mr. Hutchison, his Land Agent, with whom I was to correspond, and for legal advice in this Island I was to apply to Mr. Waller. I was to receive £30 a year salary, and expenses.

In 1820 I found 29 tenants on a farm, at a yearly rent of £130 10s. There was a Mill stream in the settlement; but the nearest Mills were St. Peter’s, on the one side, and Murray Harbour on the other; and I informed Mr. Hutchison that a Mill was necessary. It would improve the Estate, and encourage its settlement; that there was little money in circulation, and Mills on England scarce; and to make a rentance it would be a reasonable price, that I could do no better, I placed the proceeds of £300, in the hands of Mr. Hutchison, for Lord James, together with my accounts, and met him at Mr. H’s chambers; but Mr. Waller was there with his Lordship before me, and it appeared settled that I was to be superceded, principally on the ground that an agent residing in Charlottetown could procure and remit Bills, when an agent in the country could not.

Mr. Waller had written home to say that from the severity of our winters, Mills were expensive to keep up and would be no profit to Lord James; and Mr. Hutchison wished me to keep the Mills and be a rentance by a vessel, that I could do no better, I placed the proceeds of £300, in the hands of Mr. Hutchison, for Lord James, together with my accounts, and met him at Mr. H’s chambers; but Mr. Waller was there with his Lordship before me, and it appeared settled that I was to be superceded, principally on the ground that an agent residing in Charlottetown could procure and remit Bills, when an agent in the country could not.

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greatly subject to for the last few years, a fact not by any means unknown to Mr. G—s, alluded to, as I have good reason to suspect.”

This special pleading of the Honorable gentleman is very silly, in respect to the protection, and is malicious as regards the plunderer. It amounts to this, that he, Mr. Palmer, took a friend’s advice to do, and did an unjust act, for which the inference from his reasoning is, that his friend is morally accountable, and must be the scape-goat; and the honorable innocent gives us a further justifying reason for having done the unclean thing, that it, the 45 acres of wilderness, would be a means of protecting his adjoining wilderness land against plunder.

How the purchase and ownership of additional wilderness lands, liable to pillage, could be the means of protecting his attached wilderness Glebe from plunder, is a notion so grand of conception, that I am confounded and lost in its mystic depth; but there may be subterfuge and evasion of truth rolled up in that startling assumption, and this conjecture gains strength from the fact that Mr. Palmer could not have had that object in view, as it did not apply to purchase the “protecting” 45 acres until after Mr. Palmer, had actually sold that same 45 acres to M—n, together with his Glebe. What a lamentable exhibition of stultification and evasion Mr. Palmer here presents to the mind!

I now come to the plunder insinuation, which I shall briefly treat thus: Mr. Palmer, as Leader of the Government, having proved in and by himself that “might was right,” in depriving G—s of the 45 acres; did not feel satisfied in having done him that wrong only; but, still thirsting to do him further harm, pursues his disposition to injure, by darkly and damagingly insinuating that G—s had for years plundered his (P’s) Glebe land. That I may not be misunderstood in this, I shall again quote Mr. Palmer’s language. Writing of the 45 acres purchase, he says: “As a means of protecting my adjoining land from plunder, which it had been greatly subject to for the last few years, a fact not by any means unknown to Mr. G—s, alluded to, as I have good reason to suspect.” I shall leave this matter to the injured, wounded G—s himself to deal with.

Following Mr. Palmer, I find him denying in his letter that he sold the land at 17s. 6d. per acre, which he obtained from the Government at 6s. per acre. All I have to say respecting this denial is, that my informant as to the 17s. 6d. price is an intelligent, unbiassed, honest man, and I respect his word.

Mr. Palmer further states, regarding the sale of the land to M—n, that “I am not to receive a penny of the purchase money for some years to come.” The learned special pleader should have gone a little further on this point; but perhaps he thought “the time had not arrived” to acknowledge that he took a mortgage on interest from its date upon the whole property, payable in three years, the G—s part of which property he, Mr. P., obtained at a credit of ten years’ credit, under the Land Purchase Act; therefore he will have received payment, with interest, for the G—s land included in the mortgage, seven years before it will become wholly due and payable by him, Mr. P., to the Government. Mr. P.’s magnanimous credit, ending seven years before the Government time, shows that he knows how many blue beans make five; but he may not be generous of his flourish about not receiving payment for years to come.

But to close this communication, which has grown rather long, I must observe, in reference to Mr. Palmer’s letter under review, that therein he has not denied that G—s was the prior and only applicant before himself for the 45 acres of land. He does not deny that he sold to M—n the 45 acres applied for by G—s, when he, Mr. P., had no right or authority to sell that land. With these facts in view, my first letter not only stands uncontradicted, but confirmed in its main premises and facts. In this present letter I have shown that Mr. P.’s Glebe land did not come within the preference “consideration” given to resident farmers, and I have exposed the ragged mantle, under cover of which he would like to hide the deformity of the nasty act he perpetrated upon G—s, and exposed his pencil subterfuge. I have also shown that he obtained the G—s land at ten years’ credit, and sold it payable in the purchase, at a large profit; and secured the payment of the purchase money by mortgage, which he no doubt drew out, and got a round fee for. And I have shown that he, Mr. P., has endeavoured by dark insinuations to damage the name of G—s in relation to the plunder of the Glebe land.

Having exhibited the Palmer land job fairly and correctly, it remains for me to express my pity for Mr. G—s and cordially inhaled him by bearing his position as Leader of the Government, and still his bearing as a private gentleman in the perpetration of that nasty land job, from the muck of which his ingenuity has failed to cleanse him.

FOY’S 1, 1861. SPECTATOR.

“When evil stiches the worst have greatest names.”

OPENING OF THE PRINCIPLE COLLEGE! THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS—OUR EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR—An ancient philosopher being asked what he considered the most suitable thing for a student to learn, replied, those things which will be the greatest service to him when he becomes a man. The truth contained in this reply is not so evident to every rational man. Language, being the Organ of the greater part of human knowledge, it must be first acquired in order to enable us to become properly acquainted with “those things which are valuable for life.” But like the sin of Adam, the evil attending the presumption of the builders of Babel is ever dogging our footsteps—the world has not yet returned to its original innocence, neither is “the earth of one tongue, and of the same speech.” To acquire a thorough knowledge of the language and literature of even one of the tongues into which human speech is divided, occupies nearly all the time and means at the command of ordinary intellects. To most, then, it is not only to attempt the acquisition of three or four languages? But suppose there existed a language capable of expressing every shade of human feeling, whose literature contained all that is beautiful in thought, noble in action, and useful in science,—suppose, moreover, that men whose mother tongue this language was, had devoted their lives and their genius to add to its rich and varied stores all that was valuable in thought, from the most civilized nations of ancient and modern times, would it not be madness to neglect the entrance of such a literature, by dabbling in two dead languages, which, because of a few orations and epic poems are designated classical? Fortunately for us we have the language and literature above described in our mother tongue, yet, ungrateful sons as we are, we sigh for other charms, owing in no small degree to the false value set upon them by the interests of selfishness and the absurdities of custom. But, says Professor Inglis, the language of the ancient Romans is the basis of French and English, and the knowledge is indispensable to an acquaintance with the mere words of these tongues. Were this correct the English student it would be the best argument to the English student in favor of classical education. Though Latin is the “basis of French,” as it is likewise of Spanish, it is an egregious error, unparadisable in a Professor of English, to derive the English language from certain many words incorporated into English, derived from the Latin and a few from the Greek, but it contains as great, if not greater number from the Celtic and French. It would be equally incorrect to say that the last named languages were the foundation of English, while history and the etymological analogies subsisting between it and the various dialects of Gothic origin, prove that Saxon and not Latin is the basis of our tongue. A few historical facts, in illustration, may not be uninteresting.

At the time of the conquest of Britain by the Romans, 54 B.C., Caesar found that in Britain, as well as in Spain and Gaul, dialects of the great Celtic tongue were spoken; but it was not to this original vernacular that the English language of the present day owes its origin. The formation of our tongue was the work of later times. Yet it contains some traces of the old Celtic—the language of Osian—introduced either directly from the remains of that language, still preserved in their greatest purity in Ireland, Scotland and Wales, or indirectly from the Norman French, or some other derivative from the same stock. Though Britain was in possession of the Romans during four centuries, and though it was the inevitable practice with them to introduce their own language into conquered states, yet the Celtic tongue of Britain did not receive much modification during Roman supremacy. The English derivatives from the Latin were not introduced by Caesar or his immediate successors, but came through the medium of the Norman French. From the impetuosity of the British to learn Latin, and their aversion to those who deprived them of liberty, the mass of the people continued firm in their attachment to their ancient language and its exclusive use.

In this state of purity the language of the British Celts remained until the beginning of the fifth century, when Southern Europe began to be overrun by Goths, Huns, and other clans and more productive soil, they emigrated from Scandinavia—our modern Norway and Sweden—and mixed their blood with the population of the British Isles. Their conquest effected a radical change in the customs, laws, and dialects of the districts they subjugated. The Huns and Lombards, overrunning Italy, corrupted the Latin language, and originated modern Italian. The Franks and Normans grafted their vernacular on the language of Gaul, producing Norman French.

Spanish and Portuguese arose from similar combinations of the language of the Visigoths. While the Scandinavian nations were conquering Southern Europe, the original British was first subjugated by the northern Goths, and, allured either by the hopes of plunder, or induced to send out colonies by the denseness of their population, despatched thither successive expeditions. The first incursion of these tribes, of which we have any authentic account, was led by Hengist and Horsa, and effected a landing on the shores of Kent, in the year 449. It was in this county, then, that the original British was first subjugated by the northern Goths, and, allured either by the hopes of plunder, or induced to send out colonies by the denseness of their population, despatched thither successive expeditions. The first incursion of these tribes, of which we have any authentic account, was led by Hengist and Horsa, and effected a landing on the shores of Kent, in the year 449. 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