

would probably have escaped much of the opposition and hatred which the clique now entertain towards him.

SWEET COUNSEL FROM THE DELEGATES TO THE "LIVERPOOL MERCURY."

We have noticed in one or two of our English papers a paragraph copied out of the "Liverpool Mercury," purporting to be a true statement of the particulars connected with the Delegation from this Island to the British Government, for the removal of Sir H. V. Huntley. We have no doubt that the "Mercury" received its information from the mouth of the veracious gentleman who plumes himself on being the representative of all the men, women and children in this Colony. But if the "Mercury" knew as much of him as we do, his communications would be received with extreme caution. Before we proceed to make any comments on this beautiful admixture of truth and falsehood, we shall insert it here for the amusement of our readers:—

"PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND.—A deputation is now in London, bearing a petition to the Government not to renew the appointment of the present Governor of Prince Edward Island. Circumstances have for some time rendered a continuation of Sir Henry Vere Huntley in his office any thing but desirable; and the well being of the colony would, no doubt, be served by the appointment of some other gentleman for the administration of its affairs. Indeed, no other course would seem to be at all politic, from the number and station of those who object to his peculiar course of action. The deputation consists of the Hon. Mr. Pope, speaker of the House of Assembly; the Hon. Mr. Palmer, representative of Charlottetown, and Andrew Duncan, Esq., one of the principal merchants of the Island. The second named gentleman was a member of the Executive Council, and only resigned his seat at the board in consequence of his own and the public feeling with regard to this question. The petition bears the names of all the sheriffs, thirty-six justices of the peace, forty-three commissioners holding judicial office, and about four thousand three hundred electors, including all the principal merchants and other inhabitants of the Island; and the prayer of the petition is supported by the recorded opinion of a majority of the present members of the House of Assembly itself. Such a movement will doubtless meet with prompt attention at the Colonial Office, where the good government of our distant provinces is regarded as an object of the first importance."

"Circumstances have for some time rendered a continuation of Sir Henry Vere Huntley in his office any thing but desirable." The "circumstances" it would not be "at all politic" to detail; but we will dare to give them in a very few words. The most powerful ones are, that Sir Henry would not suffer Mr. Pope to govern the country, and quietly submit to that gentleman's dictation in every matter connected with its "affairs"—that he has had the hardihood to release himself from the blighting influence of the Compact—that he has sundry times admitted Mr. Rae and others of the Liberal party to his presence—that he has given a seat at the Council Board—formerly held by Mr. Pope—to a gentleman who has had the misfortune to incur the displeasure of the immaculate Joseph, and who has the double misfortune of not being "a well-beloved cousin" of the Compact—that he has given divers small offices, such as those of Magistrate, Commissioner, &c. &c., to persons against whom the elect long since fulminated the ban of proscription, because of their lamentable propensity to radicalism—that he has, on several occasions, made the most inconvenient inquiries into the management of public offices—that he has prohibited certain gentlemen, entrusted with the controul of public monies, from making many profitable speculations in those monies, contrary to the wise and wholesome practice by which the rule of Sir Henry's predecessors had been so happily distinguished—and that he has set his face against all pleurality in the possession of official situations, greatly to the discomfort of the "respectable and influential portion of the community," and to the sacrifice of one of the most ancient and sacred privileges of the said "respectable and influential" people, &c. &c. These are some of the most remarkable "circumstances" which render Sir Henry's continuance "anything but desirable"—not to the people at large, but to a select few in Charlottetown.

The reason why His Excellency should be recalled, according to the "Mercury," is certainly a very omnipotent one: it is to be found in the "station of those who object to his peculiar course of action." His Excellency, having given office and emolument to several gentlemen who stood in need of them, and who now pay him for his generosity by the darkest ingratitude—ought

to be removed because he will no longer favour them, nor govern the Island according to their "peculiar course" of policy! The wisdom of such an argument is about as worthy of admiration as the modesty which dictated it. Certainly, had the Editor of the "Mercury" reflected before giving insertion to this passage, he never would have made his paper a vehicle for such paltry nonsense. Mr. Pope's profound knowledge of constitutional procedure shines through every word of it.

In giving the names of the distinguished triumvirate charged with the impeachment of His Excellency, we are told that Mister Palmer "only resigned his seat at the [Executive] Board in consequence of his own and the public feeling in regard to this question." Now, this is a desperate attempt at strangling the truth. So anxious was he to hold the seat, that he tendered only a conditional resignation—that is, if Her Majesty would permit him, the aforesaid Mister Palmer, to wink at the solemn oath of an Executive Councillor, by campaigning in England against the officer he was sworn to advise and serve—he would cling to his Executive honours, notwithstanding the obstinacy of the Lieutenant Governor, according to Mr. Palmer's own declaration, in declining to act upon his sage advice. So much for his "own" statesmanlike "feeling in regard to this question." As to the "public feeling," we should like to know what portion of the people is meant. If the whole population of the Island were called upon to give their opinion "in regard to this question"—(we mean Mister Palmer's relinquishment of the title 'Honourable')—we would speedily find that gentleman or some of his friends—Collard, for instance—repudiating such a test, and damning them for a set of meddling, officious fellows. The "public" referred to, we presume, are the "free and independent electors" of Charlottetown, on whose behalf the stupendous intellect and incomparable wisdom of the late Councillor is most especially employed in the senatorial arena. The "feeling" of Charlottetown was, however, manifested in a totally different manner from that indicated by the "Mercury," for an Address was actually presented by some of "the most respectable and influential"—(never forget, gentle reader, to make your most profound obeisance when reminded of these famous people)—entreating and beseeching their idolized Statesman not to jeopardize the safety of the State Barge by declining to help Sir Henry through the shoals and breakers by which it was surrounded. A year or two ago, when the immaculate Joseph not only turned sulky upon, but positively mutinied against his commander, we were told that if he left the Ship, the whole crew and cargo would inevitably go to the bottom; and, in compassion for the sweet souls, the generous man remained on board, until by some mishap he was compelled to walk the plank. Fortunately, he was not only not missed, and all hands saved from a direful shipwreck, but the Vessel of State has sailed on in a more trim and steady condition ever since. But when the Honourable Edward Palmer first thought of taking up his hammock—or when others feared he might do so, because the Captain dared to hold consultations in his cabin to which he was not a party—the pencil of a Raphael could not picture the consternation and affright which seized upon the timorous souls of a few of the lady-like passengers in the cabin, and their servants in the steerage. No earthly power, it was thought, could save the Ship when HE would have left her to the mercy of the treacherous waves—HE, whose "eye in a fine phrenzy rolling," had scanned the heavens—had foreseen the storms that convulsed the elements—knew every dot upon the Chart by intuition, and had grown familiar with every cape and promontory which lay in the devious course of the hapless Ship, as though his whole life had been devoted entirely to their study. No! it was infamy—nay, downright murder in the first degree, to suppose, imagine or conceive, that his inestimable services could be dispensed with. He should be continued, at all risks, to give sweet aid and counsel—to make a holy sacrifice of his genius for the safety and advantage of the State; until—ah! woe is me!—in an evil hour the Consignee, Earl Grey, declared that he thought the Ship could sail without him. And, miraculously to relate! on, on she sails with all her canvass unfurled—her crew as "merry as a marriage bell"—confident of weathering every storm that may arise, and never dreading the oft-foretold repose

"In the deep bosom of the ocean buried."

The parade about the sheriffs, justices of the peace, "and commissioners holding judicial offices," is really the most amusing part of the paragraph under consideration. Most of these people were thrust into their situations during the dictatorship of Mr. Pope—thrust in, as agents or instruments to be used by him whenever there might be an occasion for them, as there was in the getting up of the Petition against His Excellency. They, with an instinct peculiar to them, consequently regarded Mr. Pope, and not the Lieutenant Governor, as their benefactor. They are servants worthy of their Master, and their Master of them. Few of them ever troubled themselves with any nice considerations or reflections as to the utility of one set of political principles more than another: they received their posts with the implied, if not expressed, understanding, that principle and practice were to be kicked to the devil, if the immaculate Joseph so commanded. We can, therefore, afford to smile at the egregious vanity which prompted their being thrust into the foreground of the caricature presented to the public by the Delegates. But we may ask what are the mighty results which have been achieved through the interposition of those petty officials? Last May the same parties made a grand display at the election of the Hon. Mr. Coles, in opposition to that gentleman; and assisted as they were, in every onset which they made by some of the bigger fish, the new Councillor, almost single-handed, beat every man of them, and would beat them again, as they have never before been thrashed; but, unhappily for the frailty of poor human nature, they can endure many a whipping before the conceit can be driven out of their silly noddles. They imagine, poor souls, that their offices give them influence and power; but the people of this Island—the hardy yeomanry who despised them at the last Election—will turn up their noses at them with as much contempt, as a veteran company of regulars would manifest on the battle field towards a handful of raw militia recruits. We would as soon think of employing, in any political enterprise, a bevy of fat old women, who could do nothing more than wheeze, and cough, and drink their bohea, as the whole batch of justices, and commissioners, manufactured by Mr. Pope. What a pretty figure they would make upon the hustings! There is not one out of every twenty, though mad enough for any thing else, who would dare to encounter a constituency: if such a small proportion of them did, there could not be the shadow of a doubt of their having attained the last stage of insanity. Truly and sincerely, our political differences have not stifled in our breast every feeling of compassion; we feel for those misguided gentlemen; and we think that if Mr. Pope, who has led them into all their monstrous errors, is not, strictly speaking, indictable under the law which prohibits cruelty to animals, he has certainly merited the reproach of every right thinking man, for puffing up those poor people to such a lamentable degree of flatulency. It is somewhat difficult to foretell the consequences of such a proceeding: for a month or two we have seen many a face puckered up with laughter, which was, indeed, sometimes decently suppressed—excited on contemplating the ridiculous plight into which their master had plunged them; but when Earl Grey's Despatch was published, in which those justices, commissioners, &c., were pointedly declared to be unworthy of belief, the cachinations of the Snatchers had subsided into a profound feeling of melancholy and commiseration, and a fearful foreboding of something rash—something out of the common order of things, pervaded every generous breast. We do hope, the crest fallen justices, &c., will yet make a struggle to be men; and endeavour to remember, that if it were not for those little misfortunes and defeats, they should ever remain in ignorance of their true position.

"The prayer of the Petition is supported by the recorded opinion of a majority of the present members of the House of Assembly." This is the last sentence of the paragraph above quoted, which we deem it necessary to notice; and we can confidently inform our readers that it is entirely false. We know the names of the "present members of the House of Assembly" who have not supported the prayer of the Petition. They are: Messrs. Rae, Coles, Clarke, N. Conroy, J. Warburton, Fraser, Mooney, Jardine, Whelan, Macintosh, D. Macdonald, Le Lacheur; leaving eleven on the other side—the Speaker's name not being included; but, independently of those already enumerated, who did not support the prayer of the Petition, there are Messrs. Hugh McDonald and