

the Assembly, he has for many years been the leader and to which he lends no contemptible aid, in other quarters. That Mr. Pope thinks of self as much as any other leader anywhere, is an opinion held by many besides myself. If he forgot himself altogether, I am not certain that those who lie quiet while he labours, would remember him.

As to the Speakership, the Report makes me say that I applied for it only "— days" before the meeting of the House. My observation was, that until the day previous, I would not agree to stand; that I never wrote any member for his vote, and that I had neither spoken nor written on the subject to my colleague, Mr. Fraser, whereas Mr. Pope had applied to him weeks, if not months previous.

In reference to the Governor's closing speech on Responsible Government, my observations are imperfectly reported; the same remark applies to my allusion to the Belfast Election. After the first Election had been set aside, and many days before the unfortunate bloodshed of the 1st March, I moved that an Address be sent, requesting His Excellency to cause the Sheriff to swear in twelve to thirty special constables. Only Mr. Palmer supported me. The Speaker discountenanced it as irregular, others as unnecessary, and the remark then made by me was, that I would not take up time urging it, as no doubt through Mr. Palmer, as a member of the Council, and intimate with the Sheriff, the necessary precautions would be taken. That afternoon I was told that the Sheriff was listening while I was speaking. This motion was more of a precaution against any such disturbance as might be returned a riot, than through any dread of what did actually occur. On the day of election, I was surprised and disappointed to find that no preparation had been made, the more so, as along the road I gathered that the feelings of both sides were roused. What could be done in the way of reasoning I tried. The malicious falsehoods as to my having been concerned with distributing whiskey amongst the Irish on that occasion, are unworthy now of notice. Mr. Coles vindicated himself in the 'Reporter,' newspaper, and his defence will apply with more force to me.

As to Government House, there is no allusion to what I said as to the ground, or part of the ground. As to my acceptance of office, it is omitted that I thought under the despatches I had a right to accept, though if my constituents thought otherwise, I would refuse every office, rather than darken the clear and unbroken confidence which had subsisted between them and me. As to the allusion to the burial ground, I do not remember of having made use of it; if I did, it was wrong. Many other remarks occur, but your paper can't be taken up altogether with such things. To conclude, the Reporter acted gratuitously, and is therefore entitled to thanks; but I can't avoid again expressing what I observed in 1846, that no report is better than an imperfect one, that is, *better for the character of the speaker as such*. But yet while I reiterate this assertion, it ought also to be noted, that though he may see in his observations, when printed, many imperfections, facts pertinent to the subject, yet strangely jumbled, want of connecting sentences, and other faults, some or all of which really occurred, though he may have been unconscious, the public, nevertheless, will know something of what passed through his mind, and a liberal public, making allowance, will give him credit for what little order they may see in his observations, and will overlook the irregularity, the unnecessary violence of expression, the awkward metaphor, the quaint and obsolete language, all of which will be found in my observations, as printed in your last number. And yet, though I have found it, on former occasions, most severe labour to write out reports of speeches I had spoken ten or twelve days previous, and without any thought that I would be called on for such report, I would not now be afraid to make to that in your paper, many other corrections, and some additions, all of which when printed, would be remembered by those who heard me, and which would make the thing look a little more tolerable than it at present appears.

Are we to occupy our spare time till next Session talking at one another, or are we to meet our constituents and hear their opinions, and offer our own suggestions, as to the establishment of a Bank, or a branch of some other Bank; as to the Post Office, Free Ports, Free Trade, and Inter-Colonial Duties, on all which we ought

to have something like mutual opinions by the time of meeting. Get up some controversy about what is to be done, and let the past alone, if you can. One letter will, I think, satisfy me in answer to all that have been written against me—though I have three or four ready.

Your most obedient servant,

ALEXANDER RAE.

10th Sept., 1847.

P. S.—Don't forget the Tenants' Compensation Bill, for we must do something; and if the British don't furnish a precedent, we must make one. Certainly everything that is done, was done for once without a precedent.

The Chairman of the Princetown Meeting has just told me part of Duncan McLean's commentary thereon, published in the *Islander*. If Duncan could not, on his own trial, speak so as to be generally understood, nor at any time I have heard him, he should not shew a paltry envy against those who can speak readily, and so as to be intelligible to all. It is a mercy he finds himself hampered in that line, for he would probably speak as he writes, and then the Assembly would be exposed to the disgrace of his ill-natured buffoonery being exhibited on the floor of the House. His famous West India precedent of breaking into Government House and taking the Governor's life, has given the people of Malpeque a sufficient proof of his prudence and good intentions.

Should the House be dissolved, there are not a few decent men ready to compete with the present members. There are also some sowers of strife, whose aim it is to set the members generally at bitter enmity.

TO JAMES D. HASZARD, ESQ.

Sir;—It seems necessary to address you through the 'Examiner.' The Oyster Cove Resolutions were not published by you, as you say you doubted their authenticity; and even if convinced of that, you did not think it regular to publish Resolutions when the names of the several movers &c., were not given. The actual circumstances are the following:—At the conclusion of a Meeting of about forty persons, the Chairman, Mr. Matthews, requested me to transmit a copy to the *Gazette* and *Islander*, which I did, marking every Resolution as signed by him: the whole communication was in my hand writing, and signed by me. That writing you and Ings have been familiar with for the last nine years, and it is easily recognised. As to the want of the names of the movers, &c., turn to your paper of 10th November last, and there you will see ten Resolutions passed at a Meeting in 49, and no names, &c., mentioned, nor the name of either Chairman or Clerk at the termination. In a later paper, you sail off on another tack, pretending that I had assumed a right as connected with the Executive to have them inserted. This is disingenuous and impertinent. If I had been connected with the Executive, I would, as one, have made no such requisition. At the request of a Public Meeting, of whom some there were among your subscribers, these Resolutions were transmitted to you as a public journal. As the printer for the Government, had they contained censure against the Governor, you would not have been applied to. The motives which induced you to keep them back can now be ascertained by those who think it worth while to consider the circumstances. In former times I found you rather civil, considering you were a wealthy official, and therefore feel it irksome to touch on the inconsistencies lately apparent in your conduct.

Yours, &c.,

ALEXANDER RAE.

14th Sept., 1847.

THE MISSTATEMENTS RESPECTING THE MALPEQUE MEETING.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir;—Having read from the *Islander* of the 2d inst. an article from the pen of "An Observer," professing to give an account of a Meeting which was held at Malpeque, on the evening of the 20th ult., in which the author has chosen to make statements, not only deeply erroneous, but extremely low-bred, abusive, and ungentlemanlike, and has taken the liberty to belie me, I feel myself called upon, not only as one of the Representatives of the Royalty, at whose instigation the Meeting was called, but also in justice to myself, to intrude upon your notice a few remarks explanatory of the proceedings of the meeting, and corrective of the glaring errors

into which "Observer" seems wilfully to have fallen. Whilst I was prepared to bear in mind the fact, that the *Islander*—or rather the person who *now* styles himself the proprietor of that highly useful periodical—rejoices in being the vehicle of more low, scurrilous insult, and wicked detraction and defamation, than any other paper in these colonies, not even excepting the *Halifax Morning Post*, I was, I must say, surprised to find it give insertion to an *anonymous* article on such a subject as that of a Public Meeting, which it well knew did not contain one particle of truth, and thus incur *all* the odium which must descend upon the man who makes himself the willing disseminator of falsehood. I make all due allowance for Mr. Ings's great partiality for *that* statesman—Duncan McLean—and still I can but feel appalled at the licentious character that at least a part of our press unhappily permits its acts to secure to it. When I reflect upon the attainments—the acute observation—the deep, extensive, and well digested reading—and the strong and correct judgment of the proprietor of *that* paper, my wonder is heightened into perfect amazement, that he, the veritable John Ings, should make himself responsible for so glaringly false a production. And when I call to mind that only last spring Duncan Maclean, Esq., M. P. P., in one of his celebrated specimens of blackguardism, addressed to Alexander Rae, Esq., felt compelled to state that so great was his abhorrence for *anonymous* scribblers, that he could not, (*conscientiously, of course*) reply to such a class of papers; and turning to the article of "An Observer," find the very identical refinement of blackguardism which graced those letters to Mr. Rae, and which, in some abuse, addressed to the Rev. Dr. Jenkins, through the columns of the *Constitutionalist*, so clearly indicated the character of the writer who has again figured in the scribbling world, under the inappropriate cognomen of "An Observer," I cannot suppress a feeling of regret that such men have the means of communicating their poisonous compounds to the world.

With reference to the Meeting—the account which you have already published, is mainly correct. The report of the speeches with which your correspondent has furnished you, although much condensed and abbreviated, has in it the great mass of the *gist* of what was delivered at the Meeting. That report was, notwithstanding "Observer's"—I beg pardon, Mr. McLean's—assertion to the contrary, taken on the spot. With reference to the amount of the Meeting, I need but say, that the School House was crammed; that there were at least a hundred persons who could not get admittance, for want of room; and that it is capable of accommodating at least 300 persons on foot, as the greater part of those present were.

Let the honest hearts and strong arms of those present (if need were), repel the dirty insinuation thrown upon their capability to conduct a Public Meeting, and upon their respectability; and let Duncan McLean, ashamed, hide his face if he can, from the looks of scornful contempt which will await him in future, for his disgraceful allusion to the ignorance of the Electors of Princetown Royalty, who, if they are not so well versed as he is in the art of measuring Comet's tails, have more sound, intelligible common sense, and more genuine integrity of heart, than he and all the swarm of Tories of star-gazers who have pestered the world since the time of Copernicus.

The most barefaced lie (I beg pardon, Mr. Editor, for using such coarse language, but what else can I call it!) that is to be found in this precious morcean, is contained in the statement that I was compelled to acknowledge having calumniated my colleague. Now, Sir, so far from this, I proved there, that I had been particularly guarded in remarking upon the late course pursued by my friend Montgomery. I then put the facts to the Meeting plainly and simply. I stated that during last Session, Montgomery had almost invariably occupied other benches than had formerly had the honor of supporting his royal person; and from this a self-evident conclusion arose, that either he had been won over by Pope and his party, or that he by his persuasive eloquence, political acumen, and indomitable perseverance, had, like the helm of a ship, brought round the whole unwieldy mass of Pope's, Palmer's, and McLean's to the Liberal side. Well, in this age of wonders, nothing is impossible; but a knowledge of the parties compels me, Sir, still to remain a sceptic with regard to this great vaunted achievement of the redoubtable Donald Mont-