

Correspondence.

ORANGE ASSOCIATIONS.

To HIS EXCELLENCY GEORGE DUNDAS, ESQ., LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR, &c.

May it please your Excellency—

I again, as promised in my former letter, return to the "Brethren of the loyal order." Before, however, advancing any further proof of what Judge Moore has pronounced the "exclusive disloyalty" and "rebellious character" of the lawless and ruffian banditti known by the name of Orangemen, I may observe en passant that a worthless and mendacious scribbler has, over the world renowned signature of "Junius," attempted what his arrogance and folly no doubt deem a reply to my former communication to your Excellency. The fulsome style of his harmless epistle, quite destitute of facts, and abounding in reckless assertions, unsupported by even one single authority, because he had none to offer, proves to every man, even of the most ordinary capacity, that an able advocate than "Junius" is required by the Orange faction to defend them from the pen of Mentor. His reply, its acknowledged weakness must convince him that his avocation is not the championship of a respectable and disloyal cause, whose merited unpopularity is sufficient to make even true genius shrink appalled from its defence. He must feel alas, your Excellency, that it is much easier to write senseless doggerel, obtain the ephemeral reputation of a postaster, than consult the facts of history, and deduce therefrom rational and legitimate conclusions. Any partially, mentally diseased, moon-struck mania, affected with the ravies of rhyming, can do the former. It is only men of sound judgment, industry, talent and perseverance who can accomplish the latter. A few words, your Excellency, with reference to Junius, and I pledge myself to have done with him for ever.

Byron has said "the man who cannot reason is a fool, the man who will not reason is a bigot, and the man who dares not reason is a slave." Junius appears in the threefold character described by the noble poet, a bigot, fool and slave. A fool, in not being able to reason that the testimony of Grattan, Gosford, Palmerston, Derby, &c., would prove more convincing to the public mind in rendering odious and contemptible the blood-stained system of Orangism, than any thing one of the ASLAMED could say in support of its lamelike innocence and saintly demeanour,—a bigot who, in his blind zeal for Orangism, came forward to defend it, although he must know, if he knows any thing, that its banner is stained with blood, and its badge disloyal,—bear witness ye myriads of innocent victims of Orange assassination—attest the truth the Orange conspiracy to prevent our gracious Sovereign from ascending the throne of her royal predecessors. And he is the slave of all systems the most debasing—the slave of religious prejudice and rancorous political hate—a wretch whose character has been drawn to the very life in the following lines by Ben Jonson, but a little altered:—

"He talks as he is wont, not as we merit; Traduces by custom, as most dogs bark; Does nothing out of judgment, but disease; Speaks ill because he never could speak well. And who'd be angry with such a wretched creature?"

Pardon me, your Excellency, for taking up so much space, and occupying so much time with the brazen epistle of Junius—

"Who knows his well, must loath him with disgust, Degraded mass of animated dust."

And I, your Excellency, quit him with the most deep disgust, and feel assured that if Philo-Mentor, whose letter has been published, be qualified to assist your present correspondent in the same ratio as Philo-Junius lent his powerful aid to the real Junius, the counterfeit Junius of the Monitor will be so tortured with the lash of an indignant pen pouring forth the inspiration of impassioned thought, as will make him pray his tabernacle dissolved, yet not before the last ray of his expiring poetical light will have enabled him to write his own epitaph. But as he has no power of invention, the highest proof of genius, and as he is also a paltry plagiarist, I here supply the ideas from the glorious mind and strong vocabulary of a gifted Irish orator. Junius has only to change the sex and tenses to make it literally true: "Bigotry has no head, and cannot think; she has no heart, and cannot feel; when she moves it is in wrath, when she pauses it is in amid ruin; her prayers are curses, her communion is death, her vengeance is eternity, her deologue is written in the blood of victims; if she stoops for a moment from her infernal flight, it is upon some kindred rack to whet her fang for keener rapine, and replume her wing for a more sanguinary desperation."

And now, your Excellency, having disposed of the counterfeit Junius, consigned him to other hands, I must revert to Orange associations. It has been frequently asked by all classes of politicians, since the appearance of my first letter, will His Excellency issue a proclamation against Orangism, or will he suffer the system to continue? Will the present Executive co-operate with him in putting down the institution? and if not, will he take the responsibility upon himself, and as the representative of the Sovereign, crush the unholty and disloyal fraternity? And it has also been asked, has His Excellency the power delegated to him of acting in a manner hostile to the intentions and the interests of the Home Government? He knows that Her Majesty and the Royal family repudiate and denounce an institution which endeavoured to set aside her legitimate right to the Crown; and will His Excellency foster a system which rose in rebellion against his Mistress? and will he not prove his loyalty to the Throne and his affection to the whole people over whom he is appointed to rule, by putting down a system calculated prospectively to destroy that peace and harmony which has hitherto existed in the Colony? These are important questions, your Excellency, and ones which require very grave answers. But they will not, I assure your Excellency, end here. The Orange association in P. E. Island, if not proclaimed down by your Excellency's Government, shall in due course be brought before the consideration of the Imperial Parliament. Questions asked here, but not attended to by the Government, will find willing listeners in the House of Commons, and some independent English member—a Bright or a Cobden—will draw the attention of the British public to the Government of this Colony—enquire if your Excellency has informed the Government at home of the danger to life and property by the organization of Orange Lodges? or if your Excellency has taken any, and what steps, to put down the rebellious institution? Perhaps I am wrong in anticipating such result. I hope so, and shall feel rejoiced to learn that you are devising with your Executive the best means of crushing this fearful and dangerous conspiracy. Perhaps, as a cool, calculating Scotchman, your Excellency is not quite satisfied with the evidence already adduced against the Orangemen to convince you that they are dangerous to the peace of society. I assure your Excellency, in all sincerity, if the institution is suffered to continue THAT OPENING ELEMENTS OF PHYSICAL FORCE WILL BE ORGANIZED, the collision of which with Orangism will here, as in Ireland, dye the verdure of this beautiful Island a crimson hue. Orangism, your Excellency, will not acknowledge equality—it will not concede civil or political rights. Its motto is ascendancy. Junius calls it "Protestant supremacy." It is a social tyranny which cannot be tolerated in a free country; it is a religious curse—a political nuisance, and must

be abated. In the language of Judge Moore, although the Orangemen are the very "scum of society," and that no loyal and respectable man would unite with such an unchristian banditti, tiger-like panting for the blood of their fellow creatures, still unfortunately young and unreflecting persons are made the dupes of designing and selfish knaves, who organize these institutions for the purpose either sooner or later of embezzling the funds.

The advocates of Orangism assert that they have no hatred to Roman Catholics as fellow citizens, but that they detest their creed. Let, your Excellency, the College riots in Dublin last year give the lie to this bare-faced assertion. The students of Trinity College are Protestants, the majority Orangemen. The City force is Catholic. The Protestant students (Orangemen, or Orange Boys) many of them the sons of Ministers of the Gospel, and receiving training for the ministry, urged on by infuriated bigotry, attacked en masse the Catholic constabulary under Col. Brown, and the riot of the Orange blackguards was of such a serious nature that the peace of the Irish metropolis was disturbed for two days and nights, and the peaceable inhabitants subjected to all the disquietude which results from the horrors of civil war. The matter was investigated, and Col. Brown, in the language of the Evening Packet, a Protestant journal, with his moral, religious and well disciplined Catholic civil force, were accorded due praise; while the scions of the Irish aristocracy, the educated Protestant youth of Ireland, were proved to have raised the standard of civil commotion, set the law at defiance, and made a combined and mendacious attack upon the guardians of the public peace. The decision of the Irish metropolis was afterwards endorsed by the unanimous approval of the British Parliament; and the Irish Protestant College has flung around her, by the Orange blackguardism of her bigoted brood, a mantle of dark disgrace, which dims the lustre with which Catholic genius has often flashed her glory upon.

Another outrageous onslaught was made by the Orangemen of the County Antrim on the unoffending Catholics, at a place called Partridgeone. The case was tried before the Hon. Justice Ball, and among the rioters was William John McClelland, Esq., son of the Rev. Mr. McClelland, a Protestant clergyman. The circumstances of the riot were of such an aggravated character, and displayed so much of the bigotry and intolerance of Orangism, that the Crown refused an application on the part of the prisoners for a settlement of the case. On the cross examination of another son of the Rev. Mr. McClelland, he admitted "that his father's horses were dressed with orange and blue when drawing a vehicle to church;" and at the Orange procession where the unoffending Catholics were attacked, "he wore an Orange scarf."

In the same paper from which the above is copied, the Banner of Ulster—the organ of Presbyterianism—is the trial of another batch of Orange rioters. The riot took place at Newtownswellin. A gentleman of the name of Kirk, a student of Trinity College, was amongst the prisoners charged with the unprovoked attack on the Catholics. "He admitted he was an Orangeman, was a supporter of Protestant ascendancy, and anxious to suppress Popery."

The Banner says, with reference to the above trials: "Comment is unnecessary, when a Minister of God's gospel is drawn to church by horses decked with orange, and that his son joins a mob of low and drunken Orangemen, wearing an orange scarf, what is to be expected but a breach of the peace when those miscreants of disorder chance to meet an unoffensive Catholic. There never has been peace in Ireland since Orangism raised its hydra head. There never can be peace in Ireland till Orangism is constituted felony by law, and some thousands of the banditti forced to leave their country, for their country's good."

MENTOR.

[The conclusion of the above letter, which will occupy about as much more space as that already given to it, will appear in our next No., after which we shall close our columns against further correspondence on this unpleasant subject.—Ed. Ex.]

The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., SEPTEMBER 13, 1859.

A few months ago, when the reins of Government were about dropping from the enfeebled hands of the party then in power, some wag of the Political Alliance commissioned Mr. Crier Hatch to offer a reward for the discovery of the gentlemen who had, up to that time, and for some short period afterwards, been left in charge of the ship of state, who, during the existence of the memorable Three-days-Parliament of February last, were supposed to have deserted their posts. Now, the joke was a very silly one, because the Liberal Government really had a tangible existence at that time; and though somewhat dispirited, and diverted from the even tenor of their way, by the mishaps arising out of the then previous general election, the affairs of Government were as faithfully and as regularly administered as at any previous period. But we do not think it would be any joke for Mr. Crier Hatch now to offer a reward for the discovery of the great Liberal Party upon whom that Government leaned for support. We are painfully constrained to admit, that, according to all appearances, our party is shivered into fragments, or gone to sleep. The present Government have been in office about half a year. They commenced their career by quietly overturning the constitution which was granted to this Colony after great struggles and sacrifices, and under which the people enjoyed a larger measure of liberty than ever they did before, or since its overthrow. It was the means of securing to us many valuable reforms, to propose which was denounced as seditious and utopian under the ancient regime of the Family Compact. The opponents of the new system assailed it with the most shameful misrepresentations—described it as the nurse of political profligacy and corruption of the darkest dye—laboured incessantly to instil into the public mind the belief that the Parliament, under that system, was become the slave of the Executive and of the Proprietary faction; and they assured those who gave too ready an ear to their misrepresentations, that if they were placed in authority, they would speedily emancipate the Legislature from the trammels of the Crown, and make the people's representatives the true guardians and the active promoters of popular interests. By dint of perseverance and untiring calumny, aided by bigotry and fanaticism, they secured their coveted position at the head of affairs; and as soon as they destroyed the free constitution established by the Liberals, instead of making the House of Assembly an independent body, as they promised to do, they degraded the majority into the position of understrappers and slaves of Executive authority—subsidising an unusual number of its members with seats in the Executive Council, and thereby enabling them to dispense the patronage of the Government amongst their connexions and dependants; while they have neglected or failed to perform one solitary act towards ameliorating the condition of the tenantry, for whom they professed so much interest; or doing anything whatsoever to improve the condition of the country.

When the late Government removed a few petty officials who had shown an active opposition to the party then in power, a furious outcry was raised throughout the Colony. But now every week's Gazette brings us the intelligence of dismissals of petty officers, against whom no fault can be alleged, but for whose removal from office not a word of explanation is vouchsafed. Nevertheless, there is very little murmuring heard, no complaint made, and no public opinion aroused by the despotic acts of the Government.

In short, there is no public opinion in the country. The Liberal Party appears to be without a leader, has lost heart, and is thoroughly cowed.

Some of our political friends and supporters may object to such a candid expression of opinion on the part of the EXAMINER; but as we have done our duty faithfully by the Liberal Party—as we owe them nothing, while we believe that Party owe us a great deal more than we should be disposed to claim from them, we think we have a right to express an honest opinion, and shall independently assert that right as long as there is a press at our command, with regard to the services of which, we fear, some of our intended friends are a little oblivious.

The English Mail, received here on Friday last, with date to the 27th ult., did not bring much important news. Little or nothing was known of the proceedings of the Conference at Zurich; and, with the exception of some continued murmuring on the part of the Italian revolutionists and their sympathisers in England and on the continent, on account of the abrupt termination of the war, public attention was no longer engaged with any of the circumstances connected with that great struggle. Some English journals continue to speculate about the French Emperor's supposed intentions with regard to an invasion of England; but orders have been given for the disarmament of the army of Italy; and the French Government, which is pretty closely watched on all sides, have as yet given no indications of a disposition again to disturb the peace of Europe.

NEWS BY THE ENGLISH MAIL.

THE FRENCH DISARMAMENT.

The Emperor having ordered that the army be reduced from a war to a peace footing, the Minister of War has given orders that from the 20th September those men should return to their homes whose term of service expired in 1859. Moreover, furloughs of three months will be allowed to those who are in that class of exceptional cases provided for by the statute of 1832, and the same has also been granted to the men who can prove that they are indispensable for the support of their families.

THE ZURICH CONFERENCE.—SETTLEMENT OF LOMBARDY.

On Wednesday the Plenipotentiaries of France and Austria held a Conference, which lasted two hours. According to intelligence received from Zurich, the French and Austrian Plenipotentiaries have regulated the settlement of the affairs of Lombardy with the consent of the Sardinian Plenipotentiary. This arrangement is expected to be confirmed by the different Sovereigns. The affairs of the Duchies will be treated of directly between the Courts of Paris and Vienna.

It is impossible not to perceive that the grand national movement in Tuscany and Modena has nothing demagogical in its character and spirit. The oldest, most powerful, and wealthiest families are at its head, and it would be absurd to accuse them of entertaining revolutionary principles. There is no hope for anarchy or disorder. Everything is done quietly, nor is there any violence in language even. People calmly express their sincere desires and profound convictions. All seem determined not to take back the fugitive princes. The stipulations of Villafranca will therefore prove unfeasible, so far as the Duchies are concerned. But what will be the result? There seem to be only two alternatives, the annexation of the Duchies of Tuscany and Modena to Piedmont, or the formation of a central Italian kingdom, to include, perhaps, with the two Duchies, the Legations, and the cities of Parma and Piacenza, or at least some portion of the territories forming the hereditary domain of the Duke Robert II. The excessive aggrandisement of Piedmont can neither suit Austria, which circumstance is of little consequence, nor France, nor Europe. During the war, the Italian question was very simple, but since the peace it has been getting more and more complicated every day.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The trial of a medical man named Smethurst, in London, on a charge of poisoning a lady, with whom he went through the ceremony of marriage, although he has a wife living, has excited great interest.

On her deathbed he persuaded the unhappy woman to make a will, leaving the whole of her property to himself. The facts of this distressing case are most harrowing, so much so that the venerable Chief Baron Pollock, in summing up the evidence, was so overcome by his feelings that he could not proceed. It is the most extraordinary trial since the days of Palmer, to whose case it bears, in some respects, a striking resemblance. Palmer, it will be remembered, was executed for poisoning his friend Cooke, to whom he was under strong pecuniary obligations; but the crime imputed to Smethurst is far more horrible, for the woman was his wife in a legal sense, at least, and she was *enchantée* at the time of her death—a circumstance that added to it additional horror. The medical evidence was, as usual, very conflicting, but, as regards standing, the chemists and doctors called on the part of the prosecution are men in the very highest walk of their profession. The jury found the prisoner *Guilty*, and before the sentence was pronounced the murderer made a long speech, occupying nearly an hour, the contradictions in which, as compared with the known facts and the evidence, were so apparent and palpable that the learned judge was compelled, in passing sentence, to expose their monstrous inconsistency. At the conclusion the culprit exclaimed with great vehemence that Dr. Julius was his murderer, and he declared before the Almighty that he was innocent. It will be remembered that Palmer died denying his guilt, and we have no doubt that this atrocious villain will follow his example.

The Great Eastern is announced to leave the Thames on the 3rd of September, on a trial trip, which may possibly extend 500 or 600 miles. She will then proceed to Portland, Dorsetshire, and sail about the 15th for Portland, in the State of Maine. The Tariff of fares across the Atlantic will range from £18 to £25, and the applications for berths are said to be numerous. The directors state that they have received an offer of £20,000 from Mr. Lever to charter the Great Eastern to America and back, but they have declined it, as being incompatible with the views which they had deliberately formed since the ship came into their possession.

It is reported that the Earl of Elgin will be appointed to succeed Lord Canning, who will shortly retire from the Governor-Generalship of India.

House, with but one exception. It had been affirmed in the Imperial Parliament, and adopted in other Colonies. The evils of the system of nomination had invariably manifested themselves in the constant appointment to the Council of supporters of the party in power for the time being; and when that party lost its position, the members of a popular Government, supported by the Assembly, were impeded by a branch of the Legislature composed of their political opponents. It had been urged that the Council would not pass the Bill. They might not, but they had no vested right to their seats, which they held merely during the pleasure of the Crown, which could at any time remove them, and would do so if such were the deliberate wish of the people—Executive action in accordance with which was the corner stone of Responsible Government. By the very principle of their organization the Council must either echo the sentiments of one party, or be a mere obstructive body to the policy of the other. Under the Bill, the members of the Council would occupy a much higher and more constitutional position than at present. As to the confusion which would arise from the election of a Council, consisting entirely of members without Parliamentary experience, the same objection might be urged to every general election of members of our Assembly; and if such should be the result, it would afford the strongest proof of the dissatisfaction felt by the people at the present constitution of the Upper Branch. The Bill, however, provided that candidates should be men of such position, that such inconvenience need not be anticipated; besides, it was probable that some of the present members, if popular, would be returned; and it might be that some members of the Assembly would seek a seat in the Council under the new system.

Hon. Mr. POPE was amused at the minority, with the exception of one hon. member, the Hon. Mr. Whelan, now supporting the elective principle, after having so strenuously opposed it on former occasions. They now contented themselves by characterising its application to the whole body simultaneously as unconstitutional, but were in favor of its partial adoption. If it were unconstitutional to apply the change to the whole, it was equally so to a portion on the occurrence of vacancies. If the people are to govern through their representatives in the House, and they have declared the alteration necessary, it must be considered so. One proof of its necessity was to be found in the fact that in their address to the Queen the Council had stated a falsehood concerning the Government and the House. They had stated that the Government had but "a small majority." Now, the majority comprised 18 to 12 of the minority. He had no wish to say anything personal of any individual member, but when he reflected that such a statement had been put forth by a man who was not a freholder—who had no property in the country—

"Who, when he puts his hat upon his pate,
Doth put a ring fence round his whole estate,"

he could not but think that the sooner the change took place the better. The party he referred to was possessed of 12 or 13 offices, and although it might be said that he was not in receipt of pay from one or two of the most trifling, yet he was paid as Registrar of Deeds or Commissioner of Public Lands, as Small Debts, as Adjutant General of Militia, as Legislative Councillor, Member of Board of Education, &c. Mr. Hutchinson's appointment had been justified on the ground that he had been twice elected Mayor of Charlottetown. Why then had he not been appointed to the Council while he was Mayor? It was only when the people had rejected him that he obtained a title to a seat in the Council. He was opposed to the plan proposed by the Hon. Mr. Thornton, to increase the number of Councillors under the Bill to 14. It was quite large enough, perhaps too large already. And the same might be said of the House. It was ridiculous to have such a number as thirty members. It was altogether too much. He was in favor of diminishing the numbers of both branches. If the House should wait until the present members of the Council died out, they might wait a long time, for they would be found to be pretty tough. When the Bill went to the Council, if that body rejected it, let application be made to the Sovereign, and let no time be lost. The sooner the battle began the better.

Hon. Mr. THORNTON regretted that the subject could not be discussed without personalities. For years the whole alleged sins of the Council had been fathered on one individual. He had been designated by language at once improper and unparliamentary. He had been termed a busybody, a mischief-maker, as the very head and front of all offenders.

Hon. Mr. POPE—Who is he?

Hon. Mr. THORNTON—The reference to the 12 or 13 offices proves who was the individual alluded to. Hon. members should confine their remarks to the whole body of the Council, and not select one individual as though he ruled the Council. (Hon. Mr. Pope, yes!) He did not believe any such thing. As to the hon. member's declaration of war with the Council, and his aspiration for its speedy commencement, he could not consider such expression of opinion as calculated to facilitate the passage of the Bill. The Council had a right to the same degree of courtesy that the House claimed for themselves. Suppose the Council should pass a bill declaring that 30 members of Assembly were too many, and that 18 were sufficient, would not the House resent such interference with the constitution. He believed himself that the business was better done when the House consisted but of 18.

Mr. OWEN—The hon. member, Mr. Whelan, had last night stated that the majority had been obtained by fraud and chicanery; he could assure him that he had secured his seat in spite of a parizan Sheriff. The principle of the Bill had been tested and approved at public meetings. If the change was necessary, they should have it at once. They should pass the Bill as soon as possible, and send it to the Council. If they rejected it, then other measures could be resorted to.

Hon. Mr. HAVILAND had hoped that when the principle of the Bill had been debated and settled, the discussion in Committee would have been limited to the details; but members had chosen to go over the grounds they had previously travelled. As to the effect of the Council rejecting the Bill, suppose they did, and passed an Address to the Queen against being dissolved, it would be an easy matter for a Colonial Minister to authorize the Lieutenant Governor to nominate to that body an additional number of members, to give effect to the wishes of the people. At present, the number of Councillors is restricted to twelve. In Nova Scotia the number was so increased, and in Canada Lord Elgin, on assuming the Government, found a Legislative Council of twenty members holding seats for life under an Imperial Statute. When the new party came into power, and found those irresponsible Councillors arrayed in opposition, Lord Elgin, by a stroke of his pen, increased the number by more than double. A similar course could be adopted here, if necessary. The necessity of the change was admitted by every member, but Messrs. Whelan and Kelly. The only difference of opinion was as to the immediate and total or gradual and partial adoption of it. As to the objection, that new members would be inexperienced, it seemed strange to hear that argument from those who enlarded the present incumbents as so highly respected and independent. If such were the case, there could be no doubt that some of them would be elected by the people, but the inference was, that they were afraid to risk the result of an appeal to a constituency. Besides, it was probable that many members of Assembly would seek seats in an elective Council, deeming the representation of a whole County a higher honour than they now enjoyed.

The question having been put, the clause was agreed to. The remaining clauses, after brief re-assertions of arguments already published, were agreed to, and the Bill ordered to be printed, and to lie over till next Session.