

TO THE EDITOR OF THE COLONIAL HERALD.

"I never in gall dipped my envenomed pen,  
Nor branded the bold front of shameless men!"

SIR; That it is the duty of a jury to ascertain a fact, and that of a judge to dispense the laws, is generally known; but that a man, in whatever capacity he is, from the highest in the Colony to the constable of a parish, can render himself tyrannically obnoxious, without actually becoming criminal in a point of law, is, I regret, by some of us, but too well known. It is a common axiom, Mr. Editor, "that the servant takes pattern by his master." To condemn a man without judge or jury, of itself, is criminal; but, Sir, to say, that an individual guilty of political apostasy, serving under his new master as Sheriff of a County, is to be re-elected, from year to year, that the remaining part of a community, among whom there are many whose just ambition lead them to suppose themselves as eligible to the office, are to be neglected, is, I say, Mr. Editor, an unjust prerogative of the executive part of our Government. In Great Britain, no individual serves consecutively as Sheriff for more than one twelve-month; and why should it not be the case in Prince Edward Island.

The genius of our conscientious executive would indeed appear unbending, if, when rule, precedent and custom, are sacrificed to small party faction, both the landlord and the tenant did not feel themselves oppressed—the tenant, by being buoyed with false hopes—the landlord, by having his most sacred right of property attacked and disputed.

Popularity is the sanctioning of our proceedings by a majority—the voluntary tribute of a grateful people. He who obtains it as his right, receives the most flattering reward due to his exertions; but, Sir, he who seeks it by vile measures, for his personal aggrandisement, or for the obtaining of his own private objects, is as vile as the "subtlest serpent." "To attack views in the abstract, without touching persons, may be safe fighting indeed, but it is fighting with shadows."

The late, though as yet unsanctioned, attempt at reconciliation, by the Government, towards the Commons, by the appointment of Charles Young, Esq. to the Legislative Council, is the most palpable thing that has, as yet, occurred in so small a political circle as this. That appointment nearly cost the country £1000, sterling, per annum; but, Sir, being "bad pay, they paid before hand, and lost all." Mr. Young played his part well; but whether he has added consistency to his spotless integrity, by speaking against the party to which he had pledged himself, uncorruptable even in his exalted station, I leave to his conscience to determine. Even this, Sir, the favourite scheme of Buckingham Palace, was impolitic, for it created a just jealousy among the older and more leading members of the House, and destroyed the little influence Mr. Young previously had, in addition, as it were, to setting fire to the "proprietary faction." But, in spite of all this political apostasy, Mr. Editor, as yet you have only had its gross concrete, you will soon have its rectified spirit. Mark the words of

AN ECUR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE COLONIAL HERALD.

SIR;—The Crown has refused to resume the Lands of this Island by Escheat, and a majority of the House of Assembly have, in consequence of such refusal, agreed that the Crown should resume the Proprietors' claims by purchase. But the proprietors have shown their unwillingness to relinquish their forfeited claims, or to accept a remuneration which would have been fair, had they been unchallengeable, and therefore the following is to shew the value put upon those Proprietary claims which comprehend both North and South Carolina, in the United States, and also to prove that this little Colony, tho' the last Proprietary Colony, is not the only one which has found such domination unbearable.

R.

"In 1719, the Government of Carolina, which, till then, had been proprietary, was changed; the Charter was declared by the King's Privy Council to have been forfeited, and the Colony, from this time, was taken under the Royal protection—under which it continued till the American Revolution. The people had long been disgusted with the management of the proprietors, and were resolved, at all hazards, to execute their own laws, and defend the rights of the Province. A subscription to this effect was drawn up, and generally signed. On the meeting of the Assembly, a Committee was sent with this subscription to the Governor, Robert Johnston, requesting him to accept the government of the Province under the King, instead of the Proprietors. Upon his refusal, the Assembly chose Colonel James Moore Governor, under the Crown; and on the 21st of December, 1719, the convention and militia marched to Charlestown Fort, and proclaimed Moore Governor, in His Majesty's name. The Carolinians having assumed the Government in behalf of the King, referred their complaints to the King. On a full hearing of the case, the Privy Council adjudged that the Proprietors had forfeited their Charter. From this time, therefore, the Colony, as above stated, was taken under the Royal protection, in which state it continued till the Revolution. This change was followed, in 1729, by another, nearly as important—this was, an arrangement between the Proprietors and the Crown, that the former should surrender to the Crown their rights and interest, both to the Government thereof, and to the soil, for the sum of Seventeen Thousand Five Hundred Pounds, Sterling. This agreement being carried into effect, the Province was divided into North and South Carolina—each province having a distinct Governor, under the Crown of England. Many of the Proprietary Governments were given up to the Crown in common with the Carolinas."—Extracted from the Rev. C. A. Goodrich's History of America, to the year 1827, pages 100 & 101.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, March 12.  
COLONIAL DUTIES.

Mr. LABOUCHERE rose to bring the Customs' Duties of the West Indian and North American colonies under the consideration of the House. The right hon. gentleman began by detailing the gradual relaxation that had taken place in our ancient colonial system. The first great concession was made in 1780, when Ireland was relieved from the trammels of the colonial system, to all the rigours of which it had till then been subject. In 1822, the system was further relaxed by Mr. Robinson, now Earl of Ripon, and in 1823, by Mr. Huskisson. Each advancement towards a liberal treatment of our colonies had encountered the most violent opposition, yet each step in that course had been attended with marked success. On many articles of primary necessity to the West Indies, the duties were at present tantamount to a prohibition. Fish, not the produce of our own fisheries, was absolutely prohibited; and staves,

flour, and salt provisions, if the produce of foreign countries, were liable to duties equivalent to an *ad valorem* charge of from 20 to 40 per cent. His wish was to carry out Mr. Huskisson's system, and to open the colonial trade to foreigners in as ample a manner as Mr. Huskisson had originally intended. The right hon. gentleman then pointed out many particulars with respect to which the foreign trade of the West Indian and North American colonies was in a worse situation than that of our East Indian possessions, where the crown had imposed much lower duties than the House of Commons had imposed on the West Indies. There were several classes of goods imported into the colonies which bore different amounts of duties. The first class bore an *ad valorem* duty of 30 per cent., another class 20 per cent., another 15 per cent., and a very large class 7½ per cent. Now, instead of the three first differential amounts of duty, he proposed to substitute a simple uniform duty of 10 per cent. *ad valorem*, but the 7½ per cent. duties he would leave untouched. These duties would, of course, be independent of any additional duties which the colonial legislatures might think proper to lay on. He would leave them free to legislate for themselves, and tax themselves as they liked. (Cheers.) He would now advert to flour and other articles of food imported into the colonies, the duties on which ranged from 20 to 40 per cent. This, he thought, ought not to be permitted to continue. As on a former night he had stated the relief he intended to afford the East Indies from oppressive duties, so he wished now to place the West Indies on a similar footing, at least as regarded food, and he, therefore, proposed to reduce all the duties on the importation of articles of food from the present scale to twelve or fifteen per cent. *ad valorem*, which he thought quite enough. Wheat, which now bore a duty of 5s., he proposed reducing to 2s. Pork, which was now £2s. the cwt. he proposed reducing to 4s., and shingles which were 7s. and 14s., he would reduce to 3s. 6d. Oak staves to 7s., and wood hoops and pitch in an equal proportion. With respect to fish, the produce of foreign countries, the duties on its admission to the West Indies at present amounted to a prohibition, although it was well known that fish was the chief food of the negroes. He was not at all insensible to the propriety of protecting British fisheries as the best nursery for the mercantile navy and her Majesty's naval service, and he should, therefore, propose a duty of 25 per cent. *ad valorem* on all foreign dried and salted fish, at present prohibited, brought to the West Indies and North America, and five per cent. upon pickled fish. As to wine, he would abolish all the present duties, and substitute a duty of 7½ per cent. *ad valorem*. By the Navigation Laws tea could not, at present, be imported to the West Indies or North America from any place that was not east of the Cape of Good Hope, but it was notorious that these laws were defeated by a system of smuggling. Lord Sydenham had ascertained that three-fourths of the tea consumed in our Canadian possessions was smuggled from the United States of America, thus destroying the revenue and demoralising the people. He had been long unwilling to suggest any alteration on this article of consumption, because he could not see why tea could not as well be had from the London market as from the New York market, but Lord Sydenham had ascertained that the description of tea used by the people of Canada was not to be had in the London market. It was a coarse green tea, the same sort that was used in the United States, and therefore to be had at New York, and smuggled over the border. He would propose, therefore, as to tea, a slight differential duty, as recommended by Lord Sydenham, to add one-tenth to the amount of duty to which it would be liable, if imported by sea. The next point to which he would advert was rum. He would reduce the duty on West India rum to the same as was laid on East India rum. He would also take that opportunity of suggesting the correction of an anomaly that existed with respect to the Channel Islands. The produce of those Islands might at present be sent duty free to this country, but not to our Colonies. This was a subject of great and just complaint, and he could not see why it should be allowed to continue. He should propose, therefore, that the trade from those Islands should be as free to our colonies as to Great Britain. His main object, in proposing these alterations of the differential duties was to benefit the Colonies by a liberal and impartial application of the principles of free trade to them, not to legislate for them in any jealous or narrow spirit, but in the spirit of those great and important principles of liberality which governed this great empire. Much alarm had been expressed as to the injury likely to arise to the south of Ireland by any change in the duties on the export of provisions; but let it be considered how matters were altered since the present duties were established—alterations which the use of steam had brought about. The Irish agriculturist could now send his live stock to the Bristol and London markets instead of killing them at home. In the south of Ireland Pork had risen in price within three years from 25s. to 35s. per cwt., and beef in proportion. He felt assured that the alterations he had proposed to introduce into the tariff he should lay before the house would not be injurious to any class, and would be highly beneficial to the colonies. He could not, of course, considering the great difficulty of arriving at correct information in every particular, pretend to be strictly accurate, but he should be happy to avail himself of any suggestion to correct any error into which he might fall, and he should have no scruple in consenting to an alteration. He would not at present ask the house to express any opinion on the resolutions, but would lay them on the table, and when the house had had sufficient time to consider them, he would on a subsequent occasion ask for its decision upon them. He thanked the house most sincerely for the patience with which they had listened to his statement. (Cheers.)

Mr. G. PALMER submitted that before the free trade system was further extended, a select committee should be appointed, to inquire and report the effects of the system upon the various branches of the trade of this country.

Mr. EWART thanked the right hon. the President of the Board of Trade for the liberal views of the trade he had that night laid before the house, and for following in the footsteps of Mr. Huskisson, the greatest man on those subjects that had lived since the time of Adam Smith.

Mr. A. WHITE said that the right hon. gentleman had said that the shipowners were now convinced that the reciprocity treaties had not been injurious to the shipping interest; but if he had consulted the shipowners he would have come to a very different conclusion. (Hear, hear.) He (Mr. White,) as the representative of the fourth port in the kingdom, could state, that the shipowners were by no means satisfied with those treaties, especially as regarded Sweden, Norway, Russia, and the other Baltic Powers. Our trade had decreased in that part of the world, and if it

had not greatly increased elsewhere, it would now have been in a disastrous state.

On motion of Mr. LABOUCHERE, the further consideration of this resolution was then adjourned; the chairman reported progress, and obtained leave to sit again on the 26th.

THE PORTE AND MEHEMET ALI.—A conversation on the Eastern question then ensued, in which Lord F. EGERTON, Sir R. PEEL, Lord SANDON, and Viscount PALMERSTON took part.

Viscount PALMERSTON said he had received from the Turkish Ambassador a copy of a firman conferring on the descendants of Mehemet Ali the succession to the Pashalic of Egypt, subject to certain conditions. This document had been issued on the Sultan's own authority. His lordship admitted that the right reserved to himself by the Sultan, of selecting a successor to the pashalic from among the sons of Mehemet Ali, was not the kind of hereditary succession that the four powers had contemplated, but it was impossible to say what decision the four powers would come to on this new question. Mehemet Ali had objected to the terms of the hatti scherif, and his remonstrance had been forwarded to Constantinople, and whether the Porte might think fit to modify its decision, or to seek advice from its allies, was more than it was possible for him at present to say.

IBRAHIM PASHA AND HIS ARMY.

(Extract of a letter from Alexandria.)

The transport of the miserable remnant of Ibrahim Pasha's army still takes place from Gaza to Damietta in the two Egyptian steamers. The Nile having taken in coals here returned yesterday to take in another thousand, and the Hajji Baba entered the harbour at the same time to obtain a similar supply for her second trip. This steamer could only carry 950 of the invalids, and of these another 50 died, and were thrown over during the passage to Damietta, although it only lasted 13 hours. Deaths were continually taking place on shore in both ports when the steamer left, and the condition of the survivors is indescribable. So enfeebled and dispirited were they, that no remonstrance was made on board against committing the bodies to the deep (shocking as it is to Mussulman ideas); and, indeed, the offensive odour and condition of the steamers are still strikingly illustrative of the pitiable state to which the suffering live freight was reduced. The encampment at Gaza was a picture of disgrace, disease, and death. All were half-famished invalids, the General included, and principally by his own folly.

Whilst at Damascus with his army an old dervise arrived and hastened to present him with his staff, within which he had safely carried a scrap of paper from Mehemet Ali, containing only these words—"Acre has been taken! Return to Egypt!" Ibrahim had then 40,000 men. A counsel was called, and the European instructors all strongly advised that he should retire *en masse* by the shortest road, coastward, with baggage and provisions, and set all attack at defiance. Ibrahim unaccountably rejected their counsel, broke up his army into six divisions, gave 14 days provisions to each, and sent them on, to be harassed by the Turks and mountaineers who hung upon their rear! His own division was 39 days *en route* to Gaza, during which time he twice marched round the Dead Sea (taking the wrong road by mistake), pursued by his enemies, who were generally within three hours after him, while his troops were obliged to prolong their existence on herbs.

On arriving at Gaza, the commandant offered him his pillow, which he devoured ravenously on the spot. Imagine what must have been the destitution of the common soldiers! The women and children of this division have, it is said, nearly all died on the journey, of cold, hunger, and fatigue; or were abandoned, of necessity, on the road, perhaps to be slaughtered by the mountaineers. Even the presence of the victorious English recently could not restrain them from killing some of their prisoners in cold blood. If Ibrahim had been taken, most probably his life would not have been spared an hour, so fierce is their hatred of their Egyptian rulers. From all accounts his life cannot be a long one, for he is settled into habits of intemperance; and even now, in the midst of old diseases, aggravated by his recent sufferings, he is seen constantly with the rum bottle in his hand. General Jochmus has sent his surgeon to attend him, for the chief physician of the Egyptian army, Dr. Tarabra, an Italian, died of a wound in the retreat. In fact, nothing could be done for the wounded or dying where all were starving, and the musketry of their pursuers was ringing in their ears. A Frank officer in Ibrahim's service, lately landed at Damietta, who has been an old soldier, and recollects all the horrors of the retreat from Moscow, assured a friend of mine that he had never witnessed human misery equal to that which he beheld in the retreat from Damascus.

Soliman Pasha's division has fared much better, for it came round by Akabah on the Red Sea, and he has preserved the women and children, who have by this time all arrived at Cairo. Only 500 Syrians accompanied the Egyptian troops to Gaza. The remainder escaped to their homes during the retreat, amongst them the brother of Scherif Pacha of Damascus, the circumstance which led to the arrest of the latter.

Two Egyptian brigs and a corvette have arrived today with troops from Gaza, all invalids, but not suffering so much as those sent in steamers on the shorter voyage to Damietta.

THE CHINA EXPEDITION.—In ordinary circumstances, with a very moderate degree of ability and vigour on the part of the British Plenipotentiaries, they ought, at this moment, to be laying before Parliament, if not the articles of a concluded treaty, at least the triumphs of a successful war. Of course, if the objects of the Elliot expedition could have been accomplished by negotiation rather than by actual bloodshed, such a result would have been highly desirable; nay, had there been any rational certainty that those objects would eventually be conceded to mere forbearance instead of force, the unfortunate Elliotts might have been justified in indulging the Celestials in a little of their crafty caution. But what, up to this date, have been the results of our armed remonstrance? Why, English subjects have been cooped up as prisoners—every pretext for delay on the main question has been submitted to—a dreadful mortality has decimated the British troops—a sneaking and bloody vindictiveness, whenever the Chinese could venture to exercise it, has been tamely borne—and so completely have they succeeded, by an alternate recourse to stratagem and menace, in thwarting the Elliot demonstration, that at this good hour the injury which Great Britain has sustained in her commercial relations is greatly aggravated by accompanying dis-

honour, as well to our political sagacity as to our military reputation. In a word, the Chinese have outwitted the Elliotts, and so heartily is the gallant Admiral sick of the preferment conferred upon him, his family chief, that despairing of realizing the fortune which at a future day might have qualified him for Greenwich Hospital, he has thought fit to take a substitution of the heart (we hope not seriously,) and has resigned his command into the hands of Sir J. Gore Bremer. What better success may attend the efforts of his successor, it is, of course, impossible to conjecture; but let the country bear in mind, that the contemplated purposes of the expedition *nothing* *yet been done!*—Times.

A Letter from Mr. John Chandler, a member of the Society of Friends, dated Cape Haytien, January 1841, says—"Went on board the Ringdove brig of 1841, which arrived in the harbour, to get a supply of provisions, this vessel, commanded by Captain the Hon. J. Stewart, captured, off Santa Cruz, on the 20th of the Spanish brigantine Jesus Maria, of small tonnage, having on board 248 children, of from 10 to 16 years of age, and 4 young women, making in all 252 captives. She took in her cargo at the river Sherbro, had thirty-eight days at sea, and was bound to Porto Rico 28 had died previous to her capture, and 4 since. 22 were in a very emaciated condition. The young victims had been placed on water casks, on which no planks were laid, and many of them were grievously bruised. The greatest height between the casks and the deck was two feet eight inches; under the casks two feet four inches; average height, thirty inches. Let the horrifying fact be made known—eleven persons most of them villainous-looking men, were taken on board the Ringdove to be sent to Porto Rico. The captain and crew had been sent to Havana on a vessel and cargo for adjudication. The pilot of the slave, a pretended passenger, a wicked-looking slave-stealer, showed me his chart of the African coast and pointed out the precise places from which the children were carried off. There is war, he says, between the Gallinas and Cape Mount people, and captives were part of the fruits of the conflict, portions of both parties, and sent to Sherbro to be shipped off as slaves. The present price of children of the above description is a doubloon's worth of merchandise, disposed of at fifty per cent. profit, making the actual cost, in net eight dollars each! The pilot told me he bought himself for an old cloak and an empty chest. Cuban free black man, another passenger, related some of his iniquitous doings in Africa, and said his conduct by saying, that he could earn more in this way than any other!"

THE LARGEST SHIP IN THE WORLD.—The *Mary* building by the Great Western Ship Company, at Exeter, will exceed 3600 tons, (about 600 more than the other ship in existence.) The saving of room by being built of iron, will admit of her carrying out both the outward and home voyages, (a matter of importance, from the inferior quality of American iron.) Her engines are of 1000 horse-power. She is enabled to carry an unusual quantity of canvas, is expected to make the passage of the Atlantic in 20 days.

The Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have given orders at Portsmouth Dock Yard, to build the keel of a ship of the line of the largest design ever built in England, to be named the *Prince of Wales*, and to mount 130 guns.

Canova, on his visit to London, pronounced Waterloo Bridge the finest production of the arts that had come under his observation.

An unfortunate man, named Parker, was taken to Dublin, last week, for stealing a pair of boots, worth £3,000 on his coming of age, and his patrimony of £118 a year. He opened a house in London, and lost everything.

During the late severe weather, the mackerel boat, while making for Plymouth, was overtaken by a revenue-cutter galley, having on board 12 men, and who all the time seemed resting on oars; on examination it was found, however, that the poor fellows were frozen to death, and the rest two were all but dead: they were quickly attended and recovered, when they were towed into Plymouth. It is said that the poor men had been rowing ashore, when a strong breeze sprang up and drove them to sea.

FOLLY AND MADNESS OF WAR BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES.—We are not in a position to fight for national character. We have a much more important character in the Cabinet as belonging to the nation. No power desires to injure or insult us, only by cultivating peace that we can be happy. Between this country and England would not be for territory or national aggrandisement, but for war to see which can do the other the most harm. We imagine it—let us suppose that England, by improvement in the art of war, and by steamships into our sea-ports, lays our cities in ashes, and contributions. In order to save our towns from defenceless people; let us, in return, by our marine, sweep her commerce from the ocean, and her small towns. Let us thus go on, at the expense of blood and treasure, to injure each other 20 years; and at the end of that period we shall have settled a single point of national honor, a simple reason, that there is none to settle in the dispute. It involves no principle or policy, but is not settled by men desirous of preserving the tranquillity of peace, and promoting the happiness and prosperity of the country.—New York Mirror.

EDUCATION.—It is a great art in the education of youth to find out peculiar aptitudes, or talents, to exist, to create inclinations which may serve as guides. Different minds are like different soils, are suited only to particular cultivation; and mature almost any thing; others, adapted to the production of ordinary products; and a few are wasted, they are reserved for what is most choicest.—Walker.

STAMMERING.—On Tuesday last an operation for the cure of this defect was performed by Mr. Lucas, at the Metropolitan Free Hospital, in the presence of numerous medical gentlemen. The operation consisted in dividing some of the muscles of the tongue, and the patient was able to pronounce with great accuracy and distinctness many words before the operation he could not. This operation has been performed in France and Germany, and is the first of the kind in this country.—Standard.

CHARLOTTETOWN: Printed and published by COOPER & CO., Printers to the Honourable the House of Assembly, at the East corner of Pownall and Water Streets.—THURSDAY, 1841, payable half yearly in advance.