[The following is a copy of a Petition to Her Majesty, presented to His Excellency Sir Dominick Daly, a few days, for the purpose of being forwarded to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, to be by him laid at the foot of the Throne:]

To the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Petition of divers Inhabitants of Prince Edward Island, being Merchants, Farmers, Mechanics and other Electors resident therein.

Most Gracious Sovereign;

In exercising the ever valued privilege of British Subjects, that of addressing the Monarch on the Throne, we approach Your Majesty with sentiments of unfeigned loyalty and of profound respect for Your Majesty's person and Government.

Feeling assured of the solicitude which Your Majesty has always evinced for the interests and welfare of your faithful subjects in this Colony, we humbly beg to represent that during its late Session, an Act has been passed by the General Assembly of this Island, intituled "An Act to increase the number of Members to serve in the General Assembly, and to consolidate and amend the Laws relating to Elections," containing, nevertheless, a suspending clause, by which Your Majesty's sanction is required before it becomes the law of the Colony.

We beg leave to apprize Your Majesty that this Act was introduced into the Assembly at a very late period of the Session, and there passed, unsolicited by the people, and without any other expression or indication of public opinion in its favor than what appeared from the advocacy of the very small number of members who succeeded in carrying it through the Legislature.

That it was actually passed by no more than a majority of Twelve Members, in opposition to a minority of Nine Members present, and Two others belonging to that minority temporarily absent from the House.

That upon a motion to have it printed and published before it passed, such motion passed in the negative by a majority of Eleven, opposed to a minority of Ten present and two others of the same party absent. Thus it may be said that the Act was carried without permitting an opportunity of ascertaining public opinion as to its necessity, by a majority of Eleven Members only, being actually less than even HALF of the whole House; and it is evident that it would not have been so carried at all had the full number of Members of the House been present upon the vote.

That of the Twelve Members who passed it Five were those holding the principal salaried Offices in the gift of the Government of this Colony.

That the division of the Electoral Districts, as proposed by the said Bill, has been contrived in subservience to the views of the party who procured its passage through the Legislature; and your Petitioners feel assured that a division upon a more just and equitable principle, and far less objectionable, could be defined where such a Bill in other respects proved to be necessary for the welfare of the Colony.

That, should such a serious change be suffered in the Constitution of this Colony, as must necessarily follow were this Bill allowed to become law, we fear that evils extensive in their operation and permanent in their effect will be entailed on the people of this Colony.

That it appears by the late Census return of the population of this Island, that it contains now about Seventy thousand souls, which, according to the number of Representatives in the House of Assembly, as established under the present Law, gives one Representative to less than Three thousand souls.

That your Petitioners know of no Legislative Assembly in any part of Your Majesty's dominions where the Representatives are so numerous, in comparison to the population, as it thus appears they are already in this Island.

That where an Electoral District becomes circumscribed in its limits, and its Electors diminished in numbers, without additional independence and intelligence it is generally found to leave an opening for the return of a very inferior class of men as Representatives.

That according to the scale upon which the new Act is based, Three Electoral Districts adjoining one another are proposed to return Six Representatives, although the aggregate population of the whole Three Districts is below Eleven thousand souls, and of those it is probable that no more than Two thousand are Electors.

That the late Census returns shew that the increase of population in this Colony has not proceeded in the same ratio, but has in fact considerably diminished below what it was, compared with its progress a few years ago, as the following table will prove:—

	POPULATION.	INCREASE.	
1827	23,266	6.46 per cent.	per annum.
1833	32,292		
1841	47,034	6.52 "	"
1848	62,678	4.75 "	"
1855	71,496	2.01 "	"

That the additional pay attendant on an increase in the number of Members of Assembly will necessarily increase the yearly expenses of the Legislature, and thereby augment the growing taxation to which your Petitioners are already subject, without producing any correspondent benefit except to the few.

Your Petitioners, therefore, most humbly pray that Your Majesty will be pleased to take the foregoing particulars into your gracious consideration, and withold your sanction from the said Act, in order that the opinion of the Inhabitants of this Colony at large may be ascertained before such change shall be permitted to be made in their Constitution.

And Your Majesty's Petitioners will ever pray.

August, 1856.

PORT OF CHARLOTTETOWN.

ENTERED:

Sept 5—Schr Rival, Mutch, Boston; goods and passengers. Lady Le Marchant, Pictou; mails. Lively Lass, Robinson, Pictou; coal. Ploughboy, Robinson, do.; do. Ariel, Moore, Sydney; do. Lady Jane Gray, Paul, Bay Verte; deals. Brig Intended, Bale, do.; do. Mary Ann, Wood, Pictou; coal. 8—Industry, Allen, Dalhousie; Shingles. Mary, LeBlanc, Arichat; ballast. LaRooka, Davidson, Boston; goods. Emma, Hobbs, Sydney; coal. Conservative, M'Fadyen, Pictou; do. Favourite, Babin, Porthood; Limestone. Elizabeth, Scott, Shemogue, deals. Bee, Oulton, Bay Verte; deal. Virgin, Bears, Pictou; coal. Wave, M'Donald, Pugwash; limestone. New Messenger, Siteman, Halifax; goods. Unity, Green, Sydney; coal. 10—Aurora, Hume, do.; do. Unicorn, Gallant, Shediac; deal. Armament, Aylward, Newfld.; bal. Mayflower, Beers, Pictou; coal.

CLEARED

Sept 5—Schr Belle, Chappel, Bay Verte; bal. 8—Mary, LeBlanc, Newfld.; cattle. Ploughboy, Robertson, Pictou; bal. Lively Lass, Robertson, do.; do. Bee, Oulton, Bay Verte; bal. 9—Favourite, Babin, Porthood; do. 11—Industry, Allen, Cariquet, do. Emma, Hobbs, Sydney; do. Conservative, M'Fadyen, Shediac; do.

DAMASCUS.

No person who has ever viewed this beautiful city, can ever forget it. As Constantinople is the most beautiful city of the hills, (for parts of the city are built on hills,) so Damascus is, to my mind, the most lovely city of the plains. Its history is very ancient; it is, perhaps, one of the most ancient cities in the world. We have the first mention of it in the Bible as early as the Book of Genesis, xiv. 25, when Abram rescues Lot, and scatters the enemy unto "Hobab, which is on the left-hand of Damascus;" here we have Damascus spoken of as a well-known town. And again, in Gen. xv. 2, Damascus is so spoken of as being well-known: "The steward of my house is this Eliezer of Damascus."

We will see a little of the city as it now is. The view of the city from the high hills which form part of the range of Anti-Libanus, is unrivallen: it is called by the Orientals "A pearl set in emeralds." The beautiful Barrada, a stream by which you travel on your way from Damascus to Lebanon, is a stream full of breaks, such assome of four beautiful trout streams in Cumberland and Westmoreland at present. It brings abundance of sweet, pure water to Damascus; it is to this stream the city owes its beauty and loveliness in a great measure; it is surrounded by orchards and gardens, in which grow walnuts and standard apricots, and a profusion of fruit; wherever the stream comes, it brings fertility and beauty, but beyond the influence of the stream, and further than its waters flow, there is nothing but barren sand, almost as far as the eye can reach. The wastes around make the emerald Damascus all the brighter, as the golden ring enhances the beauty of the emerald.

Mohammed, it is said, would not enter the city, saying, "Man could enter but one *paradise.*" He need not, however, have feared; for the city, however beautiful at a distance, is soon seen and felt to be no paradise. On approaching it, and close to the walls, in one of the principal roads, a camel had fallen dead. The owner had stripped the creature of its skin, and left the raw and ghastly carcase in the road. The dogs—the scavengers of the city—had found it, and were feasting upon it, while the ravens were perched around, waiting anxiously for their turn, when the dogs were sated. There were pools of green, stagnant water in the principal streets, whilst all kinds of dirt and dead animals are left in the public places. It is a town full of interest to every Christian, as being spoken of in the New Testament. We find Saul, the persecutor of the church, full of fury against the believers in Jesus, having got letters from the high priest, going down from Jerusalem to Damascus to put to death any that called on His name. But Jesus smote him to the ground, saying, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?" The spot is still pointed out where this happened; the house also, in which he received his sight is buried beheath the site of the present city, so that you have to go down many steps to it. There is also the street called "Straight;" aand a spot, marked by a Turkish inscription in the wall, is pointed out as the spot from whence St. Paul "was let down by a basket." The streets of the city are dull; nothing but lattices—mud walls in many parts. You would think them *miserable* dwellings, and yet the interior of some of them is costly and magnificient: the ceilings of many of the houses are elaborately coloured with bright and gorgeous colours in different patterns. In almost every house, the bubbling, gurgling Abana finds its way, and, playing in the fountains, cools the court yards which are often filled with beautiful orange and lemon trees covered with rich fruit.

There is a large demand for the most beautiful scarfs made of the finest silk, woven with gold, purple, and various colors and patterns, which are manufactured in the city. Its bazaar is very long, extending almost half a league; and here you meet with the costumes of every nation,—some of the Bedouins, with their free and noble bearing, the Frank, the Turk, the Persian, &c. The bazaar is a long street of gay shops, where all kinds of merchandise are to be found. The caravans from Great Mecca, Bagdad, Aleppo, Beiroot, Tripoli, and Acre, cause its extensive trade. Some have given its population at 300,000, but it seems more probable that it does not exceed from 120,000, to 150,000. About 12,000 Christians, and about the same number of Jews live in the city.

Let us remember, that the good things of the earth—such as the most delicious fruits and vines and meats—cannot satisfy the soul. Let us learn that the gayest and softest silks ever woven will not suffice. The loveliest views cannot fill the soul. It is only where grace reigns, and the Holy Spirit dwells, that there is peace and joy, and that is brought to light by the gospel of Jesus Christ. Let us pray for that time which *shall* come *certainly*—may it come, with our Lord *speedily*—when the Lord "will turn to the people a *pure language*, that they may all call upon the name of the Lord to serve Him with one consent." Pray for this blessed time, but be sure you ask yourself, Am *I ready* if my Lord should come, and should I be a partaker of it?

———o———

Origin of Chess.—The game of Chess, It is said, had its origin at the siege of Troy, and was invented by Palamedes, to amuse the Grecian chiefs The following account of the Origin of Chess is given by the Arabian writers. At the commencement of the fifth century of the Christian era, India was governed by a young and powerful monarch of an excellent disposition, but who was greatly corrupted by his flatterers.—This young prince soon forgot that monarchs ought to be the fathers of their people, that the love of the people for their king is the only solid support of the throne, and that they constitute all his strength and power. It was in vain that the brahmins and the rajahs repeated to him these important maxims. Intoxicated by his greatness, which he imagined to be unalterable, he despised their wise remonstrances. Then a brahmin, named Sissa, undertook, in an indirect manner, to open the eyes of the prince. With this view he invented the game of chess, in which the king, though the most important of the pieces, is powerless to attack, and even to defend himself against his enemies, without the assistance of his subjects. The new game speedily became celebrated; the king of India heard talk of it, and wished to learn it. Sissa, while explaining the rules of it gave him a taste for those momentous truths, to which till this moment he had refused to listen. The prince, who possessed both feeling and gratitude, changed his conduct, and gave the brahmin the choice of his recompence. Sissa required to be delivered to him the number of grains of wheat which would be produced by all the squares of the chess-board, one being given for the first square, two for the second, four for the third, and so on, still doubling the amount till the sixty-fourth square. The king, without difficulty, acceded to a request of such apparent moderation; but when his treasurers had calculated the quantity, they found that the king had engaged to perform a thing for which not all his riches nor his vast states would suffice. They found, in reality, that the amount of these grains of wheat would be equal to 16 984 cities, each containing 174,672 measures, each measure consisting of 32,768 grains. Of this circumstance, the brahmin availed himself to make the king sensible how much sovereigns ought to be on their guard against those who surround them, and how much they ought to fear, lest even their best intentions would be perverted to sinister ends.

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The New Creation.—A nobleman had inherited a broad tract of land, together with a village, from a wealthy uncle. But the land was boggy, unhealthy, and waste. The new possessor drained off the standing water and planted all kinds of trees and shrubs, so that the morass became a delightful garden, with a shady grove stretching out towards the village. After some years, the nobleman received a visit from the teacher of his youth, and he showed him how he had cultivated the wild bog, and converted it into a lovely garden. The aged man beheld it all with pleasure, and praised every part of it. The owner, however, said that he intended to do yet more, and preserve all kinds of deer and other game in the wood; and what an enjoyment this little creation afforded him Upon this, the old teacher replied:—"Thou dost deserve it, for thou hast made the dead morass into the dwelling place of life and joy. But there is something yet wanting to the perfection of this creation." "And what is that?" asked the nobleman. "Know'st thou not," replied the hoary sage, "that when God, the Lord of the Garden had created Eden, he placed man therein?" The rich man was silent, and took these words to heart; and in the following spring when his faithful teacher revisited him, he conducted him to the extremity of the wood. There stood two new and pleasant looking buildings. The old man smiled; and pressed tho noble man's hand as he said—"I well knew that thy heart would understand me. Love has now brought the work to perfection." And the buildings were—the one, an Orphan's Home; the other, a School.—*Krummacher.*

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Prince Albert an Australian Proprietor.—It is stated that Prince Albert has bought an enermous tract of land in Australia, which, in about 20 years, will return 1000 times as much as all the Saxes, Coburg and Gotha, in Germany, put together. Now, there is a principle in all this, whether or not it is true that the Marquis of Westminster advances portions of the purchase money. When William IV., for himself and successors, made the bargain with Parliament that he should have so much a year in consideration of his giving up all the crown lands, it was distinctly intended that the sovereigns should for ever cease to be landholders. But here the Crown is recommencing its functions as estated proprietor. The Queen bought Osborne; the Prince bought Balmoral and has bought a province in Australia, and will go on buying for the sake of the little royalties.

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A singular phenomenon took place] on Saturday night Aug. 14th,) about eleven o'clock, at Rouen. An immense cloud of small white moths burst over the town and completely covered the ground in a few seconds. What is singular is, that they fell almost exclusively on the left bank of the river. In the morning they lay on the ground in myriads, and almost all dead.—*Paris Journal.*

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Good news for Violinists.—Her Fodor, a chemist, has just discovered a new colophonium, or composition, to supercede the rosin usually used by violin players. It is applied by means of a camel's hair brush, remains good during 100 years' playing, and has no evil effect upon either the strings of the instrument or the hairs of the bow, and it is asserted, gives clearness to the tone.

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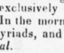
Tall Chimney.—T. P. Shepard & Co., are building a chimney for their vitriol manufactory in Providence, 214 feet high. It will cost $8000.

The human blood is not a mere fluid, coursing through the veins and arteries. and partaking of of the mere qualities of other fluids. It is—startling as the statement may appear—ALIVE. It is, in plain words, "*the life of man*" All physiological diseases, such as indigestion, deranged kidneys, liver, heart, lungs, stomach, all impure secretions in the body, and a large majority of epidemic and endemic diseases have their origin, or at least their exciting cause in the impure state of the blood. Cleanse that and keep it cleansed, and no sickness can prostrate, or even assail the system. This splendid discovery has given a lustre to Professor Holloway's name, transcending the renown of heroes and statesmen and we do not wonder at the great fame he has acquired in Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia.

City Livery and Sale Stables.



HAVING enlarged my Stables I am now prepared to take horses for Sale and board, by the day or week, Gentlemen having horses to dispose, of will find this an excellent stand, the Stables being roomy and comfortable and grooms attentive. Horses and Carriages for hire, second to none in the City.

Please call and examine for yourselves.

J. H. GATES.

Sept. 4th, 1856.——wtf.

Feathers Feather Beds!

JUST ARRIVED, per Schr. *Ornament* and other importations—good quality.

JAMES N. HARRIS.

August 11, 1856.— 3i