

chical principle, represented in England by the Queen, and the democratical principle represented by the House of Commons, harmonize? Has he the impudence to tell us there is no harmony there? Will he condescend to tell us, if it is possible to adopt any system of Government more liable to corruption, dishonesty and rascality, than the very system which now obtains here, and which he is struggling to perpetuate? He can't, for evidences, of too recent a date, are dead against him.

#### CANADIAN POLITICS.

We take the following extracts from an able article which lately appeared in the *Toronto Globe*, on the present position of the Reform Party in Canada. We recommend them particularly to the attention of the enemies of Responsible Government in this Island;—

It is not easy to rule any free state—but we sincerely believe that a country more difficult to govern than Canada, does not exist. We have two national races, two national languages—and one of these Canadian races is a mixture of Englishmen, Scotchmen, Irishmen, Americans, Dutchmen, Frenchmen, and Italians, with all their different forms of religion, habits, manners, and prejudices. We have the limited monarchical principles of Great Britain to reconcile with the ultra-democratic sentiments, of an adjoining republic. We are not old enough yet as a people to have a high national feeling to controul our impulses—we have no respect as a people for any body or class of men—and in both sections we have a bitter hatred of years' standing, existing between opposing factions. And yet with all this, we enjoy a wonderful degree of quietude, comfort and prosperity. We abuse one another most lustily, but the ship swims, and swims well, notwithstanding; and while we grumble and threaten, the country flourishes apace, the farmer's property increases rapidly, the merchant waxes rich, the security of property is greater, the laws are more just, the administration of affairs more popular and equitable. There is a fund of practical intelligence and common sense in the people of Canada, which always eventually brings things to a bearing; visionary schemes have their brief day—Tory emulates, League Conventions, Annexation Manifestoes, Clear Grit panaceas, may make their little puff for their little hour—but there are too many well to do people in Canada, too little wild speculation, too much matter of fact property at stake in the hands of all classes of the people, to leave any room for such nostrums to find a firm footing on the soil.

In addition to all these difficulties, the present Ministry have had to contend against and overcome one of the most violent ebullitions of party feeling which ever disgraced a free country; and they have had to put down, by moral force, an open attempt to transfer the allegiance of the Province from Great Britain to the United States. They came into office with an exhausted treasury—debts in arrears, and securities unsaleable—and, already, the exchequer is overflowing—the public securities are at a premium—and scarce to be had at that. They have passed an admirable Jury Bill,—a just Assessment Act,—and a well digested Election law; they have extended the jurisdiction of the Division Courts,—reformed the University,—extended the system of Municipal government, and negotiated the transference of Post Office controul to the Provincial authorities, securing to us cheap postage; they have reduced the costs of Chancery proceedings incalculably,—taken the necessary initiative steps to abolish the Clergy Reserve evil,—and passed a Bill to lend public assistance to great Railway schemes for the benefit of the Province; they carried a general Road Act, which is already covering the country with ex-

cellent public thoroughfares—they have had set aside public lands to provide funds for the free education of the youth of Canada, and they have negotiated and obtained the abolition of the British navigation laws as applying to Canada; and they have created an excellent Court of Final Appeal—subdivided the Province into new territorial divisions, and negotiated reciprocity bills successfully with the States; and they have passed a limited Partnership Act,—a Personal Property Mortgage Act,—a general Banking Bill, a Joint Stock Company Bill,—a County Court Extension Bill,—a new Law of Libel,—and very many other equally popular and useful Acts. And this in two years.

Let the present Ministry stand or fall, they have built themselves a monument in the Statue book of their country which will remain. Partizans may abuse and misrepresent, impute motives and call names—but they have accomplished work which no other men had the will and the ability to do; if they get it not now, the day is not far hence when their administration will be remembered with gratitude.

But while we frankly acknowledge the good effected by the present Ministry, as a Government, we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that as the leaders of a great party they have been sadly wanting. They have rested too much on the goodness of their measures—taken too little trouble to carry their party with them in maturing these measures. They have done business enough, judiciously handled, to make the fortune of any Administration, to satisfy the most exigent radical in three times the space; but they have shown so little tact in bringing forward and passing their Bills, that their best measures have been heard of by their own friends for the first time when the law of the land, and it has required no little exertion to do away misconceptions which should have been set at rest ere the Bills passed a second reading. The government has been good, but it has not been the government of the Reform party; it has been the government of the gentlemen of the Administration from Upper Canada. Of all the important Bills passed during the last two Sessions not a whisper reached the public ear until they were printed and laid on the table of the House of Assembly—not even the members supporting the Ministry were acquainted with their contents; and thus the friends of Government have been constantly placed in the position of choosing between giving up their matured views on public questions or forcing their leaders to recede from positions they had taken before the public. Fightings and heart burnings among those who should have been, and would have been firm friends by better management, have been the consequence, and the Ministry have been placed in the unfortunate position of appearing to dictate to, instead of carrying out the views of their party. No party could stand such a system. Even during the ricketty existence of the late Administration this same policy told seriously on their stability, and but for the overwhelming opposition which united them together, would have split them to pieces a year before they went. Think of such a measure as the Rebellion Losses Bill being placed before Parliament, without one word of warning to the party who were to father it! Can any one believe that had the measure been discussed through the Press on its merits, ere Parliament met, it would have been possible to raise such a feeling in regard to it? Who knew a clause of the School Bill till it became law,—and if its contents had been known, would it have passed as it did? It is a perfectly wrong system that a party should be placed in danger of shipwreck without the slightest note of preparation until the bark is either on or past the breakers. Men like to have the appearance of being consulted, if nothing more, and there can be no sympathy in a party when the mass know nothing of what they are supposed to do, until the thing is done. The very fact will set them to pick holes in it, just because they had no share in it. The whole system must be altered. The great Bills of any one session should be foreshadowed through the Press, and carefully discussed for weeks before the

meeting of Parliament. The members of Parliament would hear the views of their constituents on them, the Press would speak its views freely, each measure would be discussed on its own merits and not as the off-spring of the Ministry, and public opinion would be matured ere the Legislature assembled. Not a little saving of time and speechifying might also result from it. A bill so passed by the representatives of the people would of course become the measure of the party in power as well as of the Ministry.

#### News by Yesterday's Mail.

THE Steamer *Rose* did not arrive from Pictou until yesterday, when we were furnished with our usual Colonial and American exchanges, from which we take the following items of news:—

INTERESTING FROM PORT AU PRINCE.—By an arrival at Philadelphia from Port au Prince, we learn that political matters there continued in a very unsettled state, which had the effect of limiting the already contracted commerce of the Island. It is said that the friendly mediation of the foreign representatives has been positively declined. On the 30th ultimo, over two thousand men marched from Port au Prince for the South; and on the same day, over one thousand men embarked on board the Haytien fleet. The cannon and other warlike implements from the fort, were taken on board the government bark *Glover*.

ANOTHER GREAT FIRE AT SAN FRANCISCO.—An arrival at New Orleans on the 1st instant, from Chagres, reports that San Francisco has been visited by another destructive fire, which consumed more than one hundred buildings, causing great distress. The accounts from the mines were still of the most encouraging character.

The amount of duties collected at the Montreal Custom House for the quarter ending 5th July, 1849, was £83,395, for the same period in 1850, £114,006, being an increase this year, of £30,611; for the quarter ending 10th October in 1849, £78,576 and for the same period this year £92,840, being an increase over 1849 of £14,264. On Wednesday last, we published a statement of the amount of duties collected at this port this year as compared with last year. In 1849 for the quarter ending July, £29,093 was collected, and in 1850 £35,893, being an increase on that quarter of £6,802; in 1849 during the quarter ending in Oct., the amount collected, was £25,325, and this year £34,379, giving an increase this year of £9,054 on the quarter, and a total increase of £15,857, which is not at all symptomatic of ruin and decay.—*M. Chronicle*.

MIRACULOUS ESCAPE.—Two Artillerymen, named James Reece and Samuel McCrackin, belonging to the detachment stationed here, had a very narrow escape this week. While coming up from Partridge Island on Monday evening in a small boat, one of their oars broke, and the wind blowing fresh from the northward, they drifted out to the Bay, but eventually succeeded in reaching Digby Gut, where, although their frail vessel was stove to pieces on the rocks, they got ashore, being nearly exhausted for want of nourishment and on account of the exposure to the weather for two nights and a day. It is said they hailed a brig lying at anchor near Partridge Island, which, however, if they heard them, refused to lend any assistance.—*St. John Courier*.

THE LONDON TIMES COMMISSIONER TO THE UNITED STATES.—The London Times has sent a Commissioner to the United States to "take notes and report," on the state of affairs in the great Republic. His arrival in New York has created no little excitement and remark. The *New York Herald* says:

The special agents of France, of Russia, of Austria, or of His Imperial Highness Abdul Medjid, are all distinguished men, whose reports to their governments

are important and may be very useful to mankind; but the reports of this distinguished agent are far more to be respected for their results, than all those emanating from the States of Europe. This gentleman is High Commissioner for the *Times* newspaper of London—a power inferior to no other in the old world. He is empowered by that ruler of the destinies of England, to see, hear, examine, infer, and communicate anything and everything that may be worth knowing, with respect to the United States. In this respect, his position is more important than that of any of the diplomatic corps. Lord Palmerston is a busy meddling statesman, who is determined to know how to make the most for his country out of any quarrels or internal commotions in the United States; and the *Times* Commissioner will furnish him and the world with a perfect panorama of our people,—their business, their hopes, their designs, their actions, and their probable tendencies, on the great battle now just commencing in the political arena. From this, the English Secretary for Foreign affairs, who searches American ships, and seizes upon towns belonging to weak powers, levying at will heavy duties on American goods, and doing other things equally strange—even permitting his foreign ministers to advise our government—this same secretary, Lord Palmerston, will be able to gather the proper views for his chances in the great diplomatic game to be carried on, upon the probable issue of our political strife and sectional jealousy, and action.

We learnt by telegraph from New York last night, that at a late hour on Sunday night while a party of negroes were discussing the Fugitive Slave Law in that city, a desperate affray took place between them, during which an athletic coloured man seized a bed post, with which he beat another coloured man, and then attacked a man and woman, who, it is said, have since died. The excitement became intense, and it was with the greatest difficulty the police captured the murderer. His name is Peter Howland, and he is said to be insane.

A Bostonian speculator proposes a plan by which they who choose may go to London and see the big fair, in the spring, and come back again, all for not more than one hundred dollars. He says he has ascertained from good authority, that provided one hundred passengers can be obtained, the proprietors of a line of first class packets will agree to furnish a passage to Liverpool and back, and provide good accommodations and excellent fare, for the sum of sixty dollars each. The whole trip and stay to include about three months. Who says that Boston is not "the city of notions?"—*Rochester Daily American*.

TO OUR SUBSCRIBERS TO THE EASTWARD.—We beg to inform our Subscribers to the Eastward that a Collecting Agent leaves this Office this week, who will furnish them with their accounts, and with whom a settlement must be effected.

#### SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

THE Grand Division of the Sons of Temperance of this Island, held their second Annual Meeting, on Wednesday, the 30th ult., in the Division Room of the Sons, in the Town Hall, Charlottetown. The meeting, we are informed, was well attended, a far greater number of Representatives being present than usually attend at the meetings of this branch of the Order. The Officers chosen for the present year are as follows:

Hon. Charles Young, Grand Worthy Patriarch.  
Rev. Dr. Wiggins, of St. Eleanor's Grand Wor. Associate.  
Peter DesBrisay, Grand Scribe.  
Christopher Cross, Grand Treasurer.  
Rev. W. H. Cooper, A. B. of Port Hill, Grand Chaplain.  
John J. Pippy, Grand Conductor.  
W. H. Gadley, of Georgetown, Grand Sentinel.  
John Arbuckle, Esq., Past Grand Worthy Patriarch.