

CORRESPONDENCE.

PLEASURE EXCURSION TO PICTOU.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Mr. WHELAN;

The party that made the pleasure trip to Pictou in the fine Steamer "Rose" on Wednesday last, have expressed themselves delighted with their excursion. The weather was fine, with a grateful breeze breaking the wave, as the "Rose," "steady to her purpose," rode the briny blue. The music of Kiely's Band was sweet and melodious, wafting the mind back to other scenes and balcyon times, while the present hour, as it passed with "flying feet," was enriched by its lofty strains and stirring beauties.

The tone of the Company was most harmonious, every cheek wore an honest smile, and "Love looked love to eyes that spoke again," and gentle words were breathed which may not be told again; for social feelings reigned supreme, deeply tinged with the softer passions sweet emotions. Captain Mathewson, a king among good hearts, ever polite and kind, contributed largely by his attentions to the comfort and enjoyment of the party, he was a "Boy again," beneath "the lyart haffit" the freshness of youth seemed in vigorous bloom. The *tout ensemble* was all that reasonable souls could wish for, and "all went merry as a marriage Bell."

The true-hearted "grit" of the Pictouians received the "Rose" that day with much respectful feeling in giving the party a grand salute, unfurling their bunting on the breeze, and extending hospitalities on shore. The Indians, those untutored sons of the wilds, with a spirit appreciated, had their encampments decorated with flags and expended their powder in honor of the strangers, who will not easily forget the exhibition of excellent feeling accorded to them on the delightful occasion.

The only matter connected with the excursion which engendered dissatisfaction was the small number of persons present. This was ground of regret to all whose good wishes were with the enterprising proprietor of the "Rose." The vessel was brought here at much outlay of individual capital, with the object of serving the interests of this Island. That she has incurred loss to her noble owner, is, I believe, an undoubted truth, and it should be seriously entertained by every individual member of this Colony. If her owner finds that she continues to lose money for him on this line, her removal hence is the only alternative, and this result is not far from probable. There does not appear generally here that proper generous spirit towards the support of the "Rose," which the proprietor deserves: I speak of private encouragement; but trust the blemish may be removed, and a tangible demonstration in favor of the steamer made to give the "Yellow Geordies."

FAST.

The Examiner.

SATURDAY, JULY 20, 1850.

THE CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE OFFICES IN QUEEN SQUARE AND THAT IN DOWNING STREET.

(continued.)

If we mistake not, Mr. McLean of the *Islander* proposed, not long ago, to amend our representative constitution, by reducing our two Houses of Legislature to one, to consist, like our present Lower House, of twenty-four members, sixteen of them to be chosen by the people, and eight appointed by the Crown: at all events, this, we understand, is the scheme which the Government, the Officials, and their obstructive allies, most earnestly desire to see adopted and carried into effect by the Imperial Government; as the only one likely to save them from "the ruin and destruction" which now threaten them; as the only one which can shelter them from "the pelting of the pitiless storm" which is now heavily lowering, and ready to burst upon their heads, and hurry them, in its fury, into "the extreme of degradation and contempt."

This scheme, conceived in defiance of all justice, honor, and honesty,—the suggestions of which are, indeed, ever disregarded in the councils of men who desire to build their fortunes upon the depressed rights of their fellow-men—would certainly, if carried into operation, secure to the present party dominant, a continuance of their ascendancy for a period co-extensive with that of its own existence as a practical system in the Colony; and would, at the same time, in fact—although not in appearance—completely deprive the people of all the rights and privileges of freemen.

Such a re-formation of our Legislature would afford the Government the most ready means to render them selves absolute and thoroughly independent of the peo-

ple. The eight nominees of the Crown would, most undoubtedly, be the bounden servants of the Government; and at least six or eight more, as now—although enrolled amongst the chosen of the people—would, through the combined influences of "the corruptionists," be in fact nothing but the pliant retainers and unscrupulous dependents of the Government and the officials.—Thus would be secured to "the venal alliance," a staunch and permanent majority, capable of securing success to any of their private or selfish designs which might require the sanction and support of law; and strong enough to defeat any measure having for its object, either the re-establishment of the subverted political rights of the people, or the amelioration of the condition of the tenant population of the Island.

In addition to the discouragement which, under a Legislature so formed, would dispirit and unnerve the struggling and agent-ridden tenantry, there would arise from it, for their greater mortification, the irritating conviction that, whilst all taxes would, apparently, be imposed, and all appropriations of public moneys would, seemingly, be made by the representatives of the people, the people would, in reality, have no more voice in the matter than the soil—from which, by their skill and industry, they succeed in forcing a scanty subsistence—has the will to bestow or to withhold its harvests.

Should the people be so villanously cozened of the rights of British freemen, they themselves and all that belongs to them, their fields and their produce, their flocks and their herds, would, in reality, become the property of the Government, the Officials, and the Proprietors; and, solely for the increase of their wealth power, and ease, would they toil, and exhaust the vigor of their bodies; and only for their masters' good, would they be allowed to eat, for the renovation of their strength, of the bread which, "in the sweat of their faces," they had raised.

Should it appear that either Governor, Executive, or Officials, have been, basely and traitorously, carrying on a correspondence with the Colonial Office, the object of which has been the establishment of so tyrannical a rule, and the effecting of so degrading a subjection what punishment, we will ask, ought to be inflicted on him or them to whom should clearly be brought home the guilt of perfidy so enormously vile? Does any man, capable of fully appreciating the value of his birthright as a free-born Briton, and susceptible of those feelings of indignation which naturally arise in the breast of such a man, at the mere thought of a free and loyal people's being sunk to the condition of slaves, that, by means of their subjection, the possession of power, place and emoluments may be secured to a few individuals who have been accidentally—most certainly not by the force of superior merits—raised above the crowd—does any such man fear to speak his mind in answer to our question? We say not: and for all such, as well as for ourself, we boldly declare, that no punishment, short of the ignominious death, denounced by British Law against a traitor to his Sovereign and country, could be justly held commensurate with the guilt of treason so enormous.

In the eye of clear justice, the crime of seeking to subvert a Constitutional Government by assassinations and insurrection, is scarcely, if at all, of a deeper dye, than that of conspiring to annul or render nugatory—whether it be by direct or indirect means—the charter of the constitutional liberties of a peaceable and loyal people; and men banded together for so iniquitous and traitorous a purpose, deserve death no less than did Thistlewood and Ings, who underwent the extreme penalty of the law as the authors of, and chief actors in, the horrid, although frustrated, Cato-street conspiracy.

And should so traitorous a correspondence not only have taken place, but have secured its object; should the British Government also traitorously consent to abridge, or rather to abolish, the freedom of the people of this Colony, how, we will next inquire, ought they to meet the imperial fiat which would convert them into little better than beasts of draught and burden, for the use, benefit, and pleasure of men who have already long been enabled to live in ease and luxury, by means of salaries and emoluments drawn from the scanty fruits of their honest industry? To this question, all amongst us, in whose bosoms burns the genuine spirit of freedom, must return one and the same answer; and that answer is this: "Were we strong enough to make effectual resistance, it would be our duty—we say so without one thought of disloyalty to our beloved Queen—it would be our duty to act as, at the commencement of their struggle with Great Britain, did the Colonists who finally achieved the independence of those Colonies, which now form a part of the great Republic styled

the United States; and failing to obtain justice by remonstrance and a firm declaration of our determination not to yield our necks to the imposition of the yoke, it would then be our duty, and nothing more than our duty, to choose and establish our own form of Government; and, if necessary, to defend it with our lives. The idea of any such resistance as this, however, no one amongst us is foolish enough to entertain. In our weakness, therefore, it is plain we would have to fall before the treachery and submit to the yoke; but justly would we merit our doom, if we did not, in the strongest, the boldest, and the most unequivocal language, denounce its authors, and freely and forcibly warn the people of Great Britain of the decline of her power and the dismemberment of her states, which would inevitably follow the practice of such injustice and tyranny even in the smallest and most insignificant of her dependencies."

Although in plainly and earnestly urging, upon the notice of the people, our views concerning the correspondence which has, for some time back, and is still, we believe, being carried on, by the Government and the Officials of this Colony, with the Colonial Office in London, we may have very nearly approached the extreme of speculation, we have not done so unadvisedly, or without a sufficient motive. We do not, by any means, apprehend a result so disastrous to the liberties of the people, as that which the existing Oligarchy are laboring to accomplish—the entire subjugation of the people to their power, by the actual extinction of all their rights and privileges as freemen. Had the Oligarchy, indeed, only to negotiate to this end with the Colonial Office, they might find none but easily surmounted obstacles in the way to its accomplishment. The head of that office might, possibly, be induced to make over this Colony to their rule in perpetuity, with as little anxiety as is felt by a Russian aristocrat on the sale and transfer of his estate and serfs to the power and disposal of another; or with no more compunction than is manifested by some Irish absentee landlords at subjecting their unfortunate tenantry to the rack-rent system and cruel extortions of middlemen. Between the people of this Colony and the Oligarchy, we are happy to think there now stand interposed, as two towers of strength, the honor of a liberal and upright British Administration and the authority of the most august, the most enlightend, the most jealous guardians of liberty that have ever existed as a body in the world—the British House of Commons. When we well consider the character and authority of the powers to which the Assembly have appealed on behalf of the people; and when we again reflect that nothing is demanded for them but what has been freely tendered to their acceptance—common rights and equal justice—it is impossible for us to anticipate any change in the form of our Government or Constitution, but such as—being "in accordance with the well understood wishes of the people"—will directly tend to their political and moral elevation, and to the complete extinction of the oligarchical tyranny under which they have so long toiled, and sweat, and groaned. But we have thought it to be our duty to expose the manoeuvres and unmask the designs of the enemies of popular liberty in this Colony, that, by the manifestation of their treachery, we might, if possible increase the public detestation of their rule and character, and render more energetic the determination of the people to throw off the bondage of insolent and tyrannical misrule. Of despotism, as well as of vice, it may be well and truly said—

"It is a monster of such frightful mien,
As to be hated, needs but to be seen;"

and, therefore, no reasonable remarks which can tend to deepen, in men's bosoms, their natural abhorrence of it, can be either uncalled-for or useless.

ENGLISH MAIL.

The Steamer, *Rose*, arrived as usual on Thursday evening from Pictou; but she brought no English Mail, although one was due. We learn, however, that before the Boat left Pictou, an English Mail had been telegraphed;—we may, therefore, expect the latest news from the Old Country on Sunday evening. In the mean time, we give below the most interesting items of American news, gleaned from our last Colonial exchanges.

UNITED STATES.

DEATH OF PRESIDENT TAYLOR.—It is our painful duty to announce the death of President Taylor. He died last night at twenty five minutes before 11 o'clock, at the President's house in Washington. His last words were true to the spirit of his life:—"I am prepared;"—"I have endeavoured to do my duty."

In his short administration he has more than made good the hopes of those who elected him. He has won the regard and esteem of those who opposed him.

His election met opposition in some quarters, because he was a soldier. But he was so far fortunate in the moment of his death, that his last public act was the signature of an important treaty, which aims at a most important advance in the pacification of the world.

Hon. Millard Fillmore, who becomes acting President of the United States, is in Washington. He presided in the meeting of the Senate yesterday.

THE TREATY WITH GREAT BRITAIN.—The National Intelligencer of Monday contains the official publication of the Treaty with Great Britain, on the subject of