(Reported for Haszard's Gazette.)

SUPREME COURT.

SAINT ELEANOR'S, OCTOBER TERM, 1853.

NICHOLAS CONROY, Esq., *Plaintiff*, vs. JOHN J. PIPPY, *Defendant*.

ACTION FOR LIBEL.

Hon. Edward Palmer opened the case on the part of the Plaintiff, which he stated to be for a libel contained in two papers of the *Weekly Advertiser*, and *Colonial Times*, of the 10th and 17th of February, in this present year. The Plaintiff is a gentleman of good connexions and moving in a respectable circle of society. He had served in Parliament, and was as a Representative of the people among whom he resided, was in the commission of the Peace, and held a character among those by whom he was known, for uprightness and integrity. The Defendant is the printer residing in Charlottetown and was the proprietor and publisher of a weekly paper called the *Weekly Advertiser and Colonial Times*. The action which the jury were empanelled to try, was one, as said the learned Counsel, one of frequent occurence, he was happy to say. In the early stage, of society injuries to character were not frequent occurences. As the country settled and improved, it was fortunate for the Plaintiff and for all, that the law of the land prescribed remedies for all injuries, civil or criminal, among the rest, for injuries such as that now complained of.

The libel was contained in a letter purporting to be from one James Fitzgibbon, to the Editor of the *Weekly Advertiser*, and charged the Plaintiff with having acted, in his capacity of a Justice of the Peace, in a most illegal manner, and was couched in language, and contained accusations, which, if true, would render the Plaintiff infamous, and unfit for society.

The learned Counsel then, after some preliminary remarks on the loss of the Ship *Recovery*, at the North Cape in the month of October, 1846, stating that the writer had learned from one Coghlin, the particulars of the manner how the ship *Recovery* was condemned, which he had been one of the surveyors, contained the following passages.

"Mr. Coghlin produced the copy of the survey bill furnished by Conroy in condemning the Recovery as a proof of his statement to me, and it appears by the copy, that Mr. Conroy had caused a vessel to be condemned on a forged survey, as one of the parties last manner as the Recovery,—as one of the parties called upon to hold the survey was a Butcher, and this worthy son of the knife was dubbed "Merchant," as such in the survey Bill; the other was informed, was a Gaspe fisherman, who was dubbed ship master and inserted as such, and the third person was the aforesaid Thomas O'Brien, who was inserted as ship Builder, and from this man I learned that what Coghlin told me was correct respecting the condemnation of the ship Recovery, and further, that he, O'Brien, had been induced to act as a mere surveyor on other ships, which had been conducted in a similar manner, that he had never been sworn, that for his part, he did not consider that Conroy was a skilful, thought proper to pursue such a line of conduct it was nothing to him, so long as he received his Guinea for his services, but at the same time he, (O'Brien) had often told Conroy so, and by so doing him when receiving his Guinea, that sooner or later he would be caught, and what would they not give in England for him as a Witness to expose in the most manly manner in which those ships were condemned. From their statement of facts, with my own observation, I concluded, that Mr. Conroy was guilty of wilful in every sense of the word, and he caused those ships to be condemned for his own benefit, as a Broker and what spoil he could get from the wreck."

"O'Brian knew that I was about drawing wrong and told him so; but did not care so long as he got his Guinea; but the case was quite different with Coghlin, for when I explained to him the duty of Surveyors in cases of Shipwreck, he at once saw the error he had committed, by lending his name to an insidious man to carry out a fraudulent design, by bringing a false report, contrary to the spirit of his commissions, and acknowledged, that it was a disgrace to him, and declared, that he done it through ignorance, that his appointment was the first time of signing the surveyors Bill that it was a matter of form, by Conroy as a magistrate going after him, and that he would go before a Justice of the Peace and make oath to the same, which he accordingly did."

"There were other passages in both papers set out, but as they merely went to the same tendancy, viz., that of imputing the same disgraceful and illegal conduct to Mr. Conroy as Justice of the Peace and Broker, and as the lible was not justified, it would be superfluous to insert them.]

These, continued the learned gentleman, are the libels complained of, and could there be a more gross, wanton and malicious attack on the character of a respectable man? The learned gentleman then went on to show that the law made a great difference between verbal and written or printed scandal, and quoted various authorities to shew that the latter was considered of a more heinous nature than the former. He, at considerable length, anticipated the nature of the defence that would be set up. The liberty of the Press, that great palladium of civil and religious freedom, would, no doubt, be greatly enlarged upon by the learned Counsel, who had come from Nova Scotia to give the benefit of his talents to the Defendant. No man respected more than he (Mr. Palmer) did the liberty of the Press, all must know that it was more opposed to its licentiousness than he was. Much wouldbe argued in favour of the licence to be given to a public printer; but, in this case, he contended that the Defendant had forfeited all claim to indulgence. He had attacked the private character of a gentleman with a recklessness and want of common caution and common prudence, that argued a concurrence with the libeller. Regard for his own character ought to have withheld the defendant from publishing a libel like the present. They might be told that this was to extract money from the pocket of the defendant, but he would shew them that the plaintiff acted with a due regard to his own character in bringing the action in its present form. He might have compounded that for a trifle, and to himself and without risk of expence. It was in his power to have gone before the Grand Jury, and had the defendent indicted: or he might have sued for a libel by the ordinary information; and, in either of these cases, the truth of the libel, even if that were the case, could not be pleaded. No! he preferred to bring the civil action, so that an opportunity might be afforded to the defendant of justifying the publication, by proving, if he could, the truth of it. Why this was not done, would be for the defendant's counsel to inform them. The learned gentleman of whose speech the above is but a meagre outline continued to address the jury in an energetic, but, at the same time temperate manner, on the subject of the damages that they ought to award, and concluded by stating that they would be such as should shew their disapprobation of the conduct of the defendant, as well as to compensate the plaintiff for the trouble, expence and anoyance he had been put to.

The first witness examined, was the Plaintiff, Nicholas Conroy, Esq., who proved that he had been in the Commission of the Peace since May, 1840; was once a Member of the House of Assembly. Cross examined by Wilkins—never heard of suspicions or rumours with respect to his character as Justice of the Peace or Broker. Knows Fitzgibbon; he is a Justice of the Peace; does not know his occupation; has heard he is a shipwright.

JAS. B. SCHURMAN—was a subscriber to the *Weekly Advertiser*, but ordered it to be stopped; there were several in the Office; Dr. Conroy wanted them stopped; there was a small amount due to Pippy; it was paid through Mr. Fraser, the Post Master; gave Dr. Conroy an order to receive the papers.

WILLIAM BROWN—takes the *Weekly Advertiser*; suffered his name to be put in as agent. Is shewn the *Advertiser* of the 10th and 17th of February, and the 3d of March and after a good deal of difficulty, admitted that he had read the libel complained of. In papers published by the defendant, and similar to those produced. He was a very unwilling witness.

JAMES FRASER—keeps the Post Office in St. Eleanor's. Letters and papers came from Charlottetown to his care. Identifies the three papers shewn to Brown, as having been sent to J. B. Schurman. The defendant, Pippy; was in the Office when Schurman paid for the papers. Knows of no other paper of the same title. A great many came; some of the same date as those produced were taken out by the persons they were addressed to. They all came from the Charlottetown Post Office to Charlottetown they must have been mailed there. Cross examined by Wilkins—will undertake to swear that those papers were the same that came from Charlottetown; they were mailed; marked them, and gave them to Dr. Conroy; can't fix the date of delivering them; put his name at request of Dr. Conroy.

J. H. CUNDALL, Esq.—resides at Charlottetown; identifies the papers as those received from the Post master at St. Eleanor's; caused a paper of the 10th of February to be purchased at Pippy's Office; it is similar to those in Court; hand; knows the defendant to be the printer of the *Advertiser*; was a subscriber to the paper; has a paper of the 17th; got it from Mr. John Coll McDonald a few days after it was published. Files of the Colonial papers are kept in the Legislative Library; the *Weekly Advertiser* among the rest. Cross examined by Wilkins—The papers produced were taken out of the Post Office for the purpose of being put in evidence upon this trial. They were sealed or pasted up in his presence and locked up by Mr. Fraser. There was a great deal of examination and cross examination as to the papers purchased in Charlottetown, which is omitted, as the learned Judge was of opinion it could not go to the Jury.

GILBERT BOYD. Resided in Charlottetown, on 3d December last, got a paper of that date from Mr. Pippy at his own Office; bought it and paid for it; it is similar to the one produced; he saw papers of the 10th and 17th February in the Office; is familiar with the handwriting of in them. Cross examined—made the memorandum upon the paper at Dr. Conroy's request, and put his name on it.

J. P. CARVER is a printer in Charlottetown. Publishes the Advertizer Newspaper, cannot say whether the papers produced are his, any printer in Charlottetown might have printed them; thinks that they are his, but has no doubt but that they came from his office. Has 400 subscribers. Sends them to the different Counties. Mails them to go to the Post Office, keep no bravery Book. Files of the paper; had the papers produced were sent from his office. Cross examined, will not swear, but believes that they came from his office.

T. J. STARR—Resident in Tignish, has known the Plaintiff upwards of 10 years in the Commission of the Peace. Recollects the *Don* of Waterford being wrecked about 1848. Plaintiff acting as Broker. Master was present.

Mr. Coghlan and Mr. McARTHY testified to the same effect, and with respect to the *Recovery* being wrecked, and Plaintiff acting as Broker, the master of the vessel being present.

EDMAN PARKER—a subscriber to the Weekly Advertizer. It comes to him every week, through the Post Office. The copies produced are copies of those he received; got them every week; knows the defendant's handwriting; called for he has paid him for them. Cross examined —Does not know whether he took them out with his own hand or not, but is certain that they are the same papers received through the Post Office.

MARTIN WALSH—Is keeper of the Post Office, at Tignish. Identifies the papers produced, as similar to others of the same title, date and purport, which passed through the Post Office at Tignish.

Plaintiff rests his case.

MARTIN J WILKINS Esq. moves for a nonsuit on the ground that the Plaintiff had not been sufficient evidence of publication adduced to have the lible read. The only proof is that two papers were received at the Post Office in St. Eleanors, marked with the name and address on the side, and all this after the action brought. Court, I think so too, I think that the Plaintiff has gone too far. He has proved that the papers were duly marked and left in the usual course. I should like to be left to by jury to presume that if they had reached their destination, but he has negatived that himself, for he has proved that before they reached the person to whom they were addressed, they were taken out, sealed up and they have so remained, (To Mr. Palmer who had quoted some authorities and was about to quote more.) But I will allow the case to go to the jury, and will reserve the point, and leave, to move, to set aside the verdict and enter a nonsuit. Wilkins then adressed the jury on the part of the defendent. He did not perceive that there was any necessity for him to make an elaborate defence. The action was between a highly respectable man, a magistrate, and one who they all knew, the defendent was a printer in Charlottetown. For the purposes of economising time, and saving trouble he will make one or two admissions. In the first place he will admit that under the direction of the learned judge that the publication of the libel is fully proved, and secondly that it is a gross and manifest to a jury it is the duty of the defendent to prove the truth of it, this however had its modification as he would shew them. The publication was not with a view to scandal, was a very serious attemt to outrag ethe character of the Plaintiff, he agreed with the learned Council for the Plaintiff that if it were true that no gentleman could or ought to associate with him. It had been proved that Plaintiff was a man of excellent character and it was proved also that the publication of this libel had been published by respectable gentlemans entirely favourable to the defendant. There could be in this case but nominal damages. While he admitted that the libel had been published, he could not consent that any malice on the part of the Defendent had been shewn, on the contrary the letters from Fitzgibbon had been published in the usual course of business. One of the great benefits of a free and unshackled press was that it was a terror unto evil doers, while he would support the press he would discourage licentiousness, in this case he does not stand here for the purpose of branding the Plaintiff with the character of a wrecker, the on contrary he believed the Defendant to be all that was said of him, there was not a word to the prejudice of his character. But he would ask, was it prudent in the Plaintiff to bring this action? Had he shown that he had sustained any damage? Has any gentleman been brought here to show that he discontinued his acquaintance? If he had suffered any loss he was entitled to it, but it was difficulty in proving it, but it was impossible to prove what did not exist. In his opinion Dr. Conroy the Plaintiff's brother was the biggest, at all events the most libelled (Laughter throughout the Court) he it was, that hunted up the newspapers but for him they would have lain in the post office, he is then determined that they should be published. It was no wonder that he wounded the character of a really honest man. It was like chamomile, the more it was trampled upon, the more vigorously it grew. It had been proved that Mr. Conroy had lost no friend, had made no enemy by the publication. In fact the very virulence of his enemies had been his protection The atrocity of the libel was such that it carried with it its own antidote (Laughter) He would ask then whether taking £100 out of Pippy's pocket would be of any service to the plaintiff, would £50 taken from Pippy add one shilling to Conroy's character? (Laughter) The libel had been published in a public journal. Had it been under an anonymous signature. Had the Defendant when applied to refused to give up the author, then indeed he would have been liable, but Pippy would have made it his own, but what was the case? There was no doubt as to who composed the libel, and there it was where the Plaintiff had gone wrong, he should have proceeded against Fitzgibbon who wrote the letters and sent them to the defendant. He the counsel must not be told that Fitzgibbon was not a respectable man, he was known to the Plaintiff, but the Plaintiff, their names stood side by side, upon the Commission of the Peace that had this day been read in court. He should have been the Defendants counsel in this case, he would put in and had failed there would have been scarcely any limit to the amount of damages. The Defendant, had published the letter in the ordinary line of his duty. Had thought it would lead to the public good. He did not know whether they were true or false. He might have been in error, but will you, said the learned counsel, will you because he had committed an error punish him. Give the Plaintiff a shilling and let him sue Fitzgibbon.

The fact was that all this had arisen out of frivolous party politics, responsible government and all that sort of humbug, about which he differed totally from his client Mr. Pippy in opinion. They must give the lowest amount of damages there was a total absence of malice on the part of the defendant, and if he had offered the defendant a place in his columns, if he chose to rebut the accusations. They would recollect that the lowest damages they could give, would carry costs and these would be immense (also no witnesses). The learned judge then told the jury that there was no difficulty in the case it was a mere question of damages no doubt as to its being a lible. He could not suffer the defendants counsel to state what was matter to pass uncontradicted. In these cases (said the learned judge) the law makes no difference between the writer and the printer and publisher, both are equally guilty. The jury had a right to sue either—after a variety of extremely pertinent remarks with we regret we have no room for, the judge charged the jury to find such damages as would mark their sense of the nefariousness the case required. After four or five hours consideration the jury returned with a verdict of £15.

At this term (Michalmas) D. O'M. Reddin, Esq. moved for a rule, to show cause why the verdict should not be set aside, and a nonsuit entered, and adduced some cases in support of his motion. Court took time to look into the authorities, and on Thursday last, the Chief Justice, gave it as the opinion of the Court, that the publication had been sufficiently proved, *delare* the objection taken at the trial. Rule refused.

Hon. E. Palmer and Lawson, for Plaintiff. Wilkins, Brecken and Reddin for Defendant.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Inhabitants of Prince Edward Island.

MY FRIENDS;

A Letter bearing the signature of "GEORGE COLES," having appeared in Haszard's Gazette yesterday, in which, in common with some hundreds of our fellow Colonists, I am stigmatised a "senseless unfeeling demagogue," as destitute of fine feeling as of principle," I deem it my duty to address a few words to you, my friends and countrymen.

I have never ceased for many years to entertain a firm belief that the wisest plan for an honest man to pursue when assailed by a malignant falsehood in a newspaper, is to leave to his fellow countrymen to decide between the relative characters and reputation of the assailed and his assailant; and in now submitting to your calm and dispassionate judgment to say how far Mr. Coles is warranted in using this language, I would impress upon your minds that "I do care more than a fig" for your opinion."

During much travel in many lands I have lived under Absolute, Democratic and Monarchial Governments: and I had not supposed, on my return to my native land, I would find an "immaculate" government in fact "a Monarch," having for its foot, body and head, a fellow townsman—but this I will say, I was well pleased on my arrival some fifteen months ago to find a fellow townsman elevated by you to a position entitling him to my respect and deference; and thus I frankly expressed myself to many friends of my boyhood, receiving at the same time not to allow any "reports" to prejudice me either for or against Mr. Coles, but to reserve to myself the right of seeing and hearing only with my own eyes and ears. As I believe we poor Colonists are but better judges of our requirements than the gentlemen some thousands of miles off, I have always been an ardent admirer of Responsible Government, but administered by *responsible men*, not by those who keep our cash among themselves, and turn the workings of *responsibility* into a *mockery of farce*. I therefore, as if I had any leaning to one party more than to the other, it would be to the present Executive, whom I had hoped would shew themselves what they had always professed themselves to be "*The friends of responsibility.*"

Since my arrival here I have travelled much among the homesteads of my countrymen, and I have witnessed with pleasure the contentment and poverty, hard struggling and silent suffering among many of you, so different from the condition in which after twenty-five years absence I had hoped to have found you, that I confess I felt, however determined I was to remain myself and family, that I was bound to watch the workings of this Government, and endeavour to arrise at the cause of the continuance of this lamentable state of affairs.

Thus I have exercised my right as a man to give utterance to approval or disapproval of the acts of Mr. Coles' party, and in one instance, warmly and cordially to himself personally— in connection with the important step taken by His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, in the reorganization of the Staff of the Militia of this Colony in February last; and here I would digress a little, and call your attention to a point involving much that is near and dear to us. We do not hope or expect that a regular Army are about to be withdrawn from this Colony, and yet you appear determined to shut your eyes—as others did in the case of the "Fairy Queen" (a vessel employed in protecting one of our unprepared state, we should ere many months be visited by a few Privateers under an enemy's flag. I am told that some among us decry the Militia force as useless, and make it a butt for ridicule, probably those who do so may not have matured or weighed the subject as I have, or it may be that those persons feel they have not the stout hearts and stalwart arms which I will not hesitate in saying abound among us, and which are necessary to enable "men" to stand shoulder to shoulder to repel from their doors a brutal foe. Far is it from my desire to draw the poor Farmer from his farm, or the hard working Mechanic from his daily toil, for the purpose of attending parades, or to do the duty of Policemen, but I would fain impress upon you the necessity of such an organization of local companies, supplied with proper arms, accoutrements, and ammunition, as would enable us to do something more than be passive spectators of our wives and daughters violated before our eyes —our houses burnt—and stock driven away. I have seen it in other lands, aye and in two British Colonies.

But to resume the subject of my Letter. Mr. Coles may not forget the friendly and cordial good feeling with which he congratulated him on his appointment by His Excellency to be Commandant of the mounted part of our Militia, and as from Sir Alexander Bannerman's kind considerations for my health, I was unable to attend, I suddenly found myself placed in the important position of Senior Officer under the Crown, of the whole force—failing Colonel Angus Macdonald—I think I had a right to expect my congratulations in return of Mr. Coles' party, but now when on this sad occasion I come forward and avail myself of my right as a man, not the slave or tool of any party, to signify the feelings of horror and disgust with which the cruel neglect, culpable indifference, and incomprehensible futuity, by which this awful calamity has burst upon us, I am to be stigmatised with the other feeling hearts who passed the Resolutions on Wednesday last, as "senseless unfeeling demagogues," and told by the man whom you raised to his present position, that we may "*crawl into that retirement best suited to conceal our deformity.*"

I would now ask you, my friends, whether a decent propriety both in language and behaviour, would not far better serve a young and rising gentleman, as Mr. Coles is, than to call upon you to legislate for us, than the violent personal abuse and disgusting language I have this summer been amazed to hear issuing from the lips of some few of them; and whether much of the power the purpose of those persons who do thus outrage decency, I doubt if it makes the hearthfires burn brighter in the homes of our poor deluded Farmers; or if such conduct is calculated to ameliorate the hard condition of the struggling poor in this our beautiful, but unfortunate Colony.

I have done, and leave to you, as I shall for the future, to decide whether Mr. Coles or myself best deserves the epithet of "senseless unfeeling demagogue."

I am, fellow countrymen,
Your faithful friend,
GEORGE GRAY.

Spring Park, Oct. 28, 1853. Lieut. Colonel.

To the Editor of Haszard's Gazette.

SIR,—

In your report of the proceedings of Wednesday last. I see you have misplaced my remarks on Mr. Whelan's extraordinary conduct on that occasion. It was when that individual thought fit to say, that "he did not expect to have justice done him at that meeting," that I rose to order, and in the name of the highly respectable portion of the community assembled, condemned Mr. Whelan for having allowed to offer another word, without first being called upon to apologize for such insulting reflections. It was reserved for Rev. Dr. Evans to administer the severe castigation that Mr. Whelan received at his hands, when Mr. W. a member of the government expressed his contempt for the proceedings of the meeting in his own name, and that of his colleagues, the members of the government, without attempting to furnish you with the precise language he used, I can assure you that what he did say created in me a feeling of utter disgust, and I will only add, that in my opinion Rev. Dr. Evans in his just and eloquent remarks, rendered essential service, and gave Mr. Whelan a lesson, which, if he has the feelings of a man, I do not think he will be likely to forget for some time to come. I am, Sir, &c. &c.

JOHN MYRIE HOLL.

Wednesday, Oct. 16th, 1853.

To the Editor of Haszard's Gazette.

Sir,—in these days of excitement and enquiry on certain subjects now being brought in various ways before the public mind, and the pains that are taken by certain parties to prejudice the people against some presumbent characters at present actively engaged in disseminating the principles of Temperance, I have been induced to inform you, and through you the public, of a scene that I witnessed a few days since in a small but flourishing settlement called Margate, where I observed a whole House of the members of the Grand Division headed by the R. W. G. W. P. all formed a public meeting in a neat little chappel well filled with a deeply interested audience, after which he called on Mr. Arbuckle the Temperance Lecturer who delivered an address on the subject of Temperance, that appeared to interest the meeting very much, if we may judge from the responses made in different parts of the chappel, (and as it is to be hoped) the seed of his address, a very promising Division of the Sons of Temperance was formed the same evening, comprising most of the influential seulers there,) the meeting was also addressed by the D. G. W. P. and Mr. Reid in support of the cause of Temperance, before the meeting closed several of the respectable part of the audience requested the Lecturer to visit them again, in order to treat more fully on the nature and necessity of the Maine Law, which seems to be the one great subject of interest with the important steps taken by His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, in the reorganization of the Staff of the Militia of this Colony in February last; and here I would digress a little, and call your attention to a point involving much that is near and dear to us. We do not hope or expect that a regular Army are about to be withdrawn from this Colony, and yet you appear determined to shut your eyes—as others did in the case of the "Fairy Queen" (a vessel employed in protecting one of our unprepared state, we should ere many months be visited by a few Privateers under an enemy's flag. I am told that some among us decry the Militia force as useless, and make it a butt for ridicule, probably those who do so may not have matured or weighed the subject as I have, or it may be that those persons feel they have not the stout hearts and stalwart arms which I will not hesitate in saying abound among us, and which are necessary to enable "men" to stand shoulder to shoulder to repel from their doors a brutal foe. Far is it from my desire to draw the poor Farmer from his farm, or the hard working Mechanic from his daily toil, for the purpose of attending parades, or to do the duty of Policemen, but I would fain impress upon you the necessity of such an organization of local companies, supplied with proper arms, accoutrements, and ammunition, as would enable us to do something more than be passive spectators of our wives and daughters violated before our eyes —our houses burnt—and stock driven away. I have seen it in other lands, aye and in two British Colonies.

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GLEANINGS FROM LATE PAPERS.

GREATNESS OF ENGLAND.—In his recent work, "six months in Italy," Mr. Hillard has the following paragraph:—

A new sense of the greatness of England is gathered from travelling on the continent; for let an Englishman go where he will, the might and majesty of his country seem to be hanging over him like an unseen shield. Let but a hand of violence be laid upon an English subject, and the great British lion couchant in frowning street begins to utter menacing growls and shake his invincible locks. The English navy of war seems to be always within one day's sail of everywhere. Let political agitation break out in any port, in the globe, if there be even a roll of English broadcloth, or a pound of English tea to be endangered thereby, within forty-eight hours an English steamer or frigate is pretty sure to drop anchor in the harbour, with an air which seems to say, "Here I am; does anybody want anything of me?"

ARREST OF A SCOTTISH LADY IN TUSCANY FOR CIRCULATING THE BIBLE

An English paper, from which the account of the arrest of Miss Cunninghame is taken, speaks thus manfully on the subject of the supposed right of Tuscany to enact a penal code against the religious freedom of British subjects on Tuscan soil:

It is contended that Miss Cunninghame had no right to violate the Tuscan laws.—But who will pretend that Tuscany or any other gingerbread Power has a right to make laws which are a nuisance, an offence, and an insult to another State—and that State Great Britain? If the Grand Duke of Tuscany and his councillors were to enact that every Englishman should undergo the operation of shaving, on entering their territory, the first officer who attempted to put the law in force would have the lather-brush rubbed in his face, and no power upon earth would deny to England the right to defend and vindicate that proceeding. Yet such an edict would not be more offensive and insulting than that of which Margaret Cunninghame is at this moment experiencing the severity, and about which the Grand Duke is "inexorable." As to the law of Algiers, "observes a contemporary writer, "that any Algerine might seize a foreign vessel, appropriate its cargo, and sell the crew for slaves. That state of law was regulated by the destruction of Algiers; and yet, if a people have a right to enact laws as they please, the Algerines did but exercise that right." The people of the Dedetain are not to be confined to their shores. by the fears or the malice of any continental Power, petty or large; and when they go abroad they will not consent to burn their Bibles, or say their prayers in a whisper.—We are proud of our freedom and of our religion; and deny the right of any man or nation to silence us. These are crimes about which all nations are agreed, because they affect the well-being of all; but the Tuscan *crime of Bible-reading* is invented for application to British subjects alone, and British subjects will not submit to have special laws made for their coercion or humiliation. We will not be the standing book of nations, but we will not submit to have a dirty Tuscan hand put before our mouths when we have occasion to enter the dominions of the Grand Duke, whose Government as a daily paper remarks, "is a mere twelfth-cake business at best and has no more right to be treated as a European Power, than Messrs. Drummond and Mason, who import the Lucca oil, which it is the highest prerogative of the Tuscan Government to educe from a kindly soil." Let the Grand Duke trouble himself with his oil pressers, and be inexorable, if he pleases, among his oil jars; but let him not interpose his Little Britain wrath between subjects of Great Britain and their religious convictions. The Protestantism of this country is a mark which every continental fool and ruffian thinks himself licenced to assail; but it is high-time our Government put an end to such insolence.

BERMUDA.

The fever at St. Georges, it appears from our Bermuda exchanges, had steadily declined during the seven days previously to the 5th instant, our latest date; "and so far as human foresight can be deemed reliable," says the *Bermudian*, "there is every probability that before the end of the month, the Epidemic will have run itself out in that deeply-afflicted portion of these Islands. The number of deaths during the late scourge at that place up to the present time has been, as we are credibly informed, about 350. These figures, taken comparatively with the population of St. George's would show a mortality of 95 per cent.; but, when a careful analysis shall be made, will be found to be an under statement.

Under the obituary head of the Bermudian we notice the deaths, by fever, of Lieut. J. W. Greatorex, assistant Com. Gen. Commissariat, of H. M. Sykes, of H. M. 56th Regt.; the second and third persons being 24 and 26 years of age. D. C. Robe, R. A. Capt. Wodehouse, R. A.

Friday the 23rd, being the day observed throughout these Islands as a Day of Humiliation and Prayer. The attendance at Public Worship on that day was extremely large. The Proclamation directing that Friday should be so observed, bore the names of Arthur Lovemore Philpotts, R. E. and Colonel Robe, R. A., but before that day arrived both of these brave and worthy officers had sunk into the grave—victims of the Yellow Fever!