

Colonial Legislature.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

WEDNESDAY, February 24th, 1858.

MODEL FARM.

(Continued.)

Hon. E. WHELAN.—I would have no objection to go so far as to agree to a grant of £500, as suggested by the Hon. Col. Secretary, without reference, however, to the application of the Society which is now before us.

Hon. the SPEAKER.—I am very sorry to feel myself justified in rising so often to speak in this Committee; but, really, so many new lights arise, and so many different motions are made, or proposed, that it is no easy matter to determine what course we are about to steer; or what definite questions we are called upon to determine. I certainly wish that hon. members would bear in mind, that the pretty well-ascertained opinion of this Committee, seems to be that, under the pressure of existing financial circumstances, the Assembly would not be justified in making any further grant of money for the support, or aid of the experiment of the Model Farm. I would have them to remember that, this very morning, the fact was made known to the House, coupled with an expression of regret, that the case should be so—that we cannot afford to vote more than £6,000 for roads and bridges, notwithstanding the essentially important nature of the service. Now, I must say, I am really astonished to hear hon. members, with these facts so closely before their eyes, propose a further grant of £500 in aid of the Model Farm; especially when they are fully aware that the managers of the farm themselves entertain no hope of its redemption from its present involvement; and must know, besides, that, if the sense of the people at large could be taken upon the question, nine-tenths of them would be found opposed to any further grant in aid of the institution; and, moreover, I maintain, that the sooner we shall relieve its directors from the burthen of the onerous duties, and the anxiety which their superintendence of its affairs imposed upon them, by declaring to them that we hold it to be altogether inexpedient to make a further grant for its support, the more they will thank us.

Hon. COL. SECRETARY.—I have not submitted a motion for a further grant in aid of the Model Farm—I have only presumed to shew, by what I think is a very natural course of reasoning, that, if the institution be allowed to go down, we shall, before more than three or four years shall have passed away, have serious cause to regret our abandonment of it. If, with so valuable a stock, and the farm in so excellent a condition, the concern cannot—if extricated from its present pecuniary embarrassment—be successfully carried on, it is high time for some of us to cease our operation as farmers. That the Society have not raised wheat, barley, oats or potatoes, by the sale of which to pay for the working of the farm, is not to be attributed to mismanagement on their part; for it was never intended that the farm should be cultivated with a view to the raising of such agricultural products for sale. The grand object, for the accomplishment of which the farm was taken, was solely the most important one of raising young stock of the best and most improved breeds, for distribution throughout the country; and, to that end, it was positively necessary that the farm should be got into good condition for the growing of hay and green crops, for the feeding of the stock. This, at a great, but needful outlay of money and labour, has been fully attained; and, to all who are capable of duly estimating the expenditure necessary to bring the farm into such a condition, and of making full allowance for the time which must elapse, before such a concern can prove remunerative or self-sustaining, the present state of its affairs, if not positively satisfactory, cannot be at all surprising; but, on the contrary, it must be clear to them, that, could the Society be relieved from their present exigence, on account of the farm, it might be prosecuted, in future, to the very great general advantage and satisfaction of the country. Independently of the most important benefits which the Agricultural Society so wisely and patriotically calculated upon their being able to confer upon the country at large, by means of their Model Farm—which, however, it now unfortunately appears must be foregone, for many years at the least, if not forever—their general operations have been, beyond question, highly serviceable in the promotion of our agricultural interests; and most justly are they entitled to all the encouragement therein, which the Legislature can, without overstepping the bounds of evident propriety, bestow upon them. The wisdom of the annual legislative grant to the Agricultural Society is made fully manifest by the consideration, that it enables them to import, every year, clover seed, hay seed, turnip and other seeds, severally of the best kinds, for the supply of all the farmers in the Island; and that they so justly estimate the demand, as to make the supply annually required sufficient almost to a cask. This supply, some may say, the merchants might be left to make; but, to such cavillers, I would reply that, if the farmers were left to depend in that respect, solely upon the imports of the merchants, their dependence would be but precarious; whereas the supplies, made by the Agricultural Society, are not only regular and of the very best kind, but also, so well calculated as to quantity, as always to be sufficient for the demand. And, further, advantages of the most desirable kind are afforded to our farmers, by the Agricultural Society, through their importation of the best and most improved agricultural implements and machines, which are sold at cost and charges, and sometimes even for less. It would be a serious misfortune indeed to the Colony, should the Legislature ever look with a cold and discouraging eye upon the efforts of the Agricultural Society, which always have been, and cannot, according to their constitution, be at any time otherwise than for the promotion of the general good. Such a change of sentiment, on the part of the Assembly, is, however, I trust, far distant, although just now we may hold it to be inexpedient to make a further grant to the Society on account of the Model Farm.

Hon. E. PALMER.—The difficulty experienced by the Committee in determining whether the Assembly has any right to dictate to the Agricultural Society when, how or where their stock shall be sold, arises from their being unable to determine whether that stock should be regarded as public property or not. The difficulty will, however, I think, disappear altogether, if we look at the nature of the compact in which the Society had its origin; and by which, indeed, it is still upheld. That compact is a partnership, entered into on the express condition, that for every pound which should be voluntarily subscribed, as capital, by the Society, or by others in aid of it, the Assembly would grant two pounds; and this condition has been punctually fulfilled on our part. The public may become a party in a co-partnership concern or undertaking, either by the express declaration in an Act of Parliament or through the passing of Resolutions from year to year, for the granting of money for the prosecution or sustaining of the undertaking, for the public benefit. In the latter way the Assembly have clearly established their own, on the public's co-partnership with the Agricultural Society; and the Model Farm is therefore a joint concern of the Assembly and the Agricultural Society. It is quite otherwise, however, when the Legislature chooses to make a grant as a bonus to any private individual or company, as an encouragement to undertake or prosecute any public service, either with or without stipulation for any public service to be rendered in consideration thereof, and leaves the individual or company in full possession of the concern, both as to its management and its results. Such a grant or bonus establishes no authority, on the part of the Legislature, to interfere with or control the private management of the concern to which it is made. It, by no means, now behoves the country to say to the Agricultural Society, with respect to the Model Farm, the concern has been so unprosperous that we will at once desert you, and disclaim all connection with the concern. On the contrary, if my view of the case be correct, as I humbly conceive it is, the Colony is strictly bound to sustain the Society in their adverse fortune, and to desert them in their present exigence would be extremely dishonourable. I, therefore, hope the Committee will take that view of the matter which is taken by the Hon. Col. Secretary, and agree to sustain the Society in the day of difficulty. I do not think that any more stock is required, at this time, than there is now upon the farm; and if, by a moderate grant, we can extricate the Society from their present pecuniary em-

barrassment, it will be not only honourable and honest in us to make it, but truly also, inasmuch as by so doing we may secure to the country all the advantages, to the fullest extent, which it has ever been calculated would result from the successful management of the Model Farm. If, however, we refuse to grant the Society such moderate assistance as would extricate them from their present difficulty, we shall, by such parsimonious economy, to say the least of it, render ourselves ridiculous. It is true we were not all agreed as to the necessity of the Model Farm at the time we made the grant to the Agricultural Society, in aid of the undertaking; but still if now, on their having sustained a loss and become a little involved, we shall become so frightened of the consequences as to turn our backs upon them, our doing so will be a departure from our original resolution in favour of the farm, and will, therefore, most assuredly be any thing but creditable to us. I am personally disinterested, but I have always been strongly disposed to favour every proposal or undertaking which gave reasonable promise of furthering our agricultural interests. The operations of the Agricultural Society have, most undeniably, conferred immense advantages upon our farmers, as we all perceive, whether we regard the quality and quantity of their farm stock of all kinds, or consider the high state of cultivation their lands have, in general, been brought to, as compared with what all these formerly were, and before our practical agriculturists were so aided, encouraged and led in the way of beneficial progress, as they have been by the patriotic and well directed exertions of the Agricultural Society, ever since its formation. The great advantages resulting from the Society's shop may in part be overlooked, even by some of those who are the most immediately benefited by it; but were it to be closed, all our farmers would soon, I am certain, become keenly sensible of the loss which they had sustained by its closure. I think it quite possible, and quite consistently with the leading principles of true political economy, to sustain the Society in all the undertakings in which they are engaged. It has been justly observed by an honorable member, that this is particularly the year of the greatest trial and difficulty with the Agricultural Society, as respects their farm; and that if individuals have been enabled to surmount such trials and difficulties, by means of friendly assistance, as has very often been the case, why should it not be so with respect to the Agricultural Society, should the Assembly now consent to grant them the assistance of which they at present stand in need. If, on this occasion, we arrive at what I would call a wise determination, we will agree to make such a grant to the Agricultural Society as will, together with what they can raise by means in their own hands and at their own disposal, enable them to pay off the debts due from the farm; and if we do so, I shall not be afraid to venture to predict, that if the Model Farm be continued in operation for a few years, according to the original views of its projectors, it will fully realize their expectations, and by its success and the advantages conferred by it upon our farmers, silence all who have objected to the undertaking or prophesied its failure.

Mr. Macdonald, the chairman, then put the question upon the resolution of the Hon. the Speaker, formerly submitted in the following form:—

Resolved, That it is inexpedient to make a further grant of money for the support or management of the Model Agricultural Farm, and therefore this Committee recommend to the House that the Royal Agricultural Society be notified thereof.

This resolution having been agreed to, the Hon. Colonial Secretary, with respect to the resolution, as below given, which he had proposed, but which had not been seconded, said—Then I presume the Society may sell their stock just as they shall please.

Resolution proposed by the Hon. Col. Secretary:—
Resolved, That the cattle, stock and sheep, now on the Model Farm, be equally divided among the three Counties; and that if, after the sale thereof, as well as of the horses, implements, and all besides belonging to the farm, there should be any balance of debt due, this House will make good the same. No stock to be sold out of the County to which it may be allotted, unless in exchange for stock which may have been sold in one of the other Counties; and no part of the stock to be sent out of the Island.

The Hon. the Speaker having resumed the Chair, Mr. Macdonald, the Chairman of the House in Committee, reported the resolution agreed to therein, as above given, which was adopted by the House.

R. B. IRVING, Reporter.

Correspondence.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE PROTECTOR.

GENTLEMEN.—Nothing more convincingly shews the power of truth than the manner in which you seek to evade the arguments advanced in my former letters. The attempt to withdraw the public attention from the real point at issue by a puerile effort at verbal criticism, will not do. Dashed off in a hurry and at a late hour, after a day of unremitting and almost unexampled application to professional duties, and without time not only for that re-touching deemed essential by Horace, but even for a simple perusal, in such a case a slight inaccuracy in construction will sometimes escape the most practised pen. But no honourable man would say, in such a case, that the writer was ignorant of his mother tongue. Even an opponent, caring very little about honour, but endowed with ordinary candour, would be careful not to hazard such an assertion in the face of abundant proofs to the contrary; for however he might reckon on the ignorance or prejudices of part of his readers, he would know full well that all whose opinion on such matters was worth having would not fail to see the matter in its true light. I am quite willing that my communication, hastily written as it has been, should go forth to the public, side by side, with your critique. Stick to your favourite theme, abuse of Popery, and let criticism alone. For the former neither learning nor good taste is needed, for the latter you lack the very first element of success.

"Let such teach others, who themselves excel,
And ensure freely, who have written well."

Nearly the same remarks apply to the letter of your correspondent "A. S." The tone and temper of this production are indicative of any thing rather than the gentleman or the scholar. The writer, however, is said to be a country clergyman. This surmise is rendered highly probable by the initials and other internal evidence. This amiable and pious man has so many things to object to the Academy that it is no wonder he should find it so difficult to control his temper. To enumerate only a few of them: we have the "Maynooth Commission," "Paul Cullen," the "Pope," and finally your humble servant, now after having lived so long "in a Protestant country, pay, and service." A little further on he says, "Mr. Kenny has no doubt been paid from the Treasury for his services." The import of all this is so plain that comment is unnecessary.

The reader will not be surprised to find that, in the eyes of this able and impartial man, the Academy is, compared to similar institutions elsewhere, "contemptible." This his judgment he bases on the following cogent reasoning: "From Mr. Dawson's Report, he finds that in 1851 there were in the Province of Nova Scotia 35 Grammar Schools. 'In 8 of these,' he continues, 'Greek is taught; in one of them Hebrew is taught; Latin, French, Algebra and Mathematics in the rest.' Prodigious! Algebra and Mathematics! This must have been quite a recent improvement. Algebra and Mathematics must have formed no part of the curriculum when 'A. S.' went to college, for although he might never

have been able to cross the *Pons Asinorum*, he would at least have acquired the meaning of the terms he now employs with such an air of learning.

The superabundance of grammar Schools in Nova Scotia, and the necessities of the Lord's Vineyard among ourselves, account very satisfactorily for the slender qualifications of some of the labourers. This is nothing more than might be looked for in a young colony like ours. To expect that all who have been called to the ministry had had a first-rate education, or the capacity to receive such, would be unreasonable. This in no way precludes our respect and veneration, so long as they confine themselves to the sacred duties of their calling, and do not intermeddle with subjects beyond their proper sphere. It is exceedingly difficult to respect the cloth, unless the wearer himself manifest some little regard for it. For this reason every right-thinking man must hope that "A. S." may not prove to be a clergyman. He winds up a tirade of the most vulgar impertinence with the exclamation, "What need of inspection or commission of enquiry after such a confession! And, after all, he has the Douay Testament, that Protestants may not think he has not the Scriptures," &c. With my motives for thus surreptitiously introducing the Douay Testament into an institution, which in a moment of generous confidence has been placed under my direction, the Rev. gentleman seems thoroughly conversant. One is "gradually to familiarize Protestant ears to Popish idolatrous terms, and thus serve the purposes of the church, as every true son is bound to do at his peril." Now if this be true, every denomination of Protestants in the Island should feel thankful to the Rev. gentleman for being the first to detect and expose it: if it be false, they may well feel proud of him. Meanwhile to the accusation I plead, *Not guilty. The Douay Testament neither is nor has been used in the Academy since I became connected with it.* Every facility shall be afforded to any one who may desire to decide this point for himself. Congratulating the *Protector* on its new ally, and trusting that I shall be excused from noticing anything that may proceed in future from the same quarter, I remain, gentlemen, yours, &c.

JOHN KENNY.

LIEUT. COL. GRAY AND THE PROTECTOR.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR.—Learning that the Hon. Mr. Gray is about re-entering public life, and thereby giving as a hostage to society, his reputation for the fidelity of his future conduct, we have a right to see what the article is worth before society should accept it. And as a disregard for truth is a very serious blemish on the character of a man who aims to be the expounder of truth, I am inclined to think the gallant Colonel should be voted out of the service of the people.

In a letter lately addressed to you by Col. Gray, he stated that he had no further connection with the *Protector*—of the management of which he was evidently much ashamed—than the payment of his subscription of twelve shillings a year. Since then I have learned that two persons waited on the publisher of the *Protector*, and asked to be allowed to insert a short communication in that paper. Mr. Hazard stated that he could not comply with their wish unless he had the approval of the Editorial Committee. He was requested to name the Committee, and he did so. They were the Hon. Col. Gray, Reverend Messrs. Fitzgerald, Duncan and George Sutherland. Mr. Coker can, if he please, testify to the truth of this fact.

Now, what are we to think of a gentleman who deliberately informs the public that he has no interest in, or connection with, a certain newspaper beyond the paying of his subscription to it; while he has undoubted testimony that nothing can appear in the columns of that paper without his sanction? There is one thing certain: either Col. Gray or the publisher of the *Protector* has stated a falsehood. Let them settle the matter between them.

ANTI-HUMBUG.

April 12, 1858.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR.—I see by the epistle signed "A. McNeill," in the last issue of the *People's Journal*, that that peculiar individual still persists in uttering the false statement made in that paper of the 20th of March relative to myself, but offers no proof. A year ago he made a false statement respecting me, and only saved a public exposure by writing an apology. He then pleaded, as an excuse, "the force of habit," "a natural infirmity," &c., and promised a reformation; but I am sorry to perceive his good resolution has failed him. The publisher of the *Journal* has very wisely driven the editor from the editorial columns, and he oddly enough takes his place as a correspondent. It is said that he was very wrothy because Mr. McDonald would not admit his "article" as editorial matter. So poor McNeill is ill-used on all sides. And although he bombastically terms himself "editor," it turns out he is only an "understrapper"—a class of very respectable persons to which Mr. McNeill has always belonged, but which he now professes to despise. He is now a "live editor," and can afford to look down with contempt upon "Deputies." He remembers the series of misfortunes that attended his public career, and now that he has retired into private life, it is no wonder he should affect to hate the rock upon which he split. McNeill has lived so long in "glass houses" that he has become almost transparent, and it does not require the use of spectacles to see through him. Yours truly,
P. G. CLARK.
April 5, 1858.

The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., APRIL 12, 1858.

PUBLIC LANDS ACCOUNT.

WE notice the ridiculous tissue of misrepresentation on this subject, which appropriately embellished the columns of a late number of the *Islander*, not so much for the purpose of grave refutation, as to shew the miserable extremes to which his employers urge the hiring editor's pen, at a time when their only chance of damaging their political opponents and placing them in a false position before the country, on the eve of a general election, consists in wholesale perversion of facts and figures. That journal occasionally adorns its columns with editorial lucubrations on Theology, Geology, Astronomy and various other scientific matters, some of which indicate the influence of the Moon upon the world in general, and New London in particular. But the remarks on the above Accounts lead us to incline to the opinion, that the worthy editor is fully impressed with the idea, that he can, and will, convince the public that the moon is made of green cheese. Let him take heart. If he can persuade any sane man to credit, for one moment, the article to which we refer, the future task is easy; nay, is already almost *un fait accompli*.

When we inform our readers that the proofs of assets, to the credit of the Land Office, were the only proofs that could, by law, be adduced—when we tell them that those assets, by law, are chargeable on individuals who have paid their monies on account of their purchases, and also on the whole extent of the lands so purchased—when we add that the Auditors did not deny the correctness of the amounts—when we also state that the Committee on Public Accounts, consisting of seven mem-

bers of the House of Assembly, of whom three belonged to the political party which pays the editor for misrepresentation so general, that he sometimes, as in the present instance, "stinks and stings against the hand that feeds him"—when further we state that the leader of that party, the Hon. Mr. Haviland, although he moved an amendment to the report of the Committee, never impugned the correctness of the Accounts, or the ample nature of the security for their payment, we can only regret that the editor should not undertake the publication of a new edition of the travels of the celebrated Baron Munchausen, with notes and additions, to be published by John Ings, at his office, corner of Great George and Water Streets, Charlottetown, P. E. Island, and dedicated by permission to the Political Alliance.

Perhaps, in consideration of the large amount of very dirty work which McLean's situation devolves upon him, he may deem his compensation inadequate, still he really should not bespatter his masters. From the long practice he has had, he should, by this time, have acquired skill sufficient to enable him to distribute the weekly filth with a more discriminating hand.

A HINT FOR DIVERS ELECTORS IN CHARLOTTETOWN.

WHENEVER a Tory spouter finds himself before a popular assembly, where the subject in debate happens to concern the rights and liberties of the people, he is sure to claim immense credit for his devotion to the interests of the public. But the devotion unfortunately consists in profession, not in action. The secret is sure to leak out, that there is nothing he hates so much as that which he openly professes to admire.

We have a case in point. A writer in the *Islander* of Friday last, who styles himself "a Rate Payer," is quite indignant with, and tries to be very severe upon, the majority of the House of Assembly, for having recently sought to give the people of Charlottetown, when electing the Mayor and City Council, as much liberty as they enjoy when they elect members of the House of Assembly. The object of the majority was, in short, to apply to our civic elections the principle of universal suffrage, which has now for several years obtained in our parliamentary elections, and which has afforded such general satisfaction to the country, without, in any instance, having been abused. "Rate Payer"—who is, no doubt, an out-and-out supporter of the Tory members for Charlottetown, and who will shortly be wheedling and coaxing every man who has a vote to give, to give it to the aforesaid Tory members—says that the Bill lately before the House of Assembly would have the effect of "extending the elective franchise to a set of LOAFERS who possess no interest whatever in the city, and who contribute nothing towards the expense of managing its affairs."

Now, according to this doctrine, no person ought to be allowed to vote unless he holds property—labour and industry, which constitute the basis of all property, are entitled to no voice in the making of the laws by which the poor as well as the rich are governed! That this is the view of the present Charlottetown members, is evident from their opposition to the Bill referred to, on account of the universal suffrage principle; but we confess we did not expect that one of their friends and supporters would be so bold as to add insult to injury—first denying the right of the poor, but industrious man, to the privilege of the franchise, and afterwards stigmatizing him as a "loafer." We sincerely hope that every poor rate payer, who is, by our present law, authorized to vote for a member of Parliament, will remember to ask those traducers who blandly solicit his vote for a Tory Candidate at the ensuing election, whether they look upon him as a "loafer" or not.

THE UNHOLY ALLIANCE SHOWING SIGNS OF LIFE.

WE understand that some of the members of the Unholy Alliance, having received a shock from an electric battery planted near Apothecaries' Hall, gave signs of life in that quarter a few evenings ago, and are endeavouring to stir up the dry bones of their secret association, with the view of making a show of fight at the approaching general election. The few Unholies who assembled on the occasion referred to, took upon themselves the agreeable task of settling some of the elections entirely to their own satisfaction. Our Detective could not fathom all the proceedings of the conspirators, but we are informed of two gentlemen who are, positively, to be favoured with the distinguished patronage of the Unholies in their aims at senatorial honours; and it is right that we should apprise the public, without delay, of this important and interesting fact. The fortunate individuals are—the Hon. J. H. Gray, who is to be put forward as a candidate for the Belfast district, and J. B. Cox, Esq., who is recommended to the favourable consideration of all good Tories, as a fit and proper person to represent the St. Peter's District. We can only say that we wish both gentlemen an agreeable time in their canvassing excursions.—We shall, no doubt, through the cunning and watchfulness of our Detective, be enabled to make further disclosures in future Nos.

CONSTITUTIONAL LAW, PER THE LEARNED MEMBER FOR GEORGETOWN, AT FAULT.

IN the course of the late Session, His Excellency the Lieut. Governor felt it his duty to send down a message to the House of Assembly, urging on the House the necessity of altering the mode of collecting the Impost Revenue, as the present system is attended with great inconvenience to the public service. His Excellency, being a distinct branch of the Legislature, had a clear and constitutional right to offer a suggestion upon this or any other public question. Mr. Haviland, the member for Georgetown, thought otherwise; and worked himself up into a violent passion, but from which he fortunately found relief in two or three turbulent speeches, that made him, however, the object of derision with the whole House. At least we think so; he was ridiculed unmercifully by the majority, and not a soul on his own side came to his rescue. He denounced the Government and the Governor in very angry terms for sending down the Message referred to—gave his eminently sound legal opinion that it was unconstitutional, and a breach of the privileges of Parliament; and said a great many hard things which are, of course, long ago forgotten. However, the speeches of the honorable member had no other effect than to procure laughter and digestion on one side of the House—for the House had dined, and it was clear the hon. member had—and evident mortification on the other side, which did not help their digestion at all; the motion which he made for the message not to be received, did not find a solitary supporter beyond himself, and had to be withdrawn.

This escapade of the hon. member for Georgetown is brought to our recollection by seeing the address to the Lieut. Governor which was passed by the House of Assembly at the close of the Session, thanking His Excellency for his communications to the House; and this address passed unanimously—not even the hon. and learned member for Georgetown raising his "still small voice" against it. We published