

only the very rare case in which foreign and Irish products of the same quality are offered in the market at exactly the same price. These non-importation or non-consumption pledges seem to us not very wise or practicable measures. If they could succeed for a time they would, in the present condition of Ireland, accomplish much good; but how they are to succeed it is far beyond our power to imagine. The consumer cannot effect the design, because in the immense majority of cases he does not and cannot know whether his cotton is made in Belfast or in Manchester; whether his silk handkerchief comes to him from Dublin, Spitalfields, or India, whether his shoes were tanned in Celtic or in Saxon tanpits; and whether his coat was woven by Irish or by English looms. In almost every article of manufacture the consumer is at the mercy of his tradesman. If the customer was willing to pay even more for Irish than for foreign goods, it would still be the interest of the shopkeeper to buy where he could buy cheapest, and to gratify the purchaser's whim by taking a higher price from him. So that with the best goodwill on the part of the consumer, nothing but the almost universal diffusion of a most exalted patriotism among the class of both wholesale and retail dealers, could in any degree tend to bring about the desired result. Tenant-right—the other topic discussed at much length at the Irish Council, is too large a subject to enter upon here. The debate of Tuesday led to a second adjournment, and it seems to us that a great deal more has yet to be said on both sides before the matter can be considered as even theoretically exhausted.—*Tablet*.

SWITZERLAND.

From Switzerland—up to Thursday night—there is no decisive news. The preparations on the side of Lucerne are completed, and from the neighbouring Cantons of Uri, Unterwald, and the Valais, assistance has already marched, to strengthen and secure those parts of Lucerne which are most exposed to attack. The snow, which shuts out the Bernese from the passes of the Valais, also shuts out the Valaisans from Friburg, and still further isolates that devoted Canton against which, it should seem, the first storm of war will be directed. There is now, it would appear, little hope of the dispute being adjusted amicably. The latest attempt by Mr. Peel, and the peace-mission of the Grisons deputies, have both failed, to the infinite content of the Bernese Radicals, who thirst for blood. "Thanks to Heaven"—says the *Bernese Gazette*—"and to the pretensions of the Sonderbund, the Conferences for conciliation are happily broken off, and the curtain is raised for the fifth act of the drama." The same journal insists upon it that the defeat of the Sonderbund, its dissolution, and the expulsion of the Jesuits, will by no means put an end to the strife. What is wanted is a permanent occupation of the Catholic territory, in order to change the whole spirit of the population, and thus, "with the help of the necessary amputations" to effect a complete cure. Meanwhile means are being taken to rouse the people to the due pitch of frenzy. While Mr. Grote is labouring to persuade us that "in the Radical cantons every one who chooses to denounce the Government or uphold the Sonderbund is at liberty to do so," the Government of Zurich, following many a well-known example, is giving the lie to these absurd pretensions. The *Gazette Federale* having contained an article of which the Radical papers only inform us that it described the war levied against the Sonderbund "as an unjust attack of the majority upon the minority," has been prosecuted—its editor, M. Schultheiss, seized—and the author of the article, M. Bluntschli, the great Protestant Conservative chief of Zurich, committed to prison. While repressing truth on one hand, the Radicals are actively scattering falsehoods on the other. To instigate the Bernese militia against the inhabitants of Friburg, a story has been invented to the effect that the Friburgers had seized two Bernese resident in the canton, and hung them up on a tree by the roadside, after having first embowelled them. Strange to say the *to wn* of Berne is hostile to the unjust policy of the Diet. The following paragraph from the *Helvetic* (a Radical journal) will show both the feelings of the residents in Berne and the disposition of the Radical majority:

"The Communal Council of Berne manifests a very ill-will, and endeavours in the most scandalous manner to withdraw itself from military charges. It has become necessary to insist on the town being lighted up until

morning; after eleven o'clock it was in complete darkness. It has refused the use of the ovens belonging to the town hospital, and, notwithstanding the formal arrangements of the federal military regulations, it has not yet been willing to provide a locale for the offices of the Etat Major-General. A company of the 13th Battalion has to-day taken possession by force of the Hotel d'Erlach. The inhabitants of Berne town may very possibly weary out the patience of the people of the canton of Berne, and draw on themselves treatment similar to that of the Sonderbund."

THE EXAMINER.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1847.

AN ARTFUL DODGE.

The character of the Press conducted by Mr. Collard—the champion of the office-bearers—is such that its insinuations by no means pass current with the public; but we must own that they are circulated with an artifice well becoming those whom they are meant to benefit. There is scarcely a paragraph written which is not full of guile, or without a sinister object. Of this nature is the attempt which is made at all times to gull the public into the belief, that the present contest of adverse opinions is one of persons and parties contending for power, and not one of principles. No pains are spared to persuade the public that this, that, or the other person is playing a part for his own selfish purposes, to cause some office to be vacated that he may himself succeed to its emoluments. Though we indignantly deny the imputation, and challenge the proof of the insinuation, yet for a moment let it be supposed to be true—let the instruments be considered ever so base, how can it be in the power of any man to displace another from an office if no culpability can be fastened on him; and if there can, then is the public to lose the advantage of a change, because persons who bring it about are actuated by selfish or unworthy motives? Are exclusiveness and monopoly—is treachery to the Head of the Government so sacred, that no man can assail them without incurring the charge of selfishness? If to stand forward as the asserters of right in opposition to the doers of wrong, be the mark by which a selfish individual is to be known, then, indeed, not only are the leaders in this movement, but nearly the whole population, men of the most selfish and interested character; and the contest is one of personal views, and not one of public principles. But the dodge is this: the persons who command the *Islander* and assist Mr. Collard to do their dirty work, know well that amongst the adversaries of their party are men of an elevation of mind which they secretly appreciate, though it does not enter their thoughts to imitate it; and they think too, and we fear with too much ground, that their taunts respecting the views of these men will deter them from accepting office if it fall in their way—thus to weave another web of artifice in which something may be retained for themselves or their followers. But we implore our friends, if they disregard office and emolument themselves, as we know many of them do, not to fall into the snare that is spread before them. If the principles for which we contend are any thing, their very essence is responsibility in office, and if responsibility cannot be safely placed in the hands of one set of men, what is to become if one of the opposite party shrink from undertaking it? If the time ever arrive when this system shall prevail—as arrive it will—let no false delicacy—none of the pride of high feelings intervene to rob the country or the Crown of the services of those whose duty it is to step forward as their supporters. Well do we know that we are writing to men who care nothing for the emoluments of office, but it would be folly to think that on that account the country should lose their services, whilst they must themselves become the laughing stock of their adversaries. The trick is too apparent to need exposure.

THE COMPACT AND THEIR SCRIBE.

"All should unite to punish the ungrateful:
Ingratitude is treason to mankind."

THOMSON'S CORIOLANUS.

"If there be a crime
Of deeper dye than all the guilty train
Of human vices, 'tis ingratitude."

BROOK'S EARL OF WARWICK.

In the report of the public (?) meeting and the subsequent festivities which took place, as we are informed

by the Queen's Printer, at the Prince Edward House, in honour of the men who have lately concluded their insane and profitless campaign against the late Representative of Majesty, no reference whatsoever is made to one of the most remarkable incidents connected with that remarkable Meeting. And as it is one which serves to develop in a most masterly manner, not only the main springs of action, but the whole character of the parties who put the Delegation scheme in progress, we have no hesitation in giving to the public such information touching it as we have obtained through authentic sources.

Every person knows that for many months Mr. Collard has been employed as Editor for the *Islander* and the *Royal Gazette*—every person likewise knows the kind of character this person has borne ever since his arrival in the Colony, and many are not ignorant of the fact that the Secretary for the Colonies made reference to him in a public Despatch, in a manner by no means complimentary to himself and his employers. Well, as to his character we forbear any further allusion now.—Mr. Collard attended the Meeting on Saturday evening, as he had a just right to do so, for he has been the most zealous and efficient promoter of the business for which it was called together. He even made a *speech*, which, shameful to confess, is unreported and unnoticed—a *speech* which is said to have electrified the burning and responsive hearts of all his auditory, for Mr. Collard is reputed to be one of those whose

"tongue

Drops manna, and CAN make the worse appear
The better reason, to perplex and dash
Maturest counsels;"

and having done so, he felt that he had an unquestionable claim to replenish his inner man by partaking of those luxuries provided for Mr. Pope and his 'influential' friends. But Mr. Collard formed unfortunately an erroneous estimate of the gratitude and generosity of his employers. He was indignantly commanded to withdraw from the scene of festivity—the "respectable and influential people" had no stomach for their victuals—his presence was supposed to be a blight, a taint upon the viands, and he should either leave the festive board, or become the means of driving others from it. Through the intervention of some of his more immediate friends and associates, Mr. Collard was prevailed to forego the pleasures of the repast; but before he left the premises our informants say, he vented his indignation, in good set phrase, in a letter which he addressed to the Chairman of the Meeting.

The cause of the sudden squeamishness which has come over those straight-laced gentlemen, who have so long enjoyed the labours of their amanuensis, many persons must be at a loss to discover. Is he not the same Mr. Collard now that he was when he first came to the Island? We know of no circumstance connected with him which should induce the immaculate people who attended the meeting on Saturday last, to cut their cherished friend and ally in so shabby a manner. Not many months ago, we were told, the Speaker's conscience was so easy regarding the character of his friend, that he even condescended to sup with him at a party at his own lodgings. It is well known that he conducted the *Constitutionalist*—a paper set on foot for the express purpose of writing the Representative of Majesty out of the Colony—and on the list of subscribers to this paper, might be seen the names of gentlemen high in office. Did they not know Mr. Collard then as well as they know him now? Was he not employed through the influence of the same party to report the proceedings of the Assembly for their party papers, the *Gazette* and *Islander*, and were they not well aware that he was the writer of a pamphlet against the Lieutenant Governor, which was printed at the office of one of those papers?

What opinion the man himself can entertain of his supporters and employers, after the return they have made for his services, we know not. To us it indicates a recklessness of principle the most glaring and unpardonable. If he was considered worthy to be their scribe, amanuensis, pamphleteer, editor of their papers, their associate and *bon vivant* in private places, he is surely not unworthy of their friendship and regard in public assemblies. He is allowed to tickle their fancies with his eloquence; but, in a sudden fit of moral purity, they turn up the whites of their eyes, if he dare attempt to tickle his own palate with a share of the viands set before them in a public house. "Give us," say they