

If it rested with us, 't would be very soon done ; 'Tis a terrible thing that men won't understand, They are really the plague and pest of the land. Our Dadda's and Mamma's get cross and look grim, As much as to say, you've been too long at home; We're ready—we're ready—will no body try it?— Or in single felicity, are we to die?

To the Editor of the British American.

Mark but the badges of these men, my Lords,
Then say if they be true—this misshapen knave.

MR. EDITOR,—I shall not trouble you with much, and in that I hope some other of your correspondents will keep me in countenance, for one needs it in replying to such a paltry communication as Vindicator's. The conceit it proves he possesses is unbearable—the impudence it displays, shameful. It astonishes me that he will make himself such a tool! a fool of a despised party who hesitate at nothing to obtain their object, and with whom self-interest is the predominant impulse. Does Vind. think he has any claim to the title of 'Gentleman,' when he eludes the question in his mean and evasive manner? Dares he to deny that the Speaker altered the bill in the manner he is charged with having done? and if he allows that the Speaker did, does he say that it was done constitutionally and according to the practice of Parliament? It is evident that it is one of these affirmations he wants to pawn on the public, he thinks "if it be ne'er so false a true gentleman may swear it;" but he lacks the courage to do so openly, and well he may, for let him deny, defend, or gloss the transaction as he will, the underhand procedure (in which it is well known Vind. bore a part), is derogatory to every honorable feeling.

Is it not disgraceful, Mr. E. that a man, honored with the titles of J.P., C. S. D., and M. P., (which last should especially be an honorable title,) should so tamper with his public character?

With reference to his remarks on my last communication. I assure him I have sufficient of the *mens sana* to despise them. Self-sufficiency and self-conceit, do not form so large a portion of my nature, as to allow me to assume an imposing *nomme deguerre*, and if Vind. had possessed a little of my humility, he would not have appropriated to himself a designation to which his communication proves he can have no pretension. It would have been more creditable to himself, if the time he was seeking the word "tangible" in Bailey and Johnson, had been spent in studying the "rudiments of grammar;" as it is, I would advise him, should he scribble again, to get his legal friend to apply the "varnish," and more especially the "grammar" to his effusions, for as yet they have been sadly in want of both, and are as—"Damn'd cramped pieces of penmanship as ever I saw in my life." Yours, &c.

NEMO.

For the British American

SIR,—A sad mistake has been made by our thick-headed thirty-pounders, in framing the act for the regulation of the public wharf in Charlotte-Town. They have I confess, established the rates of wharfage in sufficiently plain language, but have, unfortunately, forgotten to tell us how these rates are to be recovered. As to the fines and penalties imposed by the act, the mode of enforcement is distinctly pointed out; but, alas! the poor wharfinger, I am sorry to say, may whistle for his dues, for if any scurvy blackguard of a skipper should endeavor to skip off without tipping the needful, the Wharfinger is not authorized by the statute to apply to the Justice of the peace for a summons or capias, and if he do so, the Justice is equally authorized to suffer such an action to be maintained before him. As I am somewhat engaged in the commercial concerns of the country, I intend in a few days, in my own proper person, to put the scope and validity of this act to the test; and I boldly assert, without the risk of successful contradiction or discomfiture in the result, that I shall eventually succeed; and I have no hesitation in further asserting, that any Justice of the peace who shall presume under the provisions of this act, to issue process against me for delinquency, ought not to be allowed by the Executive of the Island, to hold the commission for a single hour. By the second clause of the act, it appears, it shall and may be lawful for the wharfinger to ask, demand, take, and receive certain fees, with certain exceptions; that is to say, it is not to be considered impertinent in him to do so. Well then, he asks, and does not get a favorable answer; he demands, and the requisition is not attended to; of course he cannot take and receive, if the money is not offered:—What then is to be done? Is he to apply to a Justice—let him carefully read the act—does it tell him so? or is the Justice, by any plausible stretch of power, qualified to relieve him? most assuredly not. This omission, in my opinion, is fatal as it regards his dues, and I am quite sure that any lawyer of competent knowledge, will and must pronounce a similar decision. I am credibly informed, Sir, that our thirty-pounders, in the plentitude of their muddy-headed wisdom, intended to have provided against such offenders; but that from pressure of parliamentary occupation, the thing unintentionally escaped their pumpkin shells. The plan, I was told by one of their learned body, was simply this. To erect a small building at the extremity of the wharf for the purpose of holding a court, in which the Wharfinger himself was judicially to preside, to be designated and cycled the wharfinger's court—that every thing in the shape of black-guardism and rascality within its precinct, that is to say, from one end of the wharf to

the other, such as the non-payment of dues, drunkenness, fighting, cursing, swearing, and as Paddy says, every other act of indelicacy, was to be heard and determined in this court, by a sort of hop-skip-and-jump mode of investigation, and sentence to be executed in an equally off-handed manner, and without either bail, mainprize, appeal, or certiorari.

Now, Sir, had this respectable tribunal been established by a clause of the act, in pursuance of the original intention of the muddy-heads, all would have been well but as the idea, it seems, was too evanescent for the retention of the pudding-tecture of their sensoriums, and as the Justice of the peace have evidently no cognizance in the matter, I regret to say that the public purse, without an arbitrary interpretation of the act, will legally receive but a small equivalent in return for the immense sum expended in the construction and improvement of the wharf. So much for one act of the muddy-head Parliament. In my next letter I shall serve up another, equally stupid and defective.

ARISTARCHUS.

May 15.

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It is we presume, generally known to our Readers, that the Messrs. Cunard of Halifax, entered into an agreement with the Government of this Island, to run the Steam-boat Picoahontas between Charlotte-Town and Pictou, with the Mails, twice a week; for which, these Gentlemen receive 300l. per annum from each Province.—This week, however, the Steam-boat did not arrive as usual, and great anxiety was manifested, as an English Mail was expected. Our Readers will scarcely derive the cause,—it was nothing less than that the Honourable Joseph Cunard happened to be at Pictou, on his way to Miramichi, and having no direct opportunity by water, took the Steamer to Miramichi for his own private conveyance, in direct violation of the solemn agreement entered into with this Government. The regularity of her trips was no later than last week guaranteed by the Agent of the Messrs. Cunard, in a letter to a Gentleman here; but it can scarcely be wondered at, that the weighty concerns of the Honourable Joseph Cunard, should supersede entirely the Contract with our Government, and that the business of between 30, and 40,000 Inhabitants of this Island, should be suspended for the private accommodation of the Honourable Gentleman.

A Special Meeting of H. M. Council was convened at an early hour, for the purpose of taking this matter into consideration, when it was carried *nem. con.* That a vessel be hired, to convey the Mails