

ple by sellers. It is hoped the influx of capital, and the infusion of improvements into Ireland will produce almost unexampled results. The Queen and the Royal family contemplate another visit to her Irish subjects, at an early day. The running of an Atlantic steamer between Galway and New York is finally determined on, and it may reasonably be expected that the splendid geographical position which Ireland possesses will, when once fairly understood and appreciated, place her in a proud commercial attitude.

Parties in France remain as at last advices. A change in the Electoral law is now contemplated. It is proposed to disfranchise some two or three millions of electors, by requiring a fixed domicile and garrison for three years respectively for civilians and soldiers. Artisans must produce a certificate that they have paid their taxes for that period. It remains to be seen whether the socialists will tamely submit to this sweeping measure. The government has made extensive military preparations in the event of an outbreak. The government count fully on the support of the army. It is thought this measure for reducing the number of electors will pass through the Assembly. A few days will disclose the tactics of both parties. The sands appear to be tolerably well sustained, and the President is still an object of popular favour.

The Greek question remains unsettled. The last accounts are unfavorable for an adjustment. A very general impression prevails that the British fleet would resort to a blockade in order to bring King Otho to his senses.

The *ecclat* attending the return of the Pope, has nearly all died away. It is asserted that his Holiness, after a long discussion with the Cardinals and the advocates of the court, has determined to confiscate the property of the Roman Constituent Assembly, to the amount of 2,500,000 Roman piastres, (£440,000 stg.) It is feared this step, if consummated, will be the forerunner of more trouble whenever an opportunity offers itself to the party oppressed.

Austria is pursuing an equally infatuated course.—She has passed a number of edicts handing over to the church extended powers for government and discipline, irrespective of the civil power. The intrigues going on in Germany for the purpose of carrying out various political schemes of different potentates still proceed without visible improvement to the country. Prussia is more and more adverse to take up arms against Denmark; while the deputations to Copenhagen have been refused an audience with the king, and plainly told that Denmark will make no concessions whatever. There is no news from the South of Europe. A grand ball was given at Naples on board the American frigate Independence. The U. S. squadron in the bay of Naples consists of three heavy frigates.

DEATH OF THE POET LAUREATE.—On Tuesday, the 23rd instant, about the hour of noon, Mr. Wordsworth died at his house, Rydal Mount, near Ambleside. He was very well and vigorous for his age, during the last autumn, and was, in some degree, recovering his spirits, which had suffered a severe shock in the death of his only daughter some time ago. About a month since he was attacked with serious illness, from which he never more than partially rallied, and as we have stated he died on Tuesday last. He had lately completed his 80th year.

#### D. MACLEAN *versus* RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT.

A modest man is D. Maclean! The greater portion of the public—once foolishly believing him to be an independent, high-spirited and patriotic man, after he had renounced his Canadian torism, and become the high priest of radicalism in Prince Edward Island—have grown so thoroughly disgusted with his apostacy, his unparalleled mendacity, and the meanness of spirit that permits him to become the employe of a faction who persecuted him to their utmost ability, that not one individual can be found to sing his praises either in print or out of print. In this stress of popularity the miserable Duncan is forced to become his own panegyrist, and it is amusing to note how the fellow will lie and swagger to preserve even a fragment of the rag of reputation with which he entered the political arena of this Island.

In the *Islander* of the 17th he claims to be the only one of the liberal party that has never wavered—that all the rest, including even his "pot," Montgomery, have shamefully ratted—that he is still what he was when he first opened his political shop, pure as Cæsar's wife, barring, we suppose, the breath, strongly redolent of old Jamaica. It would be useless to dispute the point with Snarleyow: if he is constant as the girl in the song, in whom "no change" was to be found, how comes it he is cheek-by-jowl with his own nick-named "man of straw," and the faction against whose sides the "man of straw" takes every possible opportunity to rub his shins; and who had such a dreadful hatred for D. Mac-

lean, about four years ago, that they would be cannibals enough to eat him without salt, if he was not

"So ugly and old,  
And a deuce of a scold?"

Duncan must, as a matter of course, make it appear that they, too, have changed their principles, else there will be no proof of constancy in him.

Amongst the many queer things with which old Snarleyow eked out his column of self gratulation, stands prominently forth the assertion that he by means of the *Islander*, has "demolished Responsible Government in detail." He prides himself on having accomplished this feat, because we did not think proper to follow him through all his nonsensical windings on that subject, and because our correspondents have now and then amused themselves by laughing at the catskia with which Duncan, in the days of frost and snow, sheltered his "dome of thought" from the pelting of the pitiless storm. Duncan Maclean, viewed in the glass through his own goggles, is a wonderful man indeed; but viewed through the *Islander*, the *genius* appears a compound of vanity, falsehood, folly and conceit.

The whole of Duncan's objections to Responsible Government, are just these: The system would place too much power in the hands of one party,—that that party might pilfer the public revenue—and that, having a majority in the Legislature, they might corrupt that majority with offices of emolument to keep themselves in power. Only a victim of incurable lunacy, or an incomparable fool, would seriously urge such objections. We cannot believe Duncan is stupid enough to be convinced by them: at all events, we could not be so silly as to waste our own time, and that of our readers, by rebutting them. Their absurdity is palpable. Every one knows that the present system of Government—if it be a system at all—places the chief power of the state in the hands of one party; Duncan Maclean's "mission" is to keep it so. That the public revenue has been "pilfered," (we borrow the phrase) by members of that party, is too evident from the public records—witness the Treasury investigations and the Fee Debate. That the majority of the old Assembly were "bribed and corrupted" to support the dominant party in power, by conferring offices upon them, whenever they were to be had, is too notorious to be disputed. The Almanack speaks volumes on that subject; and still there was no responsibility to the country or the Legislature on the part of the Government thus supported and protected by the Assembly! Between the administration and the majority of the old Assembly, the watchword was, "you favour us and we will favour you."

Duncan makes an uncommonly clumsy shuffle to get out of his praying for Responsible Government such as obtained in Canada, in 1846. Always the case with a political trickster, void of honesty and candour: get him into a scrape, and his efforts to extricate himself will be more pitiable than his plight therein.

#### PRÆTORIAN MAGNANIMITY.—No. 3

##### INLAND MAILS.

As the old lady in Pownal Street, "what" keeps the "Lion and Unicorn," volunteered (qu?) a defence of the Telegraph affair, and so signally failed in the attempt, she may, possibly, come out upon us "summut strong," when she reads in our paper of another instance of prætorian magnanimity; but we are quite ready for her.

Discreditable as was the first affair, it is a mere trifle in comparison with the sweet-tempered and obliging effort made by the Lieutenant Governor, immediately upon the close of the Session, to prevent the running of the Inland mails; and which, but for the prudence and firmness of the Deputy Postmaster General, would have been successfully carried out. Now, it is to be borne in mind that, fortunately for the people in the country, the revenue arising from the Island Postage is nearly equal to the expenditure incurred, and the loss too trivial to permit the authorities to risk a collision with their interests. Still the attempt was made!

The mercantile and domestic correspondence of the whole Island, with the exception of Charlottetown, including all foreign correspondence also—matters of the very greatest importance to men of business, and of the highest interest, where family affections, and family hopes and trials are concerned, would have been wantonly retarded, and, in numberless instances, altogether sacrificed, to gratify the resentment of an imperious autocrat.

Here is a nut for old mother Spitfire to crack. Yet, out of pure compassion to the old lady's jaws, we would recommend her, if she has a tooth remaining, not to

risk its loss by the effort. Let her rather call in "Fitz Loy," "Moderatus," or any other of her ephemeral friends, to crack it among them.

#### LETTER FROM ENGLAND ON PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND AFFAIRS.

Mr. COLES, being the Chairman of the Committee appointed by the House of Assembly to correspond with the Colonial Reform Society in London, received by the mail of Thursday evening the following satisfactory Letter from the Secretary of that Institution:—

SOCIETY ROOMS, 6, CHURCH CROSS,  
April 27, 1850.

SIR,—I am instructed by the Society for the Reform of Colonial Government, to inform you that they have made the communication you desired with Lord Grey, and as his lordship received it favourably, they deem it unadvisable to present the Petition to Parliament till they see what steps the Government will take.

They also beg you will have the goodness to keep them acquainted with any further occurrences on the subject.

I am, your obedient servant,

C. B. ADDERLEY, Secretary.

G. COLES, Esq., Chairman of Committee,  
&c., House of Assembly, P. E. Island.

The *St. John Morning News*, noticing the prorogation of the Legislature of this Island, and the Governor's "blowing up" speech thereat, makes the following remarks in conclusion:—

We hope Earl Grey will see the necessity of withdrawing the troops from India, and sending them out to P. E. Island, if he expects to retain that Colony to England. In one of the wards in Fredericton there are said to be two voters only. P. E. Island is not quite so bad; but in one of the counties there are fifteen voters, and half of them are cracked.

We should be happy to know, friend George, where you got your information about the "fifteen voters." We would not give much for your editorship of the *Morning News* if you understood your own provincial affairs as little as you seem to do ours. If an increase of military were necessary, the only rebels that would be found are those in authority, who are not only in opposition to the people but to the Crown and its Minister, on a question affecting the future peace and prosperity of the whole Island.

A MISTAKE CORRECTED.—The old woman of the *Gazette* had her nerves dreadfully shaken on Tuesday last, at finding the *Novascotian* had copied our version of the Governor's Speech at the prorogation, and our remarks thereon. The *Novascotian* inadvertently omitted a few words of one of the paragraphs of the Speech, which, bad enough as it was in its corrected state, made the thing read abominably. The *Gazette* notices the mistake; but the *Novascotian* had itself discovered the error before it could be informed on that subject by its Charlottetown contemporary, and thus alludes to it in its issue of Wednesday last:

"In our number of the 13th inst., it inadvertently happened that in quoting the Lieutenant Governor's Speech, at the opening of the last Session of the Legislature in Prince Edward Island, as the "Devil" would have it, His Excellency was made to say when addressing the Speaker and gentlemen of the Assembly:—It is evident that without a Revenue Act, this Island must suffer heavy loss and injury, and I hope you will do so.—The passage should read thus:—It is evident that without a Revenue Act, this Island must suffer heavy loss and injury, and as it is in your power to avert these evils, I hope you will do so."

We make the above explanation and correction—placing the omission in italics—in common justice to Lieut. Governor Sir Donald Campbell, to our numerous readers, and to ourselves. We feel that under the circumstances, it was a most unhappy mistake, and we are glad to make all the amends in our power. The journalist who would wilfully misrepresent the sentiments of others is utterly unworthy the confidence of that great and—we had almost said unerring arbiter—the Public. Having said thus much, we cordially wish both the Lieutenant Governor, and the Assembly of Prince Edward Island, a happy issue from all their troubles. This they may be assured can only be accomplished by a wise moderation, coupled with a generous forbearance on the part of each."

BELFAST DISTRICT NOT SO BAD AT ALL.—We are beginning to hold a better opinion of the Third District of Queen's County than the one we lately entertained. We learned yesterday that there are positively two candidates in the field for its representation—not including Mr. Douse, who is equal to two more any day—the one, Mr. Archibald McNeill, of Mount Vernon, and the other Mr. Murchison, of Belfast. The former