

voting against the Government that gives him employment; which was fully recognized and adhered to in Great Britain," Mr. Owen, after unnecessarily entering into a rather minute detail of the duties of the Post Office Department, of which the Government were previously aware, and for the due performance of which they had all along made due provision, declares with a still more determined spirit of insubordination than he had before manifested, that "he will not allow himself, as long as he has the honor to fill the office, without remonstrance, to be placed in such a situation as will prevent a continuance of the kind feeling that has always been awarded him by the heads of the various Post Office Departments out of the Island, with whom he has had the honor of communication." Mark his absolute will; "the will will not allow himself" and "the various Post Office Departments out of the Island with whom he has had postal communication." Way, he, Thomas Owen, E-que, is all in all here! The Government of this Island, the people of this Island, are as nothing in comparison with him and the estimation in which he is to be held out of the Island! His style is positively as absolute as that of a despotic sovereign prince! Can it for a moment be imagined that a Government should exist and yet not have it in its power to carry out its own decision; or that it should establish a rule which was not to be practically recognized? The opposition would be a monstrous absurdity. As it is stated in the Minutes of Council, "two courses were open to Mr. Desbrisay—either not to vote at all during the late election, or if he wished to exercise his elective franchise in opposition to the Government, then for him first to tender his resignation, then no other course can be pursued by the Government than his dismissal." [Hear! Hear!] Further, in reply to this Minute of Council, Mr. Owen says, "Your Excellency's Council has since directed me to receive a Mr. Kelly, a person who never had any employment in the Post Office, and to place him in the situation held by Mr. Desbrisay, without affording me, on whom the responsibility of the department altogether rests, any opportunity of enquiring into his character or capability, or of knowing whether he is a person on whom I can place confidence. Under this view of the case, I cannot but look at his attempt to undertake the duties required to be performed as presumptuous."

Here again Mr. Owen is all in all, and the Government and its authority are completely ignored. In his estimation, it was unwarrantable presumption, on the part of His Excellency's Council, to direct him, under any circumstances, to receive any one into the Post Office in any situation, either that held by Mr. Desbrisay or any other. According to his thinking concerning such matters, he, and not the Government, was supreme in every thing appertaining to the Post Office; for "the responsibility of the Department," he says, "altogether rested upon him," not at all upon the Government; and consequently all alterations or arrangements in it, of whatever kind, were to be made by him, independently of the Government. This he does not indeed say expressly in so many words; but what he does say can bear no other interpretation. He literally claimed the sovereignty of the Post Office; and the Government were so circumstanced, in consequence of the boldness of his contumacy, that unless they had been willing to render themselves not only ridiculous, but contemptible, by allowing him triumphantly to resist their lawful commands, and to establish his own authority, in the important Department of the Post Office, as paramount to theirs, they had, as it is expressed in his notice of dismissal, "no other alternative, under all the circumstances, than to relieve him from the duties of his office by the appointment of his successor." Mr. Owen, although certainly not a little presumptuous in this affair himself, accuses Mr. Kelly of presumption with respect to it. "Under this view," says Mr. Owen, "that is that Mr. Kelly never had any employment in the Post Office, I cannot but look at his attempt to undertake the duties required to be performed as presumptuous." Now, if it is presumptuous in Mr. Kelly to undertake these duties, it must have been equally presumptuous in Mr. Desbrisay to do so at the time of his appointment; for neither had he had any previous practice in Post Office business; but this Mr. Owen, in his eagerness to make out a case against the Government, appears to have forgotten. Mr. Owen, in the next paragraph of this letter, whilst insisting upon the fidelity and exemplary manner in which Mr. Desbrisay has discharged the duties of his office, admits his office—that of having voted against the Government at the late general election—"hopes and trusts," in language in some distant degree approaching to humility, "that he may still be allowed to retain his (Mr. Desbrisay's) services." But then, in the following and concluding paragraph, he informs the Government—as if for the purpose of causing them, through intimidation, to cancel their dismissal of Mr. Desbrisay—that, "to the end that no blame may be attached to him by his Lordship, the Postmaster General, if an unnecessary inconsequence should take place in the transmission of the correspondence of the Colony to those places where the United Kingdom claims a portion of the postage, he will take the liberty to forward a copy of his correspondence with His Excellency, on the important and unpleasant subject, to your Excellency, that such a proceeding may be taken to leave the General Post Office of a Colony—an office of more importance than any other—without a single individual, except the head of the department, capable of performing the duties for a day, in such a circumstance as I think has not occurred in any part of Her Majesty's possessions." Such a circumstance as this, proceeding from a subordinate of the Government, is certainly, to borrow the phraseology of the requisitionists, very "high-handed." However, whilst we positively deny that the effect of the changes made in the Post Office by the Government would have been the causing of any such interruption to, or derangement of the business of the department, as Mr. Owen would have had it to be believed would ensue from them, we would just tell him that we believe such a circumstance as a Government officer's having voted against the Government, and his not having been deprived of his official appointment in consequence, is what we believe has never occurred in any part of Her Majesty's dominions. [Hear! Hear!] What care we, or need we care, for any effect which can be produced by any representations of Mr. Owen to His Lordship the Postmaster General, concerning the matter? I am strongly inclined to believe that Mr. Owen will soon be thoroughly convinced that, in presuming to question the authority of the Island Government over him, and in refusing obedience to their commands, and then in appealing Home for protection and support, he has got hold of the stick by the wrong end. [Cheers.] The hon. and gallant Colonel next took under review Mr. Kelly's letter to the Hon. Colonial Secretary, in which the writer reports his reception at the Post Office by Mr. Owen. In this letter, continued the hon. gentleman, Mr. Kelly says, "In conformity with my appointment to the office of Assistant in the General Post Office of this Island, I applied to Mr. Owen, on Thursday, 15th July inst., submitting to him at the same time the necessary documents, and requested that he would point out to me my duties in that establishment, upon which he questioned me respecting the extent of my knowledge of Post Office duties, and told me that unless I could perform all Mr. Desbrisay's business, I had no right to intrude myself there. I modestly replied, that I thought I could if his duties were pointed out to me. He then plainly told me that he would teach me nothing whatever—that my assistance was not needed there—and that I had the greatest presumption in coming there or accepting an office of the kind, without having a previous knowledge of its duties. That I ought, if I pleased, either sit down in the office or retire, for all that he cared—alleging that he had nothing for me to do; that I would be of no service to him without being taught, and that he would not permit me to do any thing there; and also that when the hour for retiring from the duties of the day would arrive, he should lock up the office and put the key in his pocket, and that I should retire also, or if not, he would put me out." Such, continued the hon. and gallant Colonel, is the account given by Mr. Kelly of his reception in the Post Office, than which, under the circumstances of the case, nothing could well be more indecorous, ungentlemanly or uncharitable; and which, in the most offensive manner, was not only grossly insulting to Mr. Kelly, but further demonstrative on the part of Mr. Owen of contempt for the Government; and he observed that there is no exaggeration in Mr. Kelly's account of his reception by Mr. Owen, for that gentleman in his reply fully admits the correctness of it. Was it necessary, in the first place, for Mr. Owen to question Mr. Kelly concerning the extent of his knowledge of Post Office duties? Surely it was not, for he very well knew that Mr. Kelly had had no previous opportunity of becoming acquainted with them. Was it reasonable in him to suppose, or to expect that Mr. Kelly should have an intuitive knowledge of all the duties which he would have to discharge in the office; or did he find Mr. Desbrisay so miraculously qualified, when he, without having

had any practical experience of, or instructions concerning the business of the office, entered it? No; I should certainly think not. Then why did Mr. Owen pretend that he had a right to expect such knowledge in Mr. Kelly as a prerequisite to his being received in the office? For no other reason than this—his being predetermined not to receive him if he could possibly avoid doing so. [Hear! Hear!] And so little does Mr. Owen appear to have been able to restrain himself upon the occasion, that he concluded his remarks to Mr. Kelly—an individual, observe, not guilty of unwarrantable intrusion into the Post Office, but an officer of the Department, by appointment of the Government as well as Mr. Owen himself—by most unnecessarily threatening that he would put him out of the office, if he did not leave it when the hour for closing it should arrive. [Hear! Hear!] During the interval between the closing of the scene in the Post Office, and Mr. Owen's replying to Mr. Kelly's representation of it, something—either calm reflection on his own part, or wise remorse on the part of a friend—appears to have induced some degree of repentance in his mind for his ungracious and unbecoming reception of Mr. Kelly, and to have considerably modified his feelings towards that gentleman; for in his reply, dated 17th July, and addressed to Andrew Mitchell, Esquire, Assistant Colonial Secretary, he acknowledges the truth of Mr. Kelly's account of the ungracious reception which he gave that gentleman, and says, "I think His Excellency will make some allowance for my expression at the moment, and which I should have, under any circumstance, avoided; but as my remonstrance to His Excellency has had no effect, I must only ask His Excellency to allow me to detain Mr. Desbrisay in the office until my return from Georgetown, where I am required to attend on a Crown Subpoena; and then if Mr. Kelly returns to the office I will endeavor while I am allowed to hold the appointment of Postmaster General, to perform the duty as correctly as the painful circumstances in which I am placed will permit; for, although Mr. Desbrisay acted very indiscreetly in voting at the late election, yet in no other instance can a shadow of complaint or stain be thrown on his character, which every member of His Excellency's Council will, I am certain, fully admit; and I trust some excuse, therefore, for my feelings under the circumstances may be made." Judging from the tone and tenor of this letter, quite as apologetic, perhaps, as could have been expected from Mr. Owen, considering the temper in which he had previously committed himself in his opposition to the Government, one might very reasonably have concluded that, finding his resistance to their lawful commands could not but prove altogether ineffectual, he had wisely resolved to be all due submission on his return from Georgetown. On Mr. Owen's return from Georgetown, his conduct to Mr. Kelly was, on the contrary, still more unaccountable and indecorous than it had been before. As stated in Mr. Kelly's letter of the 28th July, addressed to the Hon. the Colonial Secretary, representing his reception at the Post Office by Mr. Owen, on the 26th July, and Mr. Owen's subsequent conduct—the representations set forth in which are not refuted by Mr. Owen's answer thereto of the 31st July, but in fact fully confirmed by it—"on his" (Mr. Kelly's) "returning to the Post Office for the second time, which was on Saturday the 24th July, Mr. Owen treated him and the parties who sent him there with the same contempt and indifference as he had on a former occasion, by telling him he might come there if he wished on the following Monday, but to bear in mind that he would get no information from him respecting the duties of the Post Office; and that the parties who sent him might not think he was going to turn schoolmaster in addition to his other duties—that he would endeavor to struggle with him until something would occur to relieve him from his present distressing embarrassments; and that he would retain the services of Mr. Desbrisay there as long as he himself would be permitted to hold the office" and concluded by saying—"I go and tell the Government that." He (Mr. Kelly) accordingly attended on Monday morning, at 8 o'clock, and saluted Mr. Owen on entering the office. Mr. Owen, however, made no reply, and affected not to notice him, until says Mr. Kelly, "I put my hand on a parcel which was being prepared for Mail, upon which he bawled out to me, in a very surly tone, not to touch or interfere with anything in the office, as something very serious might occur in consequence of my doing so. In fact he told me to touch nothing whatever in the office, but that I might look at Mr. Swabey performing his business. I did so in compliance rather than in idle. I stood for a considerable time with Mr. Swabey where he was receiving and delivering letters, until he had occasion to retire for a few minutes, when I reached my hand to receive a letter at the window; but Mr. Owen, perceiving me, ran immediately in great fury and snatched it from me. In the afternoon of the same day (Monday) I had some further conversation with Mr. Owen, in which I told him not to dread me so much as he seemed to do, for I did not come there to steal or pilfer. He then said he wanted to hold no conversation whatever with me, and therefore for me not to speak to him on any account; and that he hoped soon to know from a Despatch which he sent to the Home Department if the Government here were going to annoy him and destroy the harmony of the Post Office, by sending Assistants there whom they chose to pick up off the street. He ceased speaking to me ever since, this being Wednesday evening. It must, therefore, be considered, Sir, that Mr. Owen has regarded me since presenting myself there rather as an interloper than anything else, and does not seem in any respect to recognize the authority of the local Government. I have, therefore, no encouragement or chance of improving myself while such feelings exist." Now, continued the hon. and gallant Colonel, whether the revelation of feeling, on the part of Mr. Owen, towards the Government and Mr. Kelly, as manifested by him, after his return from Georgetown, in his conduct to Mr. Kelly, was the result of any cogitations of his own, or was occasioned by any advice which he had received from any of his friends with whom it is possible he communicated concerning his "distressing embarrassments" in the Post Office, I have no means by which to determine, whatever I may incline to imagine concerning it. This, however, by Mr. Owen's reply, dated the 31st July, is made quite manifest,—that Mr. Kelly's complaint of his ungracious treatment of him was well founded; that his representations of it and of Mr. Owen's contempt of the local Government were by no means exaggerated; and that Mr. Owen, upheld in his contumacy, by the extravagant counsels of men calling themselves his friends, or sustained by the vain hope of interference on his behalf by the Home Department, had taken up his original resolution to resist the authority of the local Government with respect to the Post Office, and actually to put it fairly and fully to the test, whether he was bound to submit to their authority, or whether, on the contrary, they would not admit it was, under all the circumstances of the case, their wisest course, if not positively their duty, to succumb to him! [Hear! Hear!] The issue of the contest into which Mr. Owen's absurd contumacy had, in a manner, forced the Government, could not, as you will all readily admit, be allowed by them to remain long undecided; and Mr. Owen's pertinacity leaving no more indulgent course open to them, they promptly, and, as I think you will say, with the greatest propriety, relieved him from "the very distressing embarrassment," in which, notwithstanding his reiterated complaints concerning it, he had strangely chosen to continue. [Hear! Hear! Hear!] In a stately and tone of insolence, in which, notwithstanding the truthful representations of the language used by him, when speaking to Mr. Kelly on the subject in the Post Office, the Government were not prepared to find he would indulge when directly addressing them by letter, Mr. Owen tells them, in reply (31st July) to Mr. Kelly's last complaint, "If His Excellency's Government supposes that, in addition to the arduous labour and attention required to be observed by me, I must place confidence in, and teach Mr. James E. Kelly to do the duties which only by a long practice can be correctly and satisfactorily performed, they require from me much more than it is in my power to accomplish." And further, he concludes by telling them, with much self-complacency that, in direct violation of one of the most useful and most imperative of the Post Office regulations—the jealous exclusion of strangers—he means to avail himself of the proffered assistance of Mr. Desbrisay. His words are these: "I am happy to state that Mr. Desbrisay"—then a stranger you will observe, as being no longer an officer of the Department—"has kindly promised to assist me a few hours every day, which will in some measure relieve me from my present embarrassment." The natural consequence, as I have before said of Mr. Owen's pertinacious contumacy, was his dismissal from his office by the Government; which was made on the 3rd of this month, the third day after Mr. Owen had pronounced his ultimatum—a proposition with which, without completely stultifying themselves, the Government most certainly could not comply. Mr. Owen, on account of his great punctuality and efficiency in his office, has been a favourite with the

Government; and, up to the time of his most unwarrantable resistance to their lawful authority, they had manifested the greatest willingness to comply with all his requests concerning the Post Office and himself in his official capacity; but if he, on that account, supposed they would really strip themselves of a most important part of their power—their control of the Post Office—and invest him with it, he, I must say, expected a little too much from their just appreciation of his services; and his arrogance has met with no more than most deserved punishment. At the time of the establishment of the Departmental System, it was debated by the party in power, whether or not the appointment of Postmaster General should be made in accordance with the fundamental principles of that system; but, for reasons of acknowledged weight, it was determined that these principles should not, with respect to the Post Office, at that time at least, be carried into effect; and the Post Office was therefore allowed to remain non-departmental as respects the Departmental System of Government; and so it continues to this day. You will, therefore, observe that the strictures upon the Government, so freely indulged in by some of the leading Obstructives, for having appointed a gentleman who has not a seat in the Legislature to the office of Postmaster General, are, to say the least of them, very absurd. The gross misrepresentation which these strictures embody, is, however, certainly deserving of being most severely characterized; yet, as it cannot possibly impose upon any but individuals the most deplorably ignorant of the practical principles of the Government under which we live, and as there can be but very few such individuals in our Island community, we will allow it to pass without further comment at present.

[The hon. and gallant Colonel, throughout the whole of his address, was listened to with the most respectful—we may almost say, with most profound—attention; and the full admission by the meeting of every fact stated by him, and their entire assent to every conclusion deduced by him, from the various particulars brought under their notice by him, were most convincingly testified by the unanimous cheers with which, at intervals, he was greeted by them during the delivery of his address, and by the hearty round of applause with which he was complimented on his concluding it.]

DONALD McISAAC, Esquire, J. P., then presented himself to the meeting, and said,—"I hold in my hand a Resolution which I intend to move; and I doubt not after the full and very clear elucidation of the whole question to which it refers, that we have heard from the Hon. Colonel Swabey, it will be adopted unanimously by the meeting. As there are others upon the platform who are much better qualified to address you relative to the questions, for the solution of which this meeting has been convened, I will simply read the Resolution, and submit it for your consideration. Mr. McISAAC then read his Resolution as follows:

Resolved—That this Meeting highly approve of the act of the Government in discharging Messrs. Owen and Desbrisay from the offices they held in the Post Office; and deprecate the conduct of a Party who, having failed through the constitutional means lately afforded them by a General Election, to overturn the Government, endeavour to intimidate, or prevent the Executive from exercising their constitutional right in conducting the public affairs in accordance with the principles of Responsible Government.

The reading of this Resolution was followed by the loud and general cry of "Hear! Hear!"

MALCOLM FORBES, Esquire, then came forward to second the Resolution, and said, Gentlemen, I second the Resolution; and, in two or three words, I will give you my reason for doing so. If I were again to become a candidate for the representation in Colonial Parliament of any constituency in the Island, and were, in consequence of my professions of regard for popular rights and liberties, again to attain, as I have before done, the object of my ambition; but, having obtained it, were I, in parliament, to act in opposition to the policy of the party of which I had, previously to my election, declared myself an adherent, my constituents would most undoubtedly have a right to call upon me to vacate my seat for opposing these measures; and that policy which they had elected me to support; and unless I were one of the most impudent and unconscionable of men, I would at once acknowledge the justice of their demand, and retire from the legislature in which they had placed me for a purpose very different from that which I had been subserving. Now this imaginary case, and the real one, concerning which we are now called upon to decide, are, in my opinion, although not quite parallel, yet very much alike: for I maintain that it is quite as much the bounden duty of the officers of a Government, to whose patronage they are beholden for their daily bread, to support that Government by the exercise of their franchise, if they choose to exercise it all, whilst retaining their appointments as it is the express duty of a representative of the people in the legislature to support the rights of the people, to the maintenance and furtherance of which he had pledged himself; and if such individuals in either capacity choose directly to oppose the policy of those whom they are properly bound to obey, and dare to refuse compliance with their lawful demands, they should be compelled—when the power to compel unquestionably exists—by their insubordination, or breach of confidence, they had proved themselves unworthy. So I judge, gentlemen, and so I believe you will all judge; and, therefore, in seconding this Resolution, which I do most willingly and approvingly, I am persuaded there will not be one voice raised against it from amongst you. [Loud cheers.] The High Sheriff then put the question upon the Resolution as above given; and with loud and prolonged cheers, it was unanimously adopted.

(To be continued)

LAY AND CLERICAL LYING.

The chagrin of the Obstructive Opposition at the result of the late County Meeting is rather feelingly exhibited in the *Monitor* and *Protector* of the past week. Both are very indignant and very abusive, and well sustain their character for falsehood, malevolence and stupidity. The gentleman who splutters his spite from his stable in Queen-street will excuse us for declining a controversy with him, so long as his scolding smells so abominably of the filth and nastiness of his surroundings. He informs the few who are so prodigal as to throw away their pennies for his trash, that the supporters of the Government at the late Meeting did not exceed three hundred and fifty—that there was not a respectable man amongst them—and that the whole three hundred and fifty were "miscreants" and "ruffians." Men who have mixed in bad company for many years are too apt, we believe, to carry into every grade of society some at least of the habits and modes of thought of their old associates. The gentleman who is so ready to imagine that a large proportion of our population is made up of "miscreants" and "ruffians" has returned from his travels only within a year or two, and we fear his experience abroad has made him intimately acquainted with the class of people to whom he refers, when he displays such a peculiar tact at home for discovering, or pretending to discover, the worst features of the human character in nearly every man he meets. The fishwife of Billingsgate who bawls out "stinking fish" as a term of reproach at her neighbour, generally happens to have a plentiful supply of that commodity of her own; and there are none who are so ready to declaim against the rascality of the world as those who are its greatest swindlers and cheats. We have heard that the fastidious editor of the *Monitor*, who cannot suffer the breath of his fellow-colonists to come between him and his gentility, is or has been an ardent advocate of the Temperance cause. If we did not know this, we should be disposed to believe that the eye which he opened on the Obstructive gathering had extended its "spherical" proportions to such an extent under artificial influences as to see more than double; while the visual orb which tried to scan the other side must have been almost totally blind.

The religious paper, in dealing with this subject, has been just moral enough for once to abstain from its accustomed pro-

fanity. The name of the Almighty is not impudently used to certify the falsehoods which have not the poor merit, ascribed to our account of the Meeting, of being "highly decorated," and passages of Holy Writ are not dragged in for the purpose of imparting a spurious sanctity to its absurdities. The unknown editor has thrown aside his veil of hypocrisy, and comes before us with all his natural infirmities.

The show our readers with what degree of unction the pious editor can sin, as well as his lay brother of the *Monitor*, we shall now transfer to our columns a few of the undecorated calumnies of the *Protector*.

"It was sufficiently evident to all strangers—as many of the present observed—what was the character of the supporters of the present Government, and no man possessed of common sense, and only a spark of sound principle, would have trusted his life in their hands for a moment unprotected."

It was computed by competent judges that "the supporters of the present Government," who assembled on the occasion referred to, numbered about three thousand. Now, to say nothing of the reckless audacity with which a charge of ignorance and want of principle is preferred against so large a body of people, we should like to know by what means the *sensible* Tories protected themselves while they mingled with the crowd? Had they revolvers, or sling-shots in their pockets as Mr. E. Palmer displayed on a former public occasion; or how many of them imitated Mr. J. D. Hazard's example in ostentatiously flourishing a sword cane? The Belfasters, we have heard, came armed with pistols, but they had the prudence to keep their powder dry until they re-crossed the Ferry. The supporters of the Government, however, neither attempted nor intended to disturb the peace. But that their opponents were willing to take life, if necessary, may be inferred from the above incautious admission of the *Protector*.

"The Government has now afforded abundant evidence of the fact that they rule not by the consent of the independent yeomanry of P. E. Island, but by the concentration of the most ignorant and degraded men that are to be found among us."

That the Government rule that "the consent of the independent yeomanry of P. E. Island," was evident enough from the orderly and respectful demeanour of the immense assemblage that surrounded the Sheriff's platform, and who would not be seduced into acts of violence by the "ignorant and degraded men" who were sent from Belfast to disturb the peace.

"The furious passions which were displayed by those besotted men, when the electors from Lot 49 and Belfast came up the street, and walked past the hustings, were more in keeping with the demons of perdition than the sane inhabitants of this planet."

The only display we witnessed was a considerable amount of merriment at the sorry figure cut by Col. Gray's awkward squad as he marched them up Queen-street. If the editors of the *Protector* saw any "demons of perdition," it must have been by the aid of second sight. Let us hope the omen may not be a disastrous one for our pious friends, who we should be sorry to think were reserved for closer intimacy with the evil spirits conjured up by their disordered imaginations on the day of the public meeting.

"But we can only conjecture what the end would be, when we reflect on the fact that a great many—if not all—of the Irish were armed with fearful weapons, and that a considerable quantity of fire arms were provided by them for the occasion."

That our contemporary "can only conjecture" when he reflects upon a *fact*, does not surprise us—seeing that he seldom deals in anything of the kind. We saw no "fearful weapons" or fire arms of any description on the persons of either party; and we are sincerely thankful when we reflect on the fact, that every thing went off peaceably, and that no necessity was experienced by the Tories for the use of the bludgeons provided by, or of the fire arms which were secreted about the persons of, their own partizans.

The Sanctified Press complains that "scurrilous attacks" are "made by the Journals in the pay of the Government on the Protestant Ministers of the Island, as well as on Col. Gray, who has but lately set their teeth on edge." In proof of our candour, and as a specimen of the justice we are always ready to accord to our opponents, we will, while in reclamation of what is due to ourselves, ask the "learned Theban" from whom we have quoted to designate the Journals in the pay of the Government which have made the "scurrilous attacks on the Protestant Ministers of the Island, as well as on" (oh! "what a falling off was there, my countrymen") "Col. Gray, who has set their [i.e.] "the Protestant Ministers'" "teeth on edge." We had previously been aware that some of their Reverencies were tolerably sharp set, and that the gallant Colonel might be voted a somewhat sharp file, but we were certainly not prepared for the admission that he has polished off his friends to such an extent as the *Protector* admits. We recommend them in future to endeavour to "keep their tongues within their teeth."

We pass by many other absurdities in the leading editorial of the last *Protector*, but we think we have quoted sufficient to let our readers see what a holy show the sanctified editor has made of himself.

POLITICAL APOSTACY.

The leading editorial of the last *Islander* furnishes a remarkable proof of the unscrupulousness with which politicians of unfixed principles change their opinions under circumstances that suit their apostacy, without any public object being served by it. Giving his readers the piper's news of the ministerial changes in Canada, at least a month after they occurred—(which were noticed in our news miscellany in their proper order)—the editor has thought proper to season the somewhat stale relash with a few of his own usually novel reflections on political affairs; and his object in doing so was evidently to make the dish as disgusting as possible to those who entertain respect for the Lieut. Governor of this Colony, whose name is unnecessarily brought into the discussion of Canadian affairs.

Our readers will remember that when Mr. George Brown defeated, by a close alliance with the Liberals of Eastern and Western Canada, the coalition Government under the leadership of Mr. Attorney General McDonald, and succeeded in forming a new Government, he applied to Sir Edmund Head to dissolve the Legislative Assembly, as he and his colleagues did not consider the country fairly represented by the present House. The Governor General refused to act upon this advice, and supported his refusal with a variety of reasons and arguments, which were more ingenious and sophistical than logical and conclusive. The refusal of His Excellency to give the new Government a chance of conducting the public affairs by an appeal to the country, led to the immediate resignation of the Brown-Dorion Ministry, as it was called, and the re-justament of the old Cabinet with a new cast of parts. We