

been plainly indicated to him, "by authority," that he ought to pursue, can alone be justly ascribed the very critical dilemma which has completely immersed both himself and his advisers; and upon his head and theirs alone, should any evil consequences to the general interests of the people result therefrom, ought a just retribution of the mischief fall.

I am, Sir,

A LOOKER-ON.

April 12, 1850.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Sir,—It has often struck me that the Rushes on the sides of our rivers and the adjacent marshes, are precisely the same in size and character as some I used annually to sell to Basket-makers on the banks of the River Ouse. There is no difficulty in the management of this object of industry. The Rushes are cut with a reaping-hook, or scythe, towards Autumn, and spread on the banks to dry like hay; when dry, they are tied up in sheaves and carried under cover or stacked. In the winter, the making Baskets might occupy the younger branches of a family. I do not know any one conversant with Basket making; but it is so simple a business that I think it might be carried on by imitation; however, I write you these few lines in the expectation that they will meet the eye of some one who knows how to perform the work. It is not improbable that the Indians might take to it. Matting for halls, churches, &c., are made in the same way as baskets, and though ignorant whether flag or mat baskets are in use in the West Indies, I conceive they would find a ready sale in that part of the world.

I have beat for snipes so many places where these Rushes abound, that I can answer any enquiries as to where they can be had, though, in fact, there are few parts of the Island without them.

Your obedient servant,

W. SWABEY.

FOR THE EXAMINER.

POOR LITTLE BOYS BEWARE.

Sir,—Some stray animal has been we-hawing through the columns of a late *Islander*, offering a penny to any person who should take him home to his distressed mother, who till then "did not know he was out." This ass would make the admirers of the *Islander* believe that he was thoroughly acquainted with a menagerie and the mode of training animals therein; but he knows more about a manger. Having heard the celebrated "professor" of the *Islander*, or the sapient editor of that "palmy" publication, make use of the term menagerie after some of their recent visits to Pethick's Brewery and Distillery, or Robert Hutchinson's grog *sanctum sanctorum*, he thought he would crib the word and his would-be wit would look and sound so very much superior through it than through a manger; but he quite mistook its meaning, as is very evident from the tenor of his epistle, and the sooner that worthy gets a billet in the Insane Asylum the less will he drink of Pethick's wash, and consequently the less the public will be annoyed by his braying.

The object of this scrap, however, is to caution children from being taken in by this donkey, lest any one of them, being inveigled into leading him home—as a poor little boy was nabbed to guide and help home a certain * * * a few evenings since—in the anticipation of getting a penny, he should be disappointed in the receipt of his reward to buy marbles with, for although the *Islander* can boast of a bank and even of coins, yet there are a thousand chances to one if the said bank and coins, with their professed owner, the publisher of the *Islander*, were kicked from their office to Pethick's Brewery and Distillery, and round by Hutchinson's back again, that there would be kicked out of them one *bona fide* copper coin of the value of one penny, unless it were loaned to them for the occasion. For the sake of explanation, allow the remark that what is called a "bank" in a printing office is a sort of table on which sheets of blank and printed paper are laid, and in one end of this is a drawer containing a number of blocks of wood called "coins," which are used about the press and among the types; therefore little boys, if you should be stopped by any animal of the mule or donkey tribe, and asked to take him home to his mother, be sure you fob the penny first, and not demand for your pay on the

ISLANDER BANK.

Charlottetown, April, 1850.

The Examiner.

SATURDAY, APRIL 20, 1850.

WHAT THE TORIES HOPE TO GAIN BY AN ELECTION.

In our last paper we intimated that it is supposed by certain parties in Charlottetown the present House of Assembly will be dissolved, in the event of their not agreeing to surrender the rights and liberties of their constituents, and yielding to the dictation of His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor. There is no doubt that with some of the Faction the wish is father to the thought, for whatever chances they have of retaining

power and emolument by the issue of a General Election, it is painfully apparent to them that from the feeling and disposition of the present Assembly they have nothing to expect. We have iterated and reiterated our firm conviction that the House will not yield—that they will not only not consent to provide retiring allowances for any officer now connected with the Government, but that they will correct the mistaken generosity they were disposed to manifest towards the Secretary and Treasurer by consenting to their being placed in subordinate situations; and nothing short of a general extermination of all the old rats will, or ought to, satisfy the Assembly. If His Excellency then, in exercise of the prerogative, involve the country in the annoyance, agitation and expense consequent upon a General Election, it will be evident that it is his determination to govern only for the benefit of a few, and that he is regardless of cultivating the good opinion of the people entrusted by Her Majesty to his charge. We confess we cannot seriously think that Sir Donald Campbell will be so far led astray by bad counsels as to adopt a proceeding that can ultimately place the obstructives in no better position than that in which they now stand, and cannot fail to create such a feeling against himself as will render his removal from the Government a matter of necessity. It is true that the Obstructives themselves are not of this opinion. They, indeed, calculate upon having fourteen of their party in the Assembly if a new Election be called. They count seven favourable to their views in the present House; we are not so sure that they are correct in this estimate of their strength, for Mr. Montgomery has left them on more than one division, and Mr. Douse has not yet declared for either one side or the other since his re-election; and it is hard to say, whether the good example of his new colleague, and the general desire for reform which actuates not only his constituents but the Island at large, will not induce him to act upon those principles which he has upon more than one occasion advocated in his speeches while he abandoned them in his votes. But even admitting the Obstructives to have seven (the number is, in all conscience, small enough, and we will not be so greedy as to quarrel with them upon so immaterial a point)—let us see where they are to get the other seven, to make their anticipated majority of fourteen. In Georgetown they assert they will get one in the room of Mr. James McDonald, who is to be succeeded by a nominee of the Hon. Mr. Thornton;—in Murray Harbour, a nominee of Mr. Wightman, that gentleman taking to himself Mr. Thornton's place;—in the second District of King's County, Mr. Whelan or Dr. Jardine is to be displaced by Mr. Theophilus DesBrisay;—in the second District of Queen's County Mr. Neil McNeill is to be turned adrift to make way for Mr. John Longworth, the constituency in this District being supposed to have only now discovered Mr. Longworth's superior claims, and to have repented having thrashed that gentleman at the late Election;—in the third District of Queen's County, Mr. Davies is to be rejected for the Hon. Mr. Haviland;—for the first District of Prince County Mr. Yeo is to carry into the House of Assembly upon his back the Hon. J. Spencer Smith, in opposition to Mr. Warburton;—and in the third District of Prince County, Dr. Conroy is to be Mr. Pope's successor. It is further intended by the obstructives in Charlottetown to throw the Solicitor General overboard, he having become unfit for further use,—and to take into his place the Attorney General.

The Obstructives being quite sure of succeeding in all these Districts, and thus getting a majority of fourteen—(as they profess to be sanguine of success with regard to every scheme they take in hand, until they present themselves to the public and find how lamentably they miscalculated their strength)—they will, it may be presumed, use every stratagem to get Sir Donald Campbell to concede to their wish for a general election, and thereby give them a chance of continuing in office.

There is not a principle—nor the shadow of a principle—involved in their opposition to the Responsible Government Party. The cry of their organs is, "The Liberals want to put themselves in office at the expense of the present holders. Why should they be removed? The affairs of the Island have been very well conducted since they have been in office, and it is impossible to find in the present stage of the community any set of Gentlemen qualified to succeed them." This is the burden of the song weekly sung by the *Gratzels* and

Islander. No attempt is made to show that the present system of administration, which denies the people any control over the Government supported by their industry—is preferable to that which is advocated by the Liberals. Their first and last thought is of self; many of them will even admit the Responsible System to be a very excellent System indeed, but its glory and its excellence vanish if about half a dozen gentlemen in Charlottetown are not to be permitted to eat roast beef and drink champagne at the public expense. The editor of the *Islander*—driven to his wit's end for an argument, and abandoned as he is to any course of policy that pays him well—does not pretend to justify the existing system of Government, though he has sold his conscience to the individuals composing it—(an article, by the bye, not worth purchasing at any price). In two late numbers of his paper he, indeed, tried his hand at constitution-mongering, and while he praised the Constitution of England and that of the United States, he seemed to think that only something patched out of both would suit this Colony. His reason for asserting that members of the Assembly cannot safely be entrusted with situations under the Crown, is very obvious indeed. He has no chance of ever again being in the Assembly himself, and the party for whom he writes is likely to continue to be in a very contemptible minority there; and, therefore, that which they cannot enjoy themselves, as members of the Assembly, they will be anxious to deny to others.

But it is false to assert, that the Liberals seek to put themselves into office at the expense of the present holders. Their object is to make the tenure of public offices dependent upon popular favor, and thus to afford an incentive to honorable ambition, and to prepare a reward for just merit. If the present holders of office be removed, it must be acknowledged that they have been well paid for their services therein; and their removal must be attributed to their past misconduct, by which they have forfeited the respect and confidence of the country. The impudent assumption, that no other body of men can be found capable of filling office, has been too often replied to and refuted to require further comment at our hands. It may yet obtain credence with the servile few who patronize the *Islander* in Charlottetown, or with that elite circle about New London, whose mental calibre was so appreciated by Mr. Maclean in times gone by as to induce him to favor them with the appellation of *yahoos*. But the attempt to force the *Islander* into circulation by offering it gratuitously and insultingly to Catholic Clergymen in the country, with the vain hope that they would use their influence to extend its list of subscribers, and by thrusting it into the pockets of countrymen whenever they can be kidnapped in the streets of Charlottetown—shews plainly and satisfactorily enough how limited is the influence which that assumption, or any other put forth by the *Islander*, exercises over the minds of the public.

In the *Islander* of yesterday we are, as usual, favoured with several columns of abuse. Though Duncan cannot convince the public that he is a disinterested and consistent politician, he bids fair, certainly, to convince his paymasters that he is an industrious fellow, as he seems anxious that his labours shall be estimated rather by the quantity than the quality of his editorials. Notwithstanding the pains Mr. Maclean has repeatedly undergone to decry the *EXAMINER* and represent it as a Journal void of influence, it is evident he has a very high opinion of our writings, since he appropriates so large a portion of his paper to the insertion of angry invective and low blackguardism against ourselves. We could not desire a better proof of the telling effect of our editorials than is evinced by the *soreness* of the *Islander*; and so long as Mr. Maclean will be kind enough to act the part of the blackguard—the liar—and the scold, so long shall we be assured of having gained a decisive victory over him. No man need ever be ashamed of incurring the enmity and slander of an unprincipled scoundrel. We rejoice that the editor of *Islander* has proved himself to be such, without any testimony to the fact being required upon our part; we are only afraid that we shall have to add the vice of cowardice to that of scoundrelism.

The Boston press continues to feed with insatiable appetite on every incident concerning Dr. Webster and his family. Littlefield has received the reward of \$3,000, that was offered for the discovery of the fate of Dr. Parkman. Mrs. Webster and three daughters had an interview with Governor Briggs on Saturday, but the result of it is not disclosed.—The apartments of the College that Dr. Webster occupied were opened to public inspection on Monday; about 5,000 persons, it is reckoned, took advantage of the privilege to explore the scene of the frightful tragedy, and having satiated their morbid curiosity, retired well pleased with the entertainment thus afforded!—A rumor of a Medical Student having seen Dr. Webster standing over the body of Dr. Parkman, and was induced by threats and entreaties to leave the city, had obtained considerable credence in Boston, but on investigation the story is pronounced entirely destitute of truth.