

brated for its linen manufacturers, within the West Riding, and the disinterested attorney is one of the brightest ornaments of the profession, in the West Riding of Yorkshire, enjoying the fruits of an ample fortune, realised by his own industry and talents.

**THE EXAMINER.**

MONDAY, AUGUST 7, 1848.

**PARTY POLITICS AND POLITICIANS IN CHARLOTTETOWN.**

NO. I.

We do not know of any place in British America where less interest is felt or shewn in reference to matters connected with local politics, than in Charlottetown. To be sure, while the Legislature is in Session—or while an Election contest is in progress, (particularly when the candidates are known and tried men) there are a few who express their opinions freely enough—just as if some extraordinary stimulus were wanting to make men think and speak of all that concerned their social improvement, liberty, and prosperity;—but, in ordinary times, politics, to use a common phrase, are quietly laid upon the shelf, to be taken down only when Mr. This or Mr. That originates some important motion in the Assembly, or when either or both of the same individuals courts the suffrages of any section of “the free and independent electors.”

In Politics, Charlottetown may be divided into three sections:

1st. The Tory or Conservative Party, who are content to let things remain as they are.

2d. The Lookers-on, or “Loose Fish,” whose only desire is patronage and who are ready to join the party which is likely to be the stronger.

3d. The Liberal or Reform Party, who would make great changes and improvements, provided they could be done speedily, effectually, without the loss of much time, or the expenditure of much money.

It is quite natural for the first to be content to “let things remain as they are.” They are the weakest side in point of numbers; and they will be found to be such only, as hold offices under the Government—such as may be daily expecting some little official employment, and such as may have given mortgages of their properties for sums of money lent by rich officials. The officials themselves think none have so good a claim upon the State, having served it long. If they have practised little *peccadillos*—bungled the affairs of their offices in some instances—or forgotten to account for public monies, why, their “long services”—their “loyalty and attachment,” and all that, ought to be considered a fair atonement, or duly registered as a set-off on the credit side of their account with the State. To displace them, according to their own opinion, would be monstrous ingratitude and iniquity; and as men could nowhere be found capable of filling their places, the Colony must inevitably go to ruin. Any man who says or thinks ought to their prejudice, is, at least, guilty of sedition—he is an “agitator” of the most vicious description, whose aim is either the disruption of society, or the acquirement of place. We cannot be so uncandid as to deny that with this class of politicians are connected a number of gentlemen, as well in office as out of it, who are sincerely attached to the principles of their party—who conscientiously believe these principles, the nature of which we will more fully shew, to be best adapted to the progress of our political institutions, and more in accordance with the tone of society, than any of an opposite tendency. These people avow their principles readily enough, and they act up to them with consistency and independence. For this consistency we respect them. Call a man by what party epithet you will, he is entitled to respect, if he be not ashamed to acknowledge it application, when it is known that the whole course of his life justifies the application. Let him be the most arrant Tory in the universe, he is more to be admired than the sneaking, snivelling fellow who professes one day to be Liberal, and the next day acts as a Conservative—who, while in the company of Liberals, professes to believe that such a thing as Toryism is out of fashion, while in the company of Tories or Conservatives, or official monopolists, or whatever else you may please to call them, he turns up his nose at the term *Liberal*, and rates those who glory in the name as a set of knavish, unreasonable and designing men. This class of politicians

so closely resembles the second class—the “Lookers-on” or “Loose Fish,” it is difficult to separate them, because the greater proportion of these are, in heart and spirit, filled with Conservative opinions. But what are the principles of this party? 1st. That it is not safe to entrust too much political power to the populace—lest they become too democratic. 2d. That public servants, having once been honoured with the confidence of their Sovereign, should for ever after be considered worthy of it. 3d. That this royal confidence entitles them to popular favour. 4th. That it would be very unjust to remove a public servant, because he has displayed a little ability in the discharge of his official duties—has acquired some tact and experience; and because he has no other immediate means of obtaining a livelihood. 5th. That the public officers should not merely be paid in proportion to the amount of labour which they do, but in proportion to the rank or honour which they borrow from their situations: that is, that a man should be paid not for the honour which he confers upon a station, but for the honour which the station confers upon him. These appear to us to be the principal characteristics of Colonial Toryism—a thing widely different from that which bears the same name in England.

One of the most preposterous and arrogant assumptions ever set up by a party is that with which the officials meet the demand for Responsible Government. “We are too young a Colony—we have not the necessary materials to work the System.” This may sound very well upon the ear, but what is the meaning of it? What are the materials we require? Why, nothing more than honest, clear-headed and experienced men. Are the people of this Colony so far behind their neighbours in honesty, intelligence and experience, that some ten or a dozen men cannot be found amongst them fit to be entrusted with high and responsible offices, should the present incumbents be required to evacuate? Are “all the talents”—all the honesty centred in the red-tape gentlemen of Charlottetown? If such is really our hopeless condition, why did the British Ministry act so unwisely as to allow us all the paraphernalia of a separate government? We can find gentlemen in abundance to make laws for our government; but, if we are to put any faith in the fashionable phrase of the Town, it needs a mightier grasp of intellect to execute those laws. Who is there that does not remember the thousand and one maledictions fulminated against the late Governor, when, as it is said, he spoke disparagingly of the men who composed our Legislature; yet the very persons who worked themselves up into such a “virtuous indignation” against Sir Henry Huntley—who would have invoked spirits from the vasty deep to punish his audacious expression of opinion—are themselves the most cool, systematic, persevering libellers of the whole Colony! We know there are some really clever and estimable men in the Government of the Island. Towards none of them, personally, do we entertain any ill feeling. In private life we wish to cultivate the most amicable feeling with all; but regarding them as public men, and failing to discover any extraordinary administrative talent in most of them, we do not hesitate to say, that if we believed them to be the only gentlemen in the Colony capable of carrying on the Government, we should speedily adopt the opinion that we ought to have no House of Assembly—no Government, and we would counsel our fellow-colonists to cry aloud for annexation to Nova Scotia, as the only release from the humiliating belief, that our Island contained but ten or twelve men capable of governing us.

It is well remarked by one of the most distinguished writers and orators of the present day (Macaulay in his incomparable Criticism on the genius of Milton), that “many politicians of our time are in the habit of laying it down as a self-evident proposition, that no people ought to be free till they are fit to use their freedom. The maxim is worthy of the fool in the old story, who resolved not to go into the water till he had learnt to swim! If men are to wait for liberty till they become wise and good in slavery, they may indeed wait forever.”

**THE CROPS.**—We are sorry to learn that the Potato disease has again made its appearance in several fields in the vicinity of Charlottetown; but we hope, however, this may not be the case throughout the country generally. The Wheat has also been attacked on farms in the neighbourhood of Charlottetown, by its old enemy

the *weevil*, destroying in many instances the crop to one half its extent.

**VISITOR OF SCHOOLS FOR PRINCE COUNTY.**—We learn from the *Gazette* that John Arbuckle, Esq., third Master of the Central Academy, has been appointed by His Excellency in Council to the Visitorship of Schools for Prince County. Although we have heard no complaint preferred against the late Visitor, and believe him to be fully competent to the discharge of the duties of the office, yet we cannot but think and say, that Mr. Arbuckle's nomination is very judicious,—as he is a gentleman who can bring to the office, like his predecessor, considerable talent, much experience in the proper management of schools, and a fair share of general knowledge.

**THE HARMONEONS.**—A Band of Vocalists, known for several years in the Colonies and the United States by the name of the “Harmoneons,” came from Pictou in the Packet on Friday evening last, with the intention of giving two or more Concerts in this place. On Saturday evening their first Concert was given, and, having listened to them, we do not hesitate to pronounce them the best Vocalists we have ever heard in the Colonies. Several Glees and Comic Songs, sung with inimitable skill, excited the most rapturous enthusiasm. Their second Concert is advertised for to-night, and we can say to those who love rational enjoyment, that they cannot spend an hour more agreeably than in listening to the Harmoneons.

**STANHOPE INSTITUTE.**—An interesting Lecture was delivered before this Institute, on the 28 inst., by MR. NEIL McINNIS, on the subject of Agriculture.

Launched on Thursday last, from the the Shipyard of Mr. E. Macdonald, Pisquid, a very handsome juniper built Bark, of 350 tons, called the *CLIO*, built for Messrs. Nelson & Son of this town.

**DIED.**

At Chicago, Illinois, on the 25th day of June last, in the 23rd year of her age, Amelia, wife of Mr. John Bell, and daughter of Mr. James M. Ewen, of this Island. Mrs. Bell was a native of Campbellton, New London, and removed to the United States about fifteen months since. During the last three months of her illness, she manifested much resignation to the will of her heavenly Father, and she died reposing her hopes of salvation on the Saviour.

**MUSIC AND MIRTH.**

**THE HARMONEONS'**  
**SECOND GRAND VOCAL.**  
Sentimental, Instrumental,  
**ETHIOPTIC AND OPERATIC**  
**SOIREE,**  
**AT THE TOWN HALL,**  
(OR OLD COURT HOUSE),  
THIS, MONDAY EVENING, AUG. 7, 1848.

**CHANGE OF PIECES.**

ALTO, - - - JAMES POWER.  
CONTRALTO, - - - MARSHALL S. PIKE.  
BASSO, - - - FRANCIS LYNCH.  
TENORS, - - - JOHN POWER.

Cards of admission 3s. 6d.—Children with their Parents, half-price.—Concert to commence at half-past 8 o'clock. See Programme.

**NATIONAL HOUSE,**  
**HAYMARKET SQUARE, BOSTON.**

THIS HOUSE is located in the Commercial section of the City, and in the immediate vicinity of the Depot of the Boston and Maine Railroad. Merchants and others will find this a convenient and comfortable residence during their stay, the Proprietor having gone to a very large expense this summer, in making this establishment suitable for persons who may please to favour him with a call.

Cards of reference, or any other information, may be obtained on application to his Agent, MR. H. W. LOEBAN, Charlottetown.

HIRAM TURB.

Boston, July 20.