

have been applied; I had not used the hooks at the time of the discovery. The tan put into the tea chest, was taken from a barrel of it that had been in the laboratory for some time. The bag of tan brought in on Monday was not used, nor intended to be used; it belonged to a quantity obtained by me a long time ago, for experiments in tanning, and was sent in by the family to get it out of the way. Its being sent in just at that time was accidental. I was not aware that I had put the knife in the chest. The stick found in the saucer of ink, was for making coarse diagrams on cloth. The bunch of filed keys had been used long ago by me in Fruit street, and thrown carelessly by into a drawer. I never examined them, and do not know whether they would fit any of the locks of the college or not. If there were other keys fitting doors with which I had nothing to do, I suppose they must have all been duplicates, or keys of former locks left there by the mechanics or janitor. I know nothing about them amongst the multitude of articles, large and small, of all kinds, collected in my rooms. The janitor had furnished me with a key to the dissecting room, for the admission of medical friends visiting the College, but I had never used it. The nitric acid on the stairs was not used to remove spots of blood, but was dropped by accident. When the officers called for me on Friday, the 30th, I was in doubt whether I was under arrest, or whether a more strict search of my rooms were to be had; the latter hypothesis being hardly less appalling than the former. When I found that we went over Cragies' Bridge, I thought the arrest most probable. When I found that the carriage was stopping at the jail, I was sure of my fate. Before leaving the carriage, I took a dose of strychnine from my pocket and swallowed it. I had prepared it in the shape of a pill before I left my laboratory on the 23rd. I thought I could not bear to survive detection. I thought it was a large dose. The state of my nervous system, probably defeated its action partially. The effects of the poison were terrible beyond description. It was in operation at the College, and before I went there, but most severely afterwards. I wrote but one of the anonymous letters produced at the trial—the one mailed at East Cambridge. The little bundle referred to in the letter detained by the jailer, contained only a bottle of citric acid, for domestic use. I had seen it stated in a newspaper that I had purchased a quantity of oxalic acid, which it was presumed was to be used in removing blood stains. I wish the parcel to be kept untouched, that it may be shown, if there should be occasion, what it really was that I had purchased. I have drawn up, in separate papers, an explanation of the use I intended to make of the blood sent for on Thursday, the 22nd, and of the conversation with Littlefield about the dissecting vault. I think that Pettee, in his testimony at the trial, put too strongly my words about having settled with Dr. P., and make some arrangement with him, and was said in order to quiet Pettee, who was becoming restive under the solicitations of Dr. Parkman.

After Dr. Webster had stated most of the facts recorded above on the 23d May, this question, with all the earnestness, solemnity, and authority of tone that Dr. Putnam was master of, was addressed him:—

"Dr. Webster, in all probability your days are numbered; you cannot, you dare not speak falsely to me now; you must not die with a lie in your mouth; so, prove to yourself that your repentance for the sins of your past life is sincere—tell the truth then—a confidence to be kept sacred during your life time, and as much longer as my regard for the happiness of your family shall seem to me to require, and the interest of truth and justice to permit. Search to the bottom of your heart for the history of your motives, and tell me, before God, did it never occur to you, before the decease of Dr. Parkman, that his death, if you could bring it to pass, would be of great advantage to you, or at least that personal injury might possibly be the result of your expected conference with him! As a dying man, I charge you to answer me truly and exactly, or else be silent—had you not such a thought?"

"No, never," said he with energy and feeling; "as I live, and as God is my witness, never! I was no more capable of such a thought than one of my innocent children. I never had the remotest idea of injuring Dr. P. until the moment the blow was struck. Dr. P. was extremely severe and sharp—the most provoking of men—and I am irritable and passionate. A quick handed and brief violence of temper has been a besetting sin of my life. I was an only child—much indulged—and I have never acquired the control over my passions that I ought to have acquired early, and the consequence is all this."

"But you notified Dr. Parkman to meet you at a certain hour, and told him you would pay him, when you knew you had not the money?"

"No," he replied. "I did not tell him, I would pay him, and there is no evidence that I told him so. Except my own words spoken after his disappearance, and after I had determined to take the ground that I had paid him, those words were a miserable tissue of falsehoods to which I was committed from the moment I had begun to conceal the homicide. I never had a thought of injuring Parkman."

This was accompanied by the statement in which Professor Webster attempts to explain as to his seeing Littlefield, sending for blood, and enquiring about gases from the vault. After reading the statement Dr. Putnam proceeded to argue as to its truthfulness, saying

that it was made when the writ of error was still pending. Also, that Professor Webster's estate was worth several thousand dollars and that he was not in such a strait as to commit such a crime deliberately. The previous petition from Professor Webster, protesting his innocence and praying for absolute pardon, he said, was got up by his family, who were unwavering in their belief in his innocence, until his confession was communicated to them about a week since. He concluded in asserting his belief that the confession was true.

Members of the council have retained a copy of the petition previously presented, and withdrawn by the advice of Dr. Putnam, which will probably be published. It asserts his innocence, and it also asserts that Littlefield, or some other person, placed the remains in his room, to compass his ruin.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"A fool uttereth all his mind, but a wise man keepeth it in till afterwards."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

MR. WHELAN;

SIR,—Of all the stupid, silly, and false productions that have ever emanated from a Bacchanalian's brain, a letter which appeared in the *Islander* of the 5th inst., signed "William Douse," must have the pre-eminence. It contains a presumptuous attempt to shew that it was the Freeholders of the Southern Townships of the Third District that secured for Mr. Douse his re-election. The Poll Books, however, prove this assertion decidedly false. At Murray Harbour Road polling division, Douse polled 63 votes, all tenants; M'Neil I vote—the only Freeholder's vote polled in that division. At Belfast, the principal part of the Freeholders remained at home, and those who voted for Mr. Douse did so because he publicly promised to advocate Responsible Government; and, at Bell Creek, very few independent Freeholders came forward. It is, therefore, an incontrovertible fact, that Mr. Douse would not have been re-elected were it not that he is Lord Selkirk's Land Agent, proved by a reference to the Poll Books, to which I would beg to direct the attention of any person who may be so incredulous as to dispute these statements.

Now, Mr. Douse must submit that his letter contains a false statement, in saying that two-thirds of the freeholders of the southern townships gave him *unsolicited support*. Will Mr. Douse deny writing letters to those freeholders, telling them that he had distributed all his turnip seeds, but he would purchase another supply when he went to Charlottetown, and concluding his kind Notes by reminding them of the approaching contest, hoping they would not only support him themselves, but induce all their friends to do likewise, &c.? If he has the audacity to deny writing such letters, I can prove that I read one of them, signed "William Douse;" and surely no one would forge his name to a letter.

Will A. McDougall, Esquire, deny canvassing at Murray Harbour Road, Green Marsh, &c., for Douse? Was not Malcolm Blue, who is Douse's wood-ranger, seen and heard, both day and night, in the back settlements of Wood Islands, sounding an alarm among the people against the radical M'Neill? And how did John Douse employ his time for weeks previous to the Election? Will that young blockhead dare to deny his having driven through the District, disseminating falsehoods, and attempting to stir up prejudice against me, by different ways and means too base to mention.

I might here refer to the unprincipled proceedings of several other understrappers; but let the above suffice for the present. Old Douse himself called all the votaries he could get to worship with him at the shrine of Bacchus; and when the inspiration of that god influenced his seered conscience, he vociferated against short leases, and told the tenants they must have 999 years leases in place of 20 years, and that the back rents should be buried in oblivion's gulph—that £150 must be granted for the completion of a Church—and that vessel-building must immediately commence at Port Selkirk, and the dilapidated castles at that place made to assume a more stirring aspect. These, and a host of other charitable deeds, were about to emanate from the fat Agent, that, by his activity in their prosecution, he might get rid of the ponderous weight now hanging about him by reason of his carnivorous gulosity.

But, alas! the Lion has not yet become a Lamb; nor is he made to eat straw; as may be learned from the Agent's letter, wherein he speaks of the indolence of those who will be "compelled to give place to others of more sterling character." This is a reflection upon Lord Selkirk's tenants which comes with very bad grace from one who is well known to have grown fat on the sweat of many a poor man's brow; and who, after having accumulated both flesh and wealth, through the Rent Roll, has the impudence to threaten those to whom, a few weeks ago, he was going to grant long leases, &c., &c. I think, therefore, that such undeniable statements are sufficient to demonstrate that if the people have been taught to look for "visionary imaginations," Mr. Douse must have been their teacher.

It seems the only reflection that can be cast upon me by Mr. Douse is, that I am a "scheming pennyless agitator." I therefore challenge him to shew how I have "schemed" for a living, or wherein I have "schemed" any person out of his money or property; and, until he

proves his scurrilous assertion, I shall hold him guilty of an unmitigated falsehood!

I need not inform the public that Mr. Douse has "schemed" for a living, and also "schemed" money and property from people; for the fact is too well known to all who are acquainted with his infamous proceedings. If I am "pennyless" it is no disgrace to me; and, if Mr. Douse can boast of wealth, for that wealth, as well as his seat in the Assembly, he is solely indebted to "the Ways and Means," and the influence which, whilst standing in "His Lordship shoes," he has, with ambidextrous skill, created and improved.

But as poverty is the only stigma thrown upon my character by Mr. Douse, I beg him to take a retrospective glance at his own circumstances when he first landed on this, my Island home! The old people inform me, that all the property he claimed was two little animals of the vermin kind called "Ferrets," which he let loose at Souris, East Point. These creatures being hungry—as, probably their owner was at that time, and lean too—they devoured the Rats to that degree that they poisoned themselves and died! Thus ended the career of Douse's Ferrets. What bounty the old women of Souris paid him for exterminating the Rats from their Dairies, &c., I am not prepared at present to state. I would next remind the dunghill, pure-proud upstart of the time when he was known as Cook in a camp, at or near York River Bridge, for a number of lumberers, engaged in the late Mr. Cambridge's employ;—and then as to his "scheming," a small lot of garden seeds, some cow bells, a few gallons of Rum, &c., into a small hut in Charlottetown, where he sold his trumpery wares to such as would get half drunk with his poisonous Rum. From thence he proceeded in quest of the Landlord's Rent Roll. But, Mr. Editor, as I do not wish either to weary the patience of your readers, or to intrude upon your space, I will "keep" the remaining part of the Fat Agent's history "until afterwards," and hasten to a close by reminding him that "People living in glass houses should not throw stones," assuring him also, that having truth on my side, I fear him not, though swelled like a Bull-frog teased by a school boy.

Yours respectfully,

ARCHIBALD M'NEILL.

Mount Vernon, 13th July, 1850.

The Examiner.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 17, 1850.

THE CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE OFFICES IN QUEEN SQUARE AND THAT IN DOWNING STREET.

(continued.)

THE learned editor of the *Royal Gazette* has said, "It is clearly evident that the majority of the House of Assembly, when they stopped the Supplies, were not aware of the extent of the mischief they might possibly occasion." That that gentleman has, both very frequently and very greatly erred, not only in judgment but in practice, as well professionally as otherwise, is a fact which, we presume, he cannot well deny; but it is scarcely possible that he can ever have conjectured or advanced any thing more essentially at variance with the real facts of the case, than the assertion that the majority of the House of Assembly were not fully aware of the utmost extent of the embarrassment which would or might be occasioned by their stoppage of the Supplies.

When the Lieutenant Governor had broken faith with the Liberal Party, and, by a most disingenuous subterfuge, sought to evade the concessions which, in duty and in honor, he was bound to make, the liberal majority in the Assembly at once wisely and constitutionally determined to embarrass and obstruct, to the utmost of their power, the unpopular Government which stood in the way of thorough and salutary reform, and which His Excellency refused to dissolve: and to that end—and to no other—did they stop the Supplies. There was not, however, positively involved in that measure any danger to "the peace of the community or obstruction to the administration of the laws." Nevertheless, had these consequences resulted from it, it would have been "clearly evident" that "the odium and unpopularity" created by them could not, with justice, fall upon any but the Lieutenant Governor and his Council.

The policy which dictated the withholding of the Supplies has, it must be confessed, not yet fully accomplished its object; but it is now becoming very apparent that His Excellency and his Government are caught by it, as it were in a strong net, and struggling in vain for freedom and latitude of action. Under cover of the most hypocritical pretence of "care and anxiety for the public welfare, for which they merit"—not "praise and approbation"—but the scorn and derision "of those who know how to appreciate their acts," His Excellency and his Council, it appears, determined by a formal Resolution, that he should issue Warrants on the Treasury, without the authority of the Legislature, for the maintenance of the prisoners in the several jails. A Copy of the Minute of Council embodying this Resolution was, we learn, forwarded to Earl Grey, by his Excellency.