

CANADA AFFAIRS.

see page 13 & 20

The *Brighton Gazette* having advocated the cause of the North American Colonies, in the sincere and deep conviction that they form an essential part of the British Empire, and that they are of the greatest importance to its political power, as well as to the national wealth and happiness, whether considered as nurturing by their commerce those seamen who are destined to be the great arm of her power, or as consuming for their population the largest quantity of her manufactures in their most finished state, the present has been thought a fit opportunity to re-publish certain articles which have recently appeared in the above journal upon the subject of Canadian affairs. It is hoped that, although written on the spur of the moment, and at detached periods, without reference to each other, they will not prove without value to those whose attention is about to be drawn to the consideration of this important question.

[FROM THE BRIGHTON GAZETTE, FEBRUARY 18, 1836.]

The following extracts of letters received from Canada by a gentleman in this town, are calculated to suggest no very consoling reflections as to the state of affairs in that important colony. Not content with the mischief they have done at home, our Whig-Radical Ministers seem resolved to play the game of Mr Hume, and alienate from the British Crown one of its brightest jewels,—the colonial possessions of the empire. How lamentable and mortifying is it to think that while Russia, Prussia, and

other continental nations are silently but steadily and surely augmenting their internal strength, and extending their influence abroad, Great Britain is weakened by intestine dissensions, and prevented by party intrigue from assuming the position which she had hitherto occupied, and which she ought still to occupy, in European affairs. But while Lord John Russell feels himself compelled to devote all his time and all his talent (such as it is) to the worthy and honourable task of forming a rope of sand, which the breath of an Irish agitator may—and will—in a moment destroy; while Lord Palmerston sends our ships, (and would, if he dared, send our soldiers also) to prop the tottering throne of “the babe of Spain” and its virtuous mother,—we must not hope to see a change of this anti-national and fatal policy. The following are the letters from Canada; and we leave our readers, after perusing them, to determine how far they afford the “fair prospect,” which Sir George Grey tells us is entertained of settling the troubled affairs of Canada:—

Extract of a Letter from Montreal, of 9th Jan., 1836.

‘ My last acquainted you with the spontaneous addition to our almost skeleton regiment of British Rifles, formerly nearly 1000 men of British origin and British feeling, desirous of upholding the national interests, and the connexion of her colonial children with the mother country.

‘ Mr. Walker, our Constitutional Agent, has reached La Braye, on his return. 1500 sleighs went out to meet him, and he was drawn into Montreal, and through the streets, accompanied by about 3000 persons, —the horses having been taken from his sleigh. It was a heart-stirring scene.

‘ Yesterday printed notices in *French* were circulated by the clique, calling upon the French Canadians to meet at Kauntze’s Hotel, to organize “*Volontaires Corps Française*” to keep the “British Rifles” in check! The tear of our axe-handled Irish patriots rising at the same time, completely nullified the intent; and no *volonteurs* assembled.

‘ The British Rifles, in number 600, made a display in town the night before last; but not a Canadian was bold enough to become a spectator. This demonstration is enough to show Jean Baptiste that the Britons here will determinately maintain British connexion and British rights. It will also show Lord Gosford and his Whig Radical colleagues that though he has flattered the enemies of the best interests of the country, and has gulped down or ‘cheerfully’ granted! everything the House of Assembly has demanded contrary to law, viz Contingencies without the consent of the Legislative Council—Members Indemnity Bill, which pays our members three times as much as their time and labour at home is worth—and other matters without ceasing—he will fail in bullying into slavish submission the true sons of Britain.’

‘ 18th January, 1836.

‘ A proclamation has just been issued by the Governor, suppressing the ‘*British Rifle Corps*!!’ The ‘beginning of the end’ has yet to come—*nous verrons*.’

Extract of a Letter from Montreal, 19th Jan. 1836.

‘ The proclamation of the Governor to suppress sixteen ‘British Rifle Corps,’ which I noticed yesterday, will hardly have the intended effect, as the conduct of Lord Gosford has put us into so singular a position, viz;—British subjects and colonists taking up arms to ensure the continuance of their own duties as subjects, and to preserve their connexion

'with the present state. The address of the British party in this province to their brethren in the other provinces to appoint a place of meeting for British delegates will appear a singular proceeding at home; but we have been goaded into it by the anti-national and illegal proceedings of Lord Gosford. The Canadian people should be separated from their leader; they are a sober, quiet, 'bonhomme' race. I hardly think that the 'British Rifles' will dissolve, though they inform the Governor that if the name of British displeases him, he may recommend another. The colonial newspapers shew evidently that our British brethren are ready to assist us against this miserable system and anti-national party, —although Papineau has boasted, at the Governor's table, that America, instead of receiving Governors from Europe, would send Viceroy's to Europe—or some such stuff. You shall soon hear from me again. *It certainly looks like a civil war.*'

FEBRUARY 25.

We published last week some letters from Montreal, which drew a melancholy picture of the state of affairs in that important, but distracted, misgoverned, and ill-used colony. The subjoined letter from Quebec, which has since reached us through the same channel, throws further light on the factious and selfish intrigues that are, through the unaccountable infatuation of our Whig-Radical Government, suffered to sow dissension, and create danger, where before there was none. We tremble to think of what must, in all human probability, be the issue of these things. Canada will soon become another Ireland, unless some effectual check be interposed by the British nation. It is understood that the Highest Personage in the realm feels a deep interest in all that concerns the colony, and, were he free to act upon the impulse of his own sound sense and patriotic heart, a speedy termination of these misdoings would be seen; but unhappily the Whigs, who have ever been notorious for "*rough-riding*" through palaces, set at defiance with impunity, (which, however, can only endure till another election), the wishes of both Sovereign and people. We entreat for the subjoined letter the earnest attention of all who are not disposed, with Mr. Joseph Hume, to alienate Canada from the British Crown:—

Extract of a letter from Quebec, 17th January, 1836.

'As I have heretofore told you, Lord Gosford is quite unfit for the duties he has undertaken, and finds himself surrounded with difficulties, which appear to me insurmountable, and which he has brought on himself. I must acknowledge that he is good-natured, 'cheerful,' and very hospitable; but he is 'hailfellow well met' with every one, and by his excessive familiarity—which must be a part of his policy—he is bringing the dignity of his high office into contempt. He talks, walks, and shakes hands with *everybody*, and dines with *any one* that asks him. As Governor, he is most particularly condescending and familiar with the demagogues of the House of Assembly, *even the most worthless of them*, and has cheerfully given them everything they have asked for, while, though the Parliament has been nearly *three* months in session, scarcely one step has been made towards *granting him* any of his requirements,—this too, whilst nearly all the officers of the Civil Government, including the judges, are in a state of *extreme pecuniary distress* and embarrassment. In fact, the Civil Government may be considered

'in a state of bankruptcy and dissolution. Lord Gosford does not conceal the expression of his great disappointment; but this availeth little with Papineau and his tail.'

'You will observe by the papers what excitement prevails in the cities of Montreal and Quebec. The people of the former city are, perhaps, carrying things too far, in raising a Volunteer British Rifle Corps; but really our brethren are suffering severely under the present system of provincial policy, and unless the Imperial Government and Parliament undertake, in *right good earnest*, to settle the respective pretensions of the 'two origins,' with a view to being maintained as a British Colony, and not nursed and brought up as 'La nation Canadienne,' *blood will be shed*, and the consequences will be dreadful. Armed associations should not be encouraged; but it is a singular situation for colonists to be placed in, viz., obliged to take up arms to secure and perpetuate their connection with the mother country. Roebuck, the paid agent of the clique, will be saying some nonsense in the House of Commons, to shew that he is doing something for his money. His friend McKenzie, of the Upper Province, whom ~~figure~~ ^{figure} delighteth to honour, has in some way got improper possession of a large parcel of private letters from many gentlemen in England, and is publishing them in his newspapers by garbled extracts, with false assertions and innuendoes: all this with a view and intent of spreading distrust and discomfort among parties here and their correspondents at home. I think you know that Roebuck once lived with his mother here, and ~~stied~~ ^{sued} for employment under Lord Dalhousie, having failed in an attempt to become a portrait painter; his brother is still a clerk in the custom-house department of this province. Mrs. Simpson, with her family by her first husband, Mr Roebuck, settled near Kingston, and were not successful, when it was they removed to Quebec.

'Rely upon it, Lord Gosford's days are nearly numbered. He has systematically, studiously, and ~~virtually~~ ^{viciously} offended the British party in his attempt to conciliate the low and anti-national clique. This party have got from him almost every concession in his power to make, and he must soon insist on some 'quid pro quo;' as I do not believe he will get it from them, the talisman will be broken, and he will be vituperated beyond anything that was heaped upon Lords Dalhousie or Aylmer, and must then be re-called, as there will not be even a solitary British subject to take his part. Lord Aylmer ought to have insisted on an impeachment, after the marked slights and disapprobation shewn him by Lord Gosford after his recall, no doubt done 'by order and for account,' as our mercantile invoices have it. An impeachment would have given an opportunity of exhibiting to the British public the true state of things in this province. I wish you would look at our newspapers for the imports and exports of this colony: you will, I am sure, be perfectly astonished at the extent of our commercial relations, and the immense value our commerce must be to the United Kingdom.'

MARCH 3.

We now publish some more highly important letters with which we have been favoured from Canada. It is rumoured that Sir Charles Grey has come to a complete quarrel with Lord Gosford and his other colleague, and that words were so high that the Secretary was sent out of the room. We have no time to indulge in the indignant reflections which

these matters suggest. God grant that the Government may awake, ere it be yet too late, to a sense of the danger which their own mismanagement—and that alone—has created :—

‘ Quebec, January 22, 1836.

‘ I write by a gentleman who takes his departure to-morrow for London ; he will go by the *Kenebec road* to New York, via *Boston*. This road is now travelled by a great number of persons, a *regular stage* having been established ; two days of time are saved, as well as perhaps eight or ten dollars of expence ; should a railroad be made, the advantage it would be to Quebec cannot now be calculated. *Much against Papineau's will*, a bill has passed our House of Assembly for that object. ‘ Knowing the interest you take in our affairs, I could not allow this opportunity to pass without addressing a few lines to you on our present political position, as well as a sketch of what may be our future state. ‘ I send you two *Mercury's*, which contain a *debate in the Legislative Council on the state of the province*. This will inform you of the staunch position of that House ;—you will find also an address from the *Executive Committee* of the Montreal Constitutional Association to the inhabitants of our *sister* provinces, and some proceedings of the Committee here. A meeting was held last night in conformity with these proceedings. Not having been well for some time past, I was not present. The proceedings will, however, appear in *Nelson's Gazette* of to-day, one of which I now send you. All this must shew that something serious will be the result, if the government persist in their present policy. The Ministers entirely mistake the matter : they have identified themselves, through their deputy here, with a set of men whose principles are opposed to British institutions, and who have in their places in the Assembly declared their determination to persevere till they shall have accomplished their treasonable ends, namely, a complete annihilation of the constitution and every thing British ; if they had the courage to make the attempt, they would not remain inactive one hour. They not only know that the *peaceable habitants* would not stir from their homes ; but they are also aware that an appeal to the United States would be equally disregarded, as they are *utterly despised* by all parties of that nation. These are the men, I say, with whom Lord Gosford (and it is firmly believed the other two Commissioners concur) has *cheerfully* acted, and conceded to them every thing they have asked for, even to the *violation of the rights of the subject*,—the payment of the contingencies, to wit. For this act the Ministers will never be forgiven, and are despised equally with *their* representative here—for that Lord Gosford and his colleague represent the Ministers, and not the King, we are satisfied. ‘ We have too much respect for our beloved monarch to charge him with being a party to a violation of the constitution and the just rights of any portion of his subjects. We know him too well to entertain for a moment any such opinion. However, if the present or any future ministry persevere in a similar policy, the result must be a civil war, as it is not to be supposed that one of British origin will submit to any *yoke*, and more especially to that of a French faction, surrounded as we are by multitudes of the same origin and feeling—who are daily offering their services to assist us in the recovery of our own rights. We have no desire to change our position with the mother country, and if a commotion should take place, it will not be against *the King and constitution*, but purely against the Frenchmen ; but if the existing government should be so unwise as to still aid and assist that party, and if, with the assistance of our neighbouring provinces, we are unable to succeed, we shall then, and not till then, appeal to our American brethren for assistance, which they will most *gladly give us*, although they would refuse to do so to the other party instances. Even should

' matters come to such a crisis, the province would not be alienated, I
 ' think without appeal to England, offering a reconciliation, of course
 ' on such terms as might be agreed upon. I assure you until we are driven
 ' to the utmost extremity, we shall not think of separating ourselves from
 ' our beloved country. The Ministry had better reflect a little before they
 ' allow matters to continue in their present state. The British inhabit-
 ' ants of a man are determined to defend their dearest rights to the last
 ' drop of their blood, and they are banding themselves together for that
 ' purpose. I sincerely hope all differences may yet be adjusted; but they
 ' must be settled on *constitutional principles*, or not at all, for we are
 ' determined not to be trampled upon by Frenchmen.

(Extract.)

' Montreal, Jan. 26.

' Matters are progressing here in rapid style, and the truckling of Lord
 ' Gosford to the appetite of the Clique and their infuriated partisans,
 ' whom they work up to madness is now showing itself. On the 23d the
 ' premises of the Hon. Peter McGill were found to be on fire in three
 ' different places, at three different periods. There is not a doubt that
 ' these are the acts of incendiaries, and though a magisterial investigation
 ' has taken place, nothing has been elicited to implicate any individual.

' A rumour of such intention has been current, as well as an intention
 ' against another Legislative Councillor—but it cannot be traced home.

' It is more than probable that it is thus intended to draw these two
 ' gentlemen from their legislative duties at Quebec, when things can be
 ' managed at the desire of the Clique.'

MARCH 10.

We have received a file of Canadian newspapers, which abound with
 facts demonstrating at once the perilous excitement into which the colony
 has been plunged, and the fearful misrule by which such a state of things
 has been produced. Here is one example:—

' Some time ago, when the report was received in the English papers of
 ' the appointment of Major Sir Francis Head, to succeed Major General
 ' Sir John Colborne, we were inclined to treat both the one and the
 ' other as mere *on dits*, for we could assign no reason for the sudden
 ' recall of the most popular, and in many respects, the best Governor
 ' Upper Canada has ever had, and still less for entrusting the Govern-
 ' ment of that important and prosperous colony to a person little known
 ' as a public man, or as possessing habits of business. From what we
 ' have since heard, we have reason to change our opinion, but the resig-
 ' nation of that Government has been Sir John Colborne's own act, and
 ' he was induced to adopt it from a sense of self-respect, at the sacrifice
 ' of pecuniary advantage and personal convenience. The following are,
 ' we believe, nearly the facts which have led to this lamented determi-
 ' nation:—Soon after Lord Glenelg assumed the seals of the Colonial
 ' Department, several dispatches were received by Sir John, directing
 ' measures to which his experience and long knowledge of the country
 ' prompted him to dissent. His communications were answered by dis-
 ' patches, couched in unusual and offensive language; the Lieutenant
 ' Governor, a gentleman and a high-spirited soldier, who has been for
 ' thirty years employed in the service of the Crown, and who has been
 ' trusted and confidence, for the first

'time in his life experienced such unmerited treatment, and replied in terms of firm but dignified rebuke. Other dispatches reached him still in the same strain, whereupon he determined upon resigning his situation to avoid further insult, and forthwith desired to be immediately recalled. Sir Francis Head is probably on his passage to his Government, or may even now have arrived, and Sir John has made arrangements to proceed with his family to Montreal immediately on the arrival of his successor.'—*Quebec Mercury*.

It is impossible to suppose that the loyal Canadians attached to British government and British rule will allow themselves to be trampled in the dust by a mere faction, favoured though it be by Lord Gosford and his Majesty's Ministers. The following passage, extracted from an address of the Montreal Constitutional Association to the inhabitants of British America bespeaks a calm determination, which is not likely to evaporate in mere words :—

'The French leaders, if we are to credit their reiterated assertions, entertain an attachment so deep, so absorbing, for elective institutions, that they would at once confer that important privilege to its fullest extent, without reference to previous habits, education or political dissensions. How much of this ardour may have been called forth by a desire to establish French ascendancy, and to depress British interests, may fairly be deduced from a review of their past proceedings. Without discussing the question of elective institutions, which, it is obvious, cannot be introduced to the extent demanded by the Assembly, under the existing political relations of the Colony, which relations we are resolute to maintain, we distinctly aver that we are not influenced by idle apprehensions of a Government of the people and for the people; but it must be emphatically a Government of 'the people,' truly represented, and not a French faction; the Government of an educated and independent race, attached to the principles of civil and religious liberty, and not that of an uninformed population striving for domination, and seeking to perpetuate in America, the institutions of feudal Europe.

'To the people of the Sister Colonies we appeal, earnestly recommending the adoption of measures for assembling at some central point, a Congress of Deputies from all the Provinces of British North America. A British American Congress, possessing strength from union, and wisdom from counsel, by the irresistible weight of its moral influence, would supersede those other remedial measures which are the last resource of an insulted and oppressed community. On it would devolve the solemn duty calmly to deliberate on all matters affecting the common weal, and firmly to resist all attempts to invade the rights, or impair the interests of the United Provinces.'

Another very interesting document, emanating from the same body, appears in these papers. It is on the subject of the proposed alteration in the Timber Duties :—

'(Circular.)

'Montreal, 9th January, 1836.

'SIR,—I am directed by the Executive Committee of the Constitutional Association of this city, to call your serious attention to a subject in which every individual in Canada, having the general prosperity of these provinces at heart, is deeply interested.

'It must long ago have become apparent that the Timber Trade, which mainly contributes to the rising strength and importance of these Colonies, stands in imminent danger of being destroyed, and that it is

‘ evidently and avowedly the policy of the majority of our House of Assembly, in order to maintain their supremacy, to paralyze every exertion of our enterprising population.

‘ Instead of assisting and protecting those for whose interests they are called to deliberate, their motives and actions are purely selfish; and seeing that this trade is the means of introducing British capital, and British *nerve*, and therefore British justice, amongst them, they are adding that influence which should be yours to the anti-colonial views of the Committee of the House of Commons, and have appointed as their agent a person called John Arthur Roebuck, with a salary of 1,100*l.* sterling a-year, out of the taxes paid by you, to assist in the misrepresentation and in the destruction of the trade by which you live. These are facts, and startling facts, too. I would calmly ask you if you are prepared to permit this important trade to be sacrificed, to suit the ignoble purposes of an arrogant French party, who hate you because you are *not* French, and fear you because you are honest!

‘ I would impress upon you the absolute necessity of being active, and of exerting your *personal* influence for the protection of our mutual interests:—our object being the same, let our exertions be united, let us take our stand, and with firmness demand that our rights be respected.

‘ The Executive Committee urge you to send forward petitions to the Imperial Parliament, forcibly pointing out the ruin that must inevitably succeed the contemplated alteration in the timber duties, and to accomplish this end they will gladly render you every assistance; but above all they urge you to make known to all around you the critical position which we are now in, to form Associations, and to adopt resolutions expressive of your determination to oppose physically, if necessary, the designs of a dishonest faction to impede the advancing prosperity of these provinces.

‘ I have the honor to remain, Sir,

‘ Your most obedient servant,

‘ ADAM FERRIE,

‘ Chairman of the Sub-Committee.’

And yet Mr. Roebuck, with this document staring him in the face, ventured on Thursday in the House of Commons, to declare, “as the authorized representative of the opinions of *the whole of the commercial and landed interests of Lower Canada*,” that they had ordered him distinctly to declare their anxiety for the removal of all duties on timber whatever! Lord Soudon, however, reminded the House that it would be seen, on reference to the evidence taken before the committee, that a gentleman, who was deputed from that colony for the purpose of stating the views of the commercial and landed interests there, stated that, in Montreal and Quebec particularly, the impression was that the duty should be continued, and justly denied, therefore, that the Member for Bath represented the feelings of Lower Canada.

We cannot more fitly close this article than by appending to it a passage from Mr. Montgomery Martin’s “History of Upper and Lower Canada:”—

‘ In reference to a topic now under discussion, I may observe that one of the most important branches of our commerce with the North American colonies is that of timber. This trade has, in our own possessions, a fixed capital employed in it to the amount of 2,150,000*l.* sterling, sunk in saw mills, canals, wharfs, warehouses, &c.;—it enables the colonies to receive the vast emigration which has been pouring into them from the mother country;—it provides the means of paying for the large and annually increasing quantity of British manufactures consumed in our colonies;—it gives employment to nearly 300,000 tons of English shipping, it prevents us from being
mercy of foreign countries for an ex-

'tensive supply of an article indispensable to a maritime nation, and which, previous to the creation of the Canada timber trade, gave to our rivals *exorbitant profits and the power of enforcing arbitrary rates*.*—it enables us in turn to govern the prices of foreign timber, for if colonial competition were removed, the Baltic merchants would not be slow in availing themselves of the monopoly which the destruction of the Canadian timber trade would give them; for to place the duties on the wood of each on an equality, would be tantamount to the immediate destruction of our colonial trade, the shipping engaged in which cannot make more than two voyages in the year, while the Baltic merchant may send his vessel four times to England in the same period—with this additional advantage, that he is not obliged to keep his ships lying idle during the winter, as is the case with the Canadian merchant, to say nothing of the inferior cost in building, and diminished charges in navigating a Baltic as compared with a British ship, though both now enter our ports on the same terms. If it be intended to reduce the duty on Baltic timber, a preliminary measure, I trust, will be the total removal of the duty from our colonial timber, or as British goods are admitted into the Canadas at 2½ per cent. that no higher tax be levied on Canadian timber when imported into England.'

In short, as Mr. Martin elsewhere observes, "instead of being supplied with tobacco from the United States, and with hemp, tar, and timber from the Baltic, we certainly ought to have recourse to this colony for these productions, for reasons dictated alike by nature and sound policy."

MARCH 17.

We subjoin another communication from Canada, which is little calculated to allay the alarm excited by the past proceedings of my Lords Glenelg and Gosford. The French clique has gained many points, granted unconstitutionally by Lord Gosford, who having given *all* he had authority to concede, the House of Assembly now laugh at his Lordship, and refuse the supplies, out of which he and Lord Glenelg thought to have cajoled them. The fact is, our Ministers imagined themselves very clever, and have fallen into their own trap. They are caught in this instance, precisely as in their famous reciprocity treaties, in which Great Britain sacrificed some of her greatest interests, not for, but in a vain expectation of getting *quid pro quo*.

[Extract of a Private Letter.]

'Montreal, 9th Feb., 1836.

'Earl Gosford is in a pretty mess. The man without a *Head* in the Upper Province has published his Lordship's instructions, and exposed the paltry duplicity of both Gosford and Glenelg,—that too at the most critical period. The Earl has *cheerfully* given up every thing to the *self-paying* assembly that he was authorised to do; and now the exposure of his instructions will ensure the rejection of the Civil List, and the crown officers must continue to starve, whilst themselves and their agent Roebuck revel on the revenue arising from British trade.

* 'This is the language of the enactment of 1809, when Government encouraged the colonists to embark in the timber trade, by pledging its faith for protecting duties against undue foreign competition.'

‘Before this happened an old Canadian said to me ‘These changes of governors are very good to us, for Papineault gets something out of every one that arrives, and gives nothing back; our great commissioner will soon give us all *he* can give, and we shall have a new one to give us something more.’

‘Truly, the presumption of your men in power is prodigious; but thus it generally is when there is nothing straightforward. In the strait in which the Colonial Government is for money, it is said they have shewn themselves very anxious to finger a few thousands from the Commissioners of the British American Land Company, as a stop-gap; rumour, however, says that the Government has not been over-ready to further the views and intentions of this Company, than which nothing is so likely to benefit the country, or offer such advantages to the emigrating community. The next packet will shew you what has been done in the legislature.

‘The proceedings in the Houses of Assembly of both Provinces by the Radicals have been in concert; and so far as the great national interests of trade and navigation are concerned, McKenzie (Hume’s friend) goes farther than Papineault. He has got his Rads to endeavour to frighten Government to admit goods into the Upper Province *through the United States!* and to allow, at the same time, the Americans the free use of our noble St. Lawrence!! Where will folly end? Such a mad scheme can surely never be allowed to hang one moment in doubt with the British Ministry: the instant they heard of it they must have sent out instructions to the *Head* of the Province.

‘I will just state that although the Clique have endeavoured by every means to prevent the settling of the fine territory of the British American Land Company in the eastern townships of this lower province, it is in general only the poor and ignorant they have deceived—and that *nothing* can prevent that district from receiving the respectable part of our countrymen, who choose Canada for their residence. You may rely upon it, that setting aside the shortness of time and diminished expense requisite in getting there, it holds out the greatest inducements for settlers.

‘We shall all be anxious to learn how this exposure of Sir Francis Head will be received at *Head* Quarters. I fear he has been too much of a scribbler to be fit for real work.’

The following passage, which we take from a letter published in the *Times* of Tuesday, will throw further light upon the matter:—

‘Montreal, February 8.

‘I have just seen the analysis of a communication made by Sir Francis Head to the legislature of Upper Canada on the 30th ult. It is a voluminous document, containing his own instructions, and those given to Earl Gosford in July last, which have not hitherto been divulged. In these instructions it is declared that an elective legislative council will not be allowed, neither will the Crown Reserves be relinquished except for an adequate civil list. The celebrated and infamous 92 resolutions and other important topics are referred to, but as the copy of the dispatch has not come to hand, I cannot go into particulars. The disclosure of Lord Gosford’s instructions has taken place at a very critical juncture, just before the civil list comes under discussion. The House of Assembly must decide whether it will persevere in its resolution of not granting the supplies unless the legislative council is made elective, or swallow its own words. The publication of Earl Gosford’s instructions in Upper Canada, which he had kept concealed, will furnish the assembly with a plausible pretext for charging him with duplicity; and, if so inclined, will be a sufficient motive for not passing a supply bill.

* * * * Really the government, through chance or design, has placed Earl Gosford in an awkward predicament; for the Assembly will perceive that his object in granting their contingencies so cheerfully, and feasting them so merrily, was for the purpose of coaxing them to repay the 31,000*l.* advanced by Spring Rice, and to grant a civil list, and they will be enraged at it. It will afford Papineau a glorious theme of declamation, and the ministry and the corrupt governor will be severely handled.

MARCH 31.

We subjoin extracts of a recent letter from Canada, which will sufficiently shew that the anticipations held out by the former communications of our correspondent have been realised. "The Colonial Office and Lord Melbourne"—(we quote the words of another correspondent in London)—"are equally annoyed at Head's strange proceedings, in not only publishing *his own* instructions, but those also of the Commissioners of the Lower Province, with which he had nothing to do. There is an expectation that Ministers will decide to attempt Lord Stanley's Bill, which he had very properly intended to introduce, but was stopped. Others say that, besides this step, Lord Glenelg is to vacate his easy chair for one who will stand more at the desk. It is also said that Lord Melbourne indignantly cried out, 'Where the devil did you get this fellow (Head)? I never heard of him!' However, this 'bubble of the Brunnen' has now burst in hot water, and it may be useless to enquire where they heard of him: he puffed himself sufficiently in the vain politico-economical article in the *Quarterly* on the New Poor Law system,—*himself*, the Commissioner, writing in that flippant style matters which, if they happened, ought to have been subjects of grave consideration—and not the *fluffy* article of a periodical."

It will be seen that at length Lord Gosford has acknowledged the importance of promoting the views of the British American Land Company for the improvement of the Lower Province. On Friday last this company had its second general meeting;—the report was highly satisfactory to the proprietors, and very flattering to parties intending to emigrate to Canada. The climate is stated by all to be the healthiest in America, the soil as good as any, and the country by far the most picturesque. The expense of getting a family, equal to four adults and two children, to Port St. Francis, only 80 miles from the settlement, was stated to be 23*l.*, and the time, 40 days,—being about half the expense of reaching that part of Upper Canada usually selected by emigrants, or the Western parts of the United States, which are far removed from markets, and unhealthy in comparison. The report, or part of it, was determined to be published by the meeting; and it will be well for Guardians of the Poor and intending emigrants to consult the document.

(Extract.)

Montreal, 29th Feb., 1836.

'Our House of Assembly has definitively rejected the attempts of the Home Government to conciliate them, and has appealed from the Colonial Minister to the King and Parliament, by a long address full of falsehoods and special pleadings. Mr. Speaker Papineau has abused the Commissioners and the Government in his usual style. He spoke for three hours and a half, and called them 'a three-headed monster,'

'This was pretty enough from the man to whose opinions they had humbled themselves, and to whose blackguardism they had succumbed, and to whom, for the 'sake of conciliation,' they had given up the last dump they were authorised. The House of Assembly have, however, voted a *sort of partial* Supply Bill for six months! but have *refused* to vote the arrears of the Civil Government, or the 31,000*l.* advanced by order of the liberal Spring Rice. It cannot be that the Legislative Council will pass this monstrous absurdity. This *half year's* supply for four years' work, to the Governor, the Judges, and public officers, will enable some of them to *pay their washing bills*; but all these, except the Governor, must continue to 'get along' as they best can at the mercy of their creditors and tradesmen, who have kept them and their families from starving for the last two years. Should the Bill be thrown out in the Council, your Parliament *must interfere* to prevent civil war.

'Bedard, the violent and the tr——s, the father of the celebrated 92 resolutions, has been made judge over the heads of a dozen, better qualified!! This also to conciliate!! Every one now, not of the politics of the Assembly, is sure to be accused, condemned, and required to be dismissed without trial. What a pity that the amiable Lord Aylmer should have been seduced into a compliance with the desire of the Clique to dismiss the late Attorney General!

'You know me well enough, my friend, and that I am neither a Whig a Tory, nor an absolute Radical—though inclined towards the last class, to which you have too strongly allied me in general—still I cannot conceive how *any* British Ministry can reconcile to itself to make the British nation and Government contemptible here in America, where it has so many *true and affectionate* subjects, whom *ten times* the number of disaffected could not frighten, subdue, or oppress, if the said disaffected had not the protection which a remaining respect for the King's authority in the colony still affords them. It must be hoped and expected that the Home Government will now shew that it is determined to retain its lawful power and authority in the colony, and to carry on the King's Government independently of party and faction, for the benefit of all—avoiding all *unnecessary innovation* in whatever has long existed in the Colony. It *did* possess ample funds to defray the necessary expenses of the civil Government, and the administration of justice in the province. The good which was expected to have resulted from placing these funds at the disposal of the Colonial Legislature has not been realized:—*the trust has been shamefully abused, and that for a continued period of three years.* By returning, therefore, to the former position in this matter, after the woful experience it has had, no injustice would be done to any one, and no ground of alarm would be given to the other Colonies, none of whom had a similar fund provided. Farther than this it might not be safe to go immediately, but to wait for other measures, which may be deemed necessary, till another Session of Parliament. With a just and effective Executive here, having the means of paying its officers, and defraying the expenses of the administration of justice, *we have nothing to fear in the Colony.* Trade and industry will go on increasing; and common sense will resume its authority throughout the province. The only danger that we could run would be from other precipitate changes or important alterations exciting alarm for what has been long established.

'There is no end to the follies attempted by the House of Assembly. One was to pass a law which would prevent emigrants from the mother country being received, and to fine heavily captains infringing these ridiculous laws, had they passed. They are now addressing the Government to withhold all patents of land from the Land Company; such attempts are of course inoperative,—they, however, shew the anti-English animus of Papineau and his party. It is nevertheless said that Lord Gosford has at length become quite alive to the value of improving the Province, by the splendid operations of the British American Land Company, and has

'given his sanction to some of the plans laid before him. He is said to acknowledge its value both in a national and colonial view;—his sincerity will soon be put to the test. As far as I have been enabled to judge of this "*good easy man*," I believe him to be an arch-hypocrite, and that his apparently more favourable opinion of some matters, and less of others, arises from the total failure of his conciliatory, humiliating, humbug system operating any change on Papineau and his party. He and the Home Ministry would not read the history of the province for the last ten years, and are suffering for it. But for Head's singular *exposé*, I do believe that on Bedard being appointed Judge, as a preliminary, and Debatsch, Speaker of the Council, that the arrears and the 31,000*l.* might have been agreed to, and *some sort* of supply granted. That fool was not satisfied with running his head against a wall, but built it himself to run against.'

'Head, it is said, intends revising the executive council of the Upper Province, and some names are bruited, which would but ill increase the respectability of that body.'

'Lord Glenelg, by the exposure made of his instructions to the Governors, has proved that he was not so radically inclined as the conduct of Lord Gosford had made us believe. The latter has, however, inflicted injuries on the feelings of all true and loyal subjects, which will with difficulty be got over; and he has done this without increasing his popularity with the anti-English party. His instructions in themselves were not much amiss, had they been properly worked.'

'Petitions to Parliament and to His Majesty, against any alteration in the Timber Duties, are signing throughout this province by all really interested in its prosperity, in fact by all real landowners, merchants, farmers, or settlers, and by every man in it worth a thousand pounds. It is the main-spring of our improvement, though I doubt not the paid agent of the despicable party, *Roebuck*, will squeak out in the House of Commons to the contrary; this poor uustamped paper-monger must do and say something for money. He is ably assisted, I doubt not, by the two refugee paper editors, *Revans* and "*Chapman*.'

'A letter from this man (*Roebuck*) was lately read in the House of Assembly, dated 4th January, promising that no zeal or industry on his part should be wanting to justify their good opinion!'

'The energy of the colony has been very apparent the last year, as you will see by our custom-house returns. Of all this business not one part in a hundred belongs to the French party; and as this party monopolizes the House of Assembly, you must not be surprised at the ignorance and folly of many of their legislative attempts.'

'The Session must of necessity be drawing to a close, although many very important matters have to be decided upon, particularly in the council.'

'Our Constitutional Associations gain ground, and unless there be a change in the administration of our affairs, a congress for the inhabitants of British origin, of all the American colonies, will take place.'

'*I am persuaded that if Ministers will only act with firmness and decision, the whole matter may be settled in the course of the year; but if they continue vacillating, the province will be lost. Lord Gosford ought to be recalled, as utterly unfit to administer such a Government as ours.*'

'I have *much* more to say, but must defer it.'



APRIL 7.

The subjoined communications from Canada have just reached us: we have no time for comment :—

(Extract.)

‘ Montreal, March 9, 1836.

‘ If I had time, I have no longer inclination to go at length into politics; they are disgusting ‘*usque ad nauseam*.’ The House of Assembly are now letting fly in full force at every worthy, every conservative establishment; and threatening to swallow up everything valuable in our institutions. They are about to pass Bills to repeal the Tenures Act, and to annul the Charter of the British American Land Company, as well as to change the composition of the Legislative Council. Of course, such things cannot pass beyond their own House, which they declare to be omnipotent. You will see at once that the gist of all is to drive out all of British origin, and prevent, if they could, the further settlement of the province by such,—claiming to themselves a right of property in the millions of acres of unsettled lands. You will probably laugh, as we do, at the folly of these unlettered legislators’ pretensions to repeal acts of the Imperial Parliament. All this, however, is intended to give scope and effect to little pensioned Roebuck’s exhibitions in your House of Commons; and a pretty handle he will make of the waiter’s work. The Governor Gosford, however, goes on “cheerfully” with his submission and grants. He has granted :000*l.* more towards the contingencies of the House of Assembly, which, with the former one of 22,000*l.*, and the salaries of the Speaker and (self-voted) Members of the House, makes them a dear bargain to us. Never, in any country, in the most profligate times, was there so shameful a waste of public money; but as the Habitans and French party themselves pay no part of it, all being got out of British commerce, these people care nothing about it. Observe, all this contingent profusion is at the time when the judges and public officers are starving, for three years having been kept out of their salaries. If each country paid its own members, they would get little enough for their services.

‘ The appointment of Bedard, the revolutionist, is a shameless proceeding, as dishonourable to the Government who could make it, as disgusting to those who with so much higher pretensions have been superseded. Perhaps the worst part of the matter is that it is the substitution of a French for an English judge, and the obsolete ill suited French laws will thus be in a state of renewal. Even the Legislative Council has been sanctioning several bills, very exceptionable and likely to do injury rather than good, the Education Bills and Harbour Bills, for which I refer you to the newspapers. One of these will certainly make bad subjects, and the other save the Crown the trouble of appointing its own officers. Both give power and patronage to the Assembly, and operate seriously to the prejudice of good government. What with the wavering or rather want of firmness in the Council, and I believe its *now* deficiency in legal acquisitions, and Earl Gosford’s singularly yielding compliance, we go rapidly from bad to worse, and there will be no end till England ceases to have anything to do with the province, unless the Imperial Government takes instant measures to re-assert its rights. *A change of policy and a change of government are absolutely necessary.* This last is admitted, even by the most violent of those who are getting all their own way by him. Papineau does not abuse him the less; his style of blackguardism is peculiar. In this, as in other matters, he copies O’Connell.

‘ There is no saying when the Session will end; the Members being paid for sitting, take care to sit as long as they possibly can, their own

'farm labours till April or May not being to them worth half their sitting money.'

'I have just heard that the Governor has asked for the 6000*l.* of the British American Land Company, which I lately referred to: I suppose it is merely as a stop gap in their distress. What a pity that Government should ever have given up its rights to the Assembly! Things never could have got so bad, had they kept hold of the money.'

APRIL 28.

Subjoined is a letter with which we have been favoured from Montreal:—

'Montreal, 31st March.

'It may seem strange that I should have sent you in my last letter the speech of Lord Gosford on closing the Session, when, as you will see, the Session was not then closed. The fact is that the speech was made public before it was delivered, in imitation of the old custom I remember in London.

'There has been fine work at Quebec during the election for a member—A. Stuart, Esq., Conservative; Dr. Painchaud, Destructive. The worthy and *liberal* Doctor recommended his party to provide themselves *liberally* with clubs, and even warned one of the opposite party that he and nine more were marked men, in case he met with opposition. His party accordingly began bullying those of British origin, but were in their turn put to flight by a posse of Irish, who, though Catholics, have become perfectly disgusted with their fellow Churchmen. Stuart seems like to be returned. One of his friends has had several small houses burnt for his adherence. Head's affairs are in a strange state: he seems to be a resolute man. At present I do not sufficiently understand the manoeuvres of either party. It is thrown out by some here, that not only has *his* behaviour been advised and under orders from home, but that all the subservency and humbug of Lord Gosford have been so likewise, and intended by the Colonial Office to coax the violent clique and the Assembly into a trap. If so, the thing has certainly succeeded.'

The crisis of Canadian affairs, it is evident, approaches rapidly; and we may now be allowed to ask whether the communications we have given to the public have not been, not only correct in regard to facts, but whether the result also has not always justified the reasoning of our correspondent. It is clear, *now*, that the Imperial Parliament must legislate for those who have had the powers of a legislative body granted to them, the value of which they could not appreciate, or which they have determined to abuse.

For some years past the whole of the proceedings of the House of Assembly, composed of French origin, have tended to bring the Colonial Government into contempt—to impede its proceedings—to starve its officers—and to prevent the accession of, or turn out, persons of British origin from the province—they have voted large sums for their own purposes;—have, indeed, been prodigal of the public money for their own creatures, and among their own origin—whilst it is certain that nearly the whole of the Revenue arises from the actual commercial enterprise of British industry and the employment of British capital,—the actual taxation of the country, otherwise than by duties on its commerce, being nothing—perhaps not one-eighth of the taxation of the United States.

Every successive Governor for the last twelve years has, in his endeavour to conciliate, given up British interests to the craving appetite of the House of Assembly, till they could find nothing more that they dare offer as sacrifice; and having so done, have been recalled to make room for a new Government to play the same farce. Now, however, the last scene of the farce has been played; and conciliation can no longer be attempted. Strange, indeed, that the present head of the Colonial Office should either not have noticed the proceedings in Canada for some years past, or have wanted courage to act as he will now be compelled to do, and as experience would have pointed out as necessary. Stranger still that he should have recommended studied offence to Lord Aylmer on leaving his Government, by refusing even the common courtesies usual on a change of Government—for it cannot be supposed that the Commission would spontaneously offer the affront. It is, we are sorry to say, of a piece, and in keeping with the proceedings of the Commission from the first, in insulting the feelings of the most respectable inhabitants of British origin and the Legislative Council, by granting the money bills of the House of Assembly, without laying them before the Upper House; these grants being to pay the Speaker and Members,—and their own creatures and agents—the most prominent of whom is the Member for Bath, Mr Roebuck,—to agitate in the British Parliament. But what may appear to be the strangest matter of all, *Lord Glenelg, we believe, has never consulted, indeed never conversed on business five minutes with Lord Aylmer since his return, the common-place congratulations on his escape from shipwreck having occupied the few minutes he could spare from those incessant official labours, to which it is well known he applies himself so industriously.*

The address to his Majesty, from the House of Assembly, we believe to be no more than a text for Roebuck, Hume and O'Connell, and a peg on which to hang their arguments—the whole of which may be easily refuted by any one who understands the subject—but unfortunately we have not a man in the House of Commons connected with Canada, who understands its politics, or who duly appreciates the vast and increasing value of that fine colony to the mother country. It surprises those, who are thus ignorant, to find that in both provinces of Canada the Legislature appears to be at war among its constituent parts, and that too on different grounds. The fact is that part of the “contingency” grant of the Lower Province is applied especially to the purpose of agitation; and Papineau and M'Kenzie, the great leaders in the two houses, are, through their agents, in continual communication, acting in concert with Hume and Roebuck at home, to cause the very evils they pretend to deplore, and to give those evils a Proteus-like appearance—as if arising from different causes. It is well for the Colony that Sir Francis Head, by his singular proceedings, should have brought the “tumour to a head,” earlier than it would otherwise have come:—it will save suffering, and accelerate the cure. The Commission, it seems, had instructions on certain points of great value; and the manner in which the Government was to endeavour to bring things about, was far more reprehensible than the general instructions were faulty. From what has transpired, the independence of the judges was to be insisted on; and yet Lord Gosford made the very worst possible appointment in Bedard, a dependent of Papineau, over the heads of numbers of both better men and better lawyers, and appointed him, a French lawyer, an expounder of the *obsolete “Coutume de Paris,”* as judge for that part of the province inhabited by Englishmen, and living under English law? But he was a Frenchman, and his superiors were Englishmen; and that was sufficient justification.

No indemnification of the Constitution, or of the Legislative Council was to be made, not “founded on the principles and conceived in the spirit” of the constitutional statute now in force; yet Lord Gosford cheerfully grants enormous sums as contingencies to the House of As-

sembly, without going to the Legislative Council. And this, too, whilst he was instructed to get "some adequate security against the evils which have resulted from the abusive exercise of the powers confided to the Assembly over the public revenues!"

The exclusive management and disposal of the Waste Lands was to be retained in the hands of the Crown; and yet no pains have been taken to prevent a party from placarding the streets, issuing handbills, and boarding emigrant ships, warning intending settlers and purchasers that no title could be given to the lands in the province, and that the House of Assembly intended to annul a royal charter and a title given by the Imperial Parliament! We have not at present more space to afford on this subject; but we cannot avoid noticing the strange position in which Sir Francis Head has placed himself in the upper province.—*All his council have resigned!*—even the new radical members of his own appointment. It seems that he considers himself *Head*, indeed! for he tells his Council that "it is their duty to serve him," and that he is only bound to consult them "from time to time, as he shall find convenient." They, however, maintain that "they are appointed to *advise* the King and his Representative upon the affairs of the province." Sir Francis surely thinks that he is managing some "Union" in Kent, a report of which he has carte blanche to draw up in his own style for a periodical, his *Sub-Commissioners* being appointed only to make "a Board" and receive a salary. Yet these are *Whig* proceedings—the proceedings of a man especially selected to carry into effect Whig Reform!

Let none imagine that we devote too much attention to the affairs of Canada. Agitation has rendered Ireland a thorn in the side of England; encouraged by success there, it is pursuing a like course in our colonies; and unless the Government change its system altogether, one of the most valuable of them will be lost to the mother country. We are persuaded that nothing short of retracing our steps in the Lower Province will answer any useful purpose. We mean plainly, that the power which the House of Assembly has over the revenue of the country, which they have so shamefully abused, should be withdrawn.

Since the above was in type, we have received a file of Canadian papers, from which we learn that the rumour of Sir Charles Grey having determined upon returning to England is confirmed. Next week we shall give some extracts, for which we have not at present room.

MAY 5.

Elsewhere we print some promised extracts from the Canadian papers. Would to God that our efforts to spread among our countrymen some knowledge of a subject respecting which the great mass of them are so utterly uninformed, may not prove unavailing! It is a fact no less true than lamentable, that scarcely a man is to be found in the Imperial Parliament, who possesses even a tolerable acquaintance with Canadian affairs. Happy should we be, if among those who honor these pages with constant perusal, some one might be induced by the facts which we have lately laid before him, to devote his attention to this important subject, and claim for his oppressed countrymen across the Atlantic, that justice and protection which are denied them there. Happy should we be, if, *while there is yet time*, we might be the means of awakening attention to the imminent danger of seeing this fair colony severed from the British empire!

It is singular—and most instructive—to remark how many points of

resemblance exist between the progress of events in Canada and at home. In Ireland the Protestants are oppressed by Papists—in Canada the British are oppressed by those of French “origin;” and in each case *Agitation* rules with equally iron sway,—Papineau being in the colonies a mere facsimile of what O’Connell is in the sister-island. An extract from the address of the Quebec Constitutional Association will serve to illustrate the former point:—

‘It has been with the utmost astonishment that in a printed paper, purporting to be an Address from the House of Assembly of Lower Canada, to His Majesty, and the two Houses of the Imperial Parliament of Great Britain and Ireland, your Committee have read, amongst many other false and injurious assertions, a paragraph of which the following is an extract:—“We have at least the satisfaction of seeing that the inhabitants of this Province, of every creed, and of every origin, are satisfied with the share they have in the Provincial representation, and that our fellow-subjects of the less numerous origin in particular acknowledge the spirit of justice and brotherly love with which we have endeavoured to ensure to all the inhabitants of the country, a participation in its political and natural advantages. We perceive in this happy union another guarantee of good government, and an antidote against the vicious policy which it is sought to support by unjust distinctions.” That any number of men should publicly assert, and transmit to the highest authority of the Empire, allegations so false and unfounded, and in direct contradiction to the Petitions of Twenty Thousand men, equal to one-fourth of the greatest number of names affixed to any petitions transmitted from this country to England, a number in fact representing nearly the entire body of the inhabitants of this Province, who are not of French origin, shows a recklessness of character and wickedness of purpose, which could hardly be believed to exist in any country where it is not known by melancholy experience.

‘The inhabitants of this Province, of every creed and of every origin, are *not* satisfied with the share they have in the representation; those of the less numerous origin, in particular, do *not* acknowledge a spirit of justice and brotherly love on the part of the majority in the House of Assembly; they deny that this majority has endeavoured to secure to all the inhabitants of the country a participation in its political and natural advantages; they have, in every county of the Province, publicly proclaimed these truths: and every day’s experience proves that they have nothing to expect from the leaders of the Assembly, but an abject submission to their will,—no Government, but that of tyranny, proscription, and spoliation.’

And what is the chief object of the Canadian Agitator’s hatred? What, but the Legislative Council, which like the House of Lords at home, has been too formidable an impediment to the schemes of the revolutionists, not to draw down upon itself the whole weight of their indignation and fury. Nay, even to the smallest points, the resemblance holds good. One charge against the Legislative Council is that, like our own Peers, they do not choose to degrade themselves into a mere registry-office for the decrees of the House of Assembly. “It is proper,” says a correspondent of the *Quebec Gazette*, writing on the 15th of March, “it is proper to observe the time when a large proportion of these bills were brought up from the Assembly. viz.: from 1st to the 15th instant 35 bills, 22 of which have been received since the 7th instant, and many of them are well known to be for objects of the greatest importance, and in respect of which great difference of opinion is known to exist.” What, then, we involuntarily exclaim with Mr. Neilson, “what is it that disturbs us? *Is it because there are men among us who cannot be quiet.*

There are men who do not know what condition is good for them,—men who are constantly labouring, not only to render the country worse than it ever has been, but to plunge it into a worse state than possibly they themselves can even imagine. Again we call upon our countrymen to open their eyes to the state into which Agitation has brought this once happy empire, Ireland has become to us worse than valueless :—are they willing that Canada should be utterly and for ever lost? If not, *it is time that the Parliament of Great Britain should interfere.*

After these observations were put into type, a second file of papers to a later date reached us, some extracts from which we must defer till next week, having already filled all the space now at our disposal. The *Montreal Herald Abstract* of the 31st March, has the following :—

‘ We hear that the Earl of Gosford has determined to go home in the spring. He is said to have arrived at the conclusion that his once ‘ flatterers and kind’ friends are equally dishonest and dishonorable.’

‘ It is more than probable that Sir Francis Head, if factiously annoyed by the revolutionary majority of the Assembly of Upper Canada, will dissolve that illustrious body and give the people an opportunity of selecting abler, wiser, and safer representatives. The tone, style, and substance of Sir Francis’s messages and replies, must have made a strong impression in his favour on the mind of every impartial and intelligent man. Sir Francis, certainly, is ‘ no conceder;’ and if we ever said a syllable against him, we beg to offer him a most ample apology.’

We have also received from a well informed correspondent in London the communication which we subjoin :—

‘ Roebuck, the M P. for Bath, has printed a pamphlet on the Canadas, for which he is no doubt well paid; if not for that operation ‘ *per se*, certainly for his agency and grievance patching. I do not like a paid advocate in the House of Commons—it is at any rate a questionable testimony that he bears, his opinions must lean towards the orders of his employers—besides, colonics can never have a fair, a full, an equivalent representation in the House of Parliament here, and it is far better to leave their cause to the general intelligence and good sense of the Parliament, than take that which may be got from such insufficient power as one accredited agent can give. This, altogether independent of political bias or hired advocacy. A Mr Chisholme, of Three Rivers, in Canada, wrote a clever pamphlet on this subject, claiming a right in the colonies to representation in the Parliament of Great Britain; but few people were convinced by it, although Burke published similar opinions. I know that in the appointment of Roebuck, the Legislative Council would never concur; and thus two agents of different sentiments would neutralize each other. Neither does Mr Roebuck represent the commercial part of the population of Canada; in fact, we believe that Henry Bliss, Esq., a talented gentleman, not in Parliament, is at this time commercial agent of the two provinces, so that we have at this period two agents in England, and another probably on his way. Of all the population of the lower province, Mr Roebuck represents those only of French origin in the House of Assembly,—unfortunately a great majority of that house, we confess: by the commercial community he is absolutely repudiated. Mr Roebuck’s history is somewhat singular. The family came from India, his mother, on his father’s death, marrying his partner (we believe) a Mr Simpson, who took them to Canada, and settled near Kingston, in the Upper Province. Not succeeding to their expectations, they removed to Quebec, where from Lord Dalhousie’s government, the father and brother (one or both) got some appointments in the customs of the province. The present member for Bath

' was understood at that time to be trying his hand at portrait painting ;
' but left the easel for the desk, getting employment in the law office of
' Mr Gagy, until politics having taken possession of his aspiring mind,
' he came to England ; he subsequently became a pupil of Mr Butt, the
' barrister, and went once or twice the Western Circuit, when the
' Reform Bill and Mr Joseph Hume's recommendation, together with his
' marriage to a Bath lady, opened the door to his ambition. We know
' that his qualification was called in question, but whatever his legal
' qualification may have been, we are aware that he possesses the most valu-
' able qualification for the present day—the proud distinction of going as
' far as who goes farthest' in Radicalism.

' It is, indeed, a sad misfortune that the affairs of this fine province are
' not better understood and better advocated in the Imperial Parliament.
' Mr Labouchere is supposed to know more about them than any one else,
' but we doubt if his information can be profound. He and his friends
' travelled, or rather *steamed*, through Canada far too quick to get sound
' knowledge ; besides he went out as a Whig, and associated at Quebec
' with the *grievance party* of the House of Assembly ; and we know that
' after he and his friends passed Pontneuf *asleep* in their carriage, where
' they were expected to breakfast by the very amiable and most respect-
' able Mr Hale, they were surprised at Three Rivers to learn that much
' of the 'notices' they had entered in their travelling book from their
' friends at Quebec, required expunging or amending, from the strong
' party raint given to them by their informants ;—indeed, they took into
' their carriage a Quebec almanac, which gave the lie to some of the
' grievances they had booked at Quebec.'

MAY 12.

To-morrow Ministers have, at the request of Mr. Roebuck, consented to bring on the question of Canada ; and we therefore once more devote as much space as we can afford to the insertion of further extracts from the Canadian journals, in the hope that those Members of Parliament who honor our pages with perusal, may be induced to bestow upon these articles their attention, previously to the debate. The delay which has taken place in the appearance of Mr. Roebuck's promised pamphlet, leads us to suspect that it is done with a view of furnishing all his party with a copy just before the debate comes on,—that delay serving, at the same time to prevent the preparation of any exposure of the misrepresentations which it may contain. This has been already done more than once by the "Grievance" party, when Mr. Viger was in London as their paid agent, accompanied, we believe, by Mr. H. S. Chapman ;* and

* Mr. H. S. Chapman, understood to be the assistant of Roebuck in agitation and in the unstamped press, has, we believe, been any thing but successful in his different mercantile attempts. He left Canada as messenger of the clique,—his last unfortunate speculation, from which he was glad to escape, being the editorship and proprietorship of a journal, which ceased to be profitable, from the very obnoxious nature of his political articles, to all who could afford to pay for newspapers, except the small but noisy party for whom he wrote. He is not unknown as the propounder of some singular opinions on the Corn Trade, and considers himself a profound Political Economist. His quondam partner, Mr. Revans, having been *equally fortunate* in business, recommended himself to the notice and patronage of Mr. Poulett Thomson by a politico-economical pamphlet on the timber trade, and has since been rewarded by appointments to one or two of the recent Commissions, so worthily and liberally bestowed. We are, therefore, surprised that Mr. Chapman, his equal in all respects, should have been overlooked.

To the above we may add that Mr Roebuck was educated in Essex ; that a brother was admitted to the College at Woolwich, but failed to recommend himself by his talents or application ; and that he (the M.P.), on coming from Canada, enlisted in Jeremy Bentham's squad of Utilitarians, where he soon took up Radicalism, writing in the *Westminster Review* and the *Examiner*, and such *orthodox* publications.

we have consequently resolved upon taking measures to counteract, as far as may be within our power, any machinations of this nature. We remember Lord Brougham reading one of Roebuck's pamphlets in the House of Lords, to the no small amusement of the House, his Lordship having forgotten that he was the most prominent part of the very Ministry so unmercifully abused in the pamphlet.

We again entreat our readers to believe that this question is one whose interest warrants the appropriation of so large a space as has been devoted to the important information which we have been fortunate enough to have it in our power, during the last few months, to publish. Whiggery and ignorance combined—(if, indeed, the two are not synonymous)—will, we fear, go far to lose us the North American Colonies. We repeat our prayer that, while there is yet time, the eyes of our rulers may be opened.

In another part of this paper will be found the extracts to which we allude; but the following are sufficiently important to be inserted here:—

'The claim of the British and Irish population to be heard in the Assembly, is a claim of right and of justice; and it is a claim, too, which in some form or other must and will be enforced.' How short-sighted are those "Exclusionists" who would deprive one-fourth of the whole population of Lower Canada of any share in the Legislature! On the score of numbers we are nearly equally divided in the Upper Town of Quebec; and on the score of property we have a decided preponderance. —What is the class of persons who filled the lists of the opposite candidates? Principally men holding emplacements and huts on the outskirts of the town. Will the cause of just reform be advanced by this system of exclusion? Have the "Exclusionists" well considered what must be the effect of dividing into two adverse masses the population of this country, and of excluding one of these from their just share of political power? Do they consider that they will have achieved much for the well being of society, when they shall have deprived property of its due weight in the Government? In the downward course towards democracy, in the abrupt transition from the present habits and usages of the people of this democratic standard, in the adaptation of every principle of conduct public and private to the will of the majority, as an unerring standard, other men and other interests besides ours will find themselves implicated, and it will ultimately be seen that the principles which we are maintaining are those which will be conducive to the well-being of all. *For any English Member to be listened to in the House of Assembly is hardly to be expected.* It is something, however, when an irresponsible majority trample upon the law and pillage the public property, to have one more advocate to raise his voice, however unavailing, against such iniquities. A thick cloud rests upon the people of this country, but whensoever dissipated, it must be by free discussion, and not by the abuse of that power which this confiding but un instructed people have conferred upon their unworthy delegates. —*Correspondent of the Quebec Gazette.*

It is the consequences that must follow if the turbulent demagogues in the Canadian Assembly should succeed in severing that Province from the British Empire, that render the dissensions there so interesting to the inhabitants of British America generally. It is true that difference of origin will not be the cause of discontent in the other provinces, but there never was a country yet in which a few out of power did not wish to dispossess the few that were in it—and there are not wanting characters in each of the British provinces, who would gladly follow the example of the Canadian Patriots. If the government of Great Britain timidly surrender the prerogative of the Crown to the popular idols in Canada, they may depend upon it that they must also bow the knee to Baal in every other province. I mean not to state that there is any dis-

‘content among the inhabitants of British America; on the contrary, I think that as there are few people who have more cause to be satisfied with their lot, so are there few more generally contented with it. But there are no faultless constitutions or Governments, any more than there are faultless individuals in this world—and if those who sigh for power in the other Provinces are encouraged by the success of the demagogues in Canada to attempt to wrest it from the hands in which the laws of the land have placed it, they will not fail to follow the example. Contented as the great body of the people may now be, if every little defect which may be discovered or imagined in our institutions, or every trivial mismanagement or mistake in the administration of public affairs is dwelt upon and dinned into their ears, by brawlers who see little prospect of success by any other means, and those who pursue this course are not discountenanced by the Government at home, then that discontent so natural to man will soon be generated, and the cause of that dissatisfaction, which every man more or less feels with his actual state, will be attributed to misgovernment, when in fact it is the lot of humanity, and proceeds from what ‘neither Kings nor laws can cause or cure.’—

Montreal Herald Abstract.

‘The neighbouring states are frequently alluded to by our patriots as models for our imitation. No man, whose head or heart is rightly placed, will join in the senseless clamour against them, in which some of our ultras indulge. When the connexion between them and the mother country was severed, nothing remained for them but to create republican institutions, and substitute the people for the crown as the source of power—the state of society rendered any other course impracticable, and I envy not that man his feelings who does not wish them success in the attempt that they are making to regulate social intercourse, and to advance social happiness, with the least possible interference with the private conduct of the individuals composing the community. *It still, however, remains an experiment*, and some of the wisest men among them, staunch friends to freedom too, cannot at all times repress a fear that order cannot be preserved without a greater infusion of power into their system of government, and that it will be difficult to induce the people to clothe their rulers with as much authority as the preservation of the public peace may require. With the tumults which have recently arisen in many of their large cities, and the conflicting interests of the various states of the Union before our eyes, with the angry contentions and menacing language of the slave-holding and non-slave-holding states ringing in our ears, surely mere prudence, independent of all higher feelings, should induce the inhabitants of British America to rejoice that they still form a part of the noble Empire of Great Britain, under whose powerful protection their rights and liberties are secured to them, without their being involved in that momentous experiment, on the result of which our neighbours have all that is valuable to man at stake.’—*Ibid.*

