

GEORGE BIGGS, Editor.

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THE BAHAMA ARGUS.

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POETRY.

THE MAIDEN'S PRAYER.

She rose from her delicious sleep, And put away her soft brown hair; And in a tone as low and deep...

A DAUGHTER'S PRAYER.

God, if souls unsoiled as these, Need daily mercy from thy throne; If she, upon her bended knees...

ANTI-INNOVATOR.

Plague take the world! why cannot it stand still, and go on as it used to do when I was a boy? I stand the people mean by the progress of events and the march of intellect...

From an English Paper.

"We understand that Sir Augustus d'Este, the son of the Duke of Sussex, has filed a Bill in Chancery to perpetuate the testimony of his father's marriage, and has also taken counsel's opinion on its legality."

The following are some circumstances attending the marriage:—In 1792 Lady Dunmore, whose husband was then Governor of the Bahama Islands, went, with her two daughters, into Italy, where they resided till 1794. His Royal Highness the Duke of Sussex, being then at Rome, met with those Ladies, and very naturally courted their agreeable society...

Atmospherical phenomena in Europe.

"We learn from a London paper, that in the two first weeks of August remarkable appearances were repeatedly presented in the sky in different parts of the middle and south of Europe."

At Madrid between the 4th and 8th of August, an extraordinary brightness appeared in the west after sunset, which enabled persons to read in the streets, yet the evenings were very cold, and sometimes cloudy. Different accounts from Berlin, Geneva, Rome, and Odessa, in general, concur in similar representations. A letter from Odessa says:—"Contrary to all precedent, we have had nothing but continued rains ever since the winter, and up to the middle of July. Dry weather then came on, and lasted until the 7th of August; but, during this interval, every night brought with it an unusual vivid brightness in the sky, apparently rising from the northwest: it was so intense as to occasion many whimsical blunders against time and punctuality."

Manners and Customs.

"The following old paragraph is from a late number of the Brighton Gazette:—"The Queen and the Princess Louise bathed in the sea on Tuesday morning, having been actually driven from William's Baths, where they had intended to bathe, by the vulgar and impertinent curiosity of a crowd of well-dressed but ill bred people collected at the door, who pressed in the most rude manner on the royal party: We have authority for stating, thus publicly, that her Majesty expressed in the warmest terms her displeasure at the disgusting and brutal curiosity from which she had suffered so much annoyance. On several previous occasions, we have reprehended similar conduct: but it never before reached the length to which it proceeded on Tuesday. We put it to those persons (who cannot, we are sure, be residents of Brighton) if they have one spark of feeling (of decency it is plain they possess none,) whether, for the mere sake of gratifying their selfish curiosity, they will run the risk of driving the Queen altogether from a place which has been so much honoured and benefited by her presence."

The Author of O. P. Q.

"Some speculation has been indulged in, as respects the author of these 'Liberty breathing Letters.' It is there no Englishman, Scotsman, or Irishman in Paris, who has been outwitted, and who has spent the last thirty years in the French Capital? A man who dare not be known for his deeds—and who must keep concealed, to preserve the credit of his Letters! If there is such an one, half English—half French, a Dr. Greenfield or an exiled citizen of Church, or State, he will be found to be the author of O. P. Q. No man of reputation unblemished, and tame unnoticed, could ever preserve the secrecy of an authorship, that excited notoriety. We believe 'John' to have been some 'Scoundrel of the Court,' simply because he could not be discovered. A mantle of infamy concealed him, and this is the only mantle that is impenetrable, because society never thinks of suspecting an infamous person of a distinguished and laudable act. Had Walter Scott been infamous he never could have been discovered to have been the author of Waverley."—Penn. Whig.

From the Charleston Courier.

"Shadow of a King.—General Lamarque, in advertising to the conduct of France towards Belgium, said, a short time since in the French Chamber of Deputies, that France had raised (speaking of Belgium) 'a shadow of a kingdom—a shadow of a king'—'who,' said the General, 'would do well to have always this trunk ready packed, and a steam boat (powered by steam!) in attendance at Antwerp, to sail when it should please the prince of Orange to invade the country.' We certainly think 'King Leopold' would be much safer at Chiswick, than he can be where he now is."

Mammoth Turtle.

"During the late storm a Turtle of extraordinary dimensions drifted ashore on the Flats at West Farms, and was taken on Friday on the salt meadows of Mr. Richard L. Hirst. This Turtle was immediately purchased by Mr. Scudder, proprietor of the American Museum, for the sum of 500 dollars, and was brought to the city and safely placed in his establishment yesterday. Its weight is fourteen hundred and sixty two pounds being some 400 to 500 pounds heavier than the celebrated Turtle taken several years ago in Sandy Hook Bay, which is still exhibited at the same museum. This is literally a great curiosity."—N. Y. Mer. Adc.

Monuments in Edinburgh.

"There are no less than three public monuments in process of erection in the metropolis of Scotland. One to Dugald Stewart, one to Robert Burns, and one to King George the 4th.—For this last monument Chantry is to supply a bronze figure of colossal dimensions. A monument to the Earl of Hopetoun is also to be erected in Edinburgh. The Scotch are a patriotic race, and though they may sometimes neglect living genius, they never forget to do honour to their illustrious dead."

Steam Navigation.

"It will be recollected, that a committee was recently appointed by the House of Commons, in consequence of the loss of the Rotshay Castle, to take into consideration the frequent calamities by steam navigation, and the best means of guarding against their recurrence. This committee are said to have paid the most diligent attention to the subject, having had frequent meetings, and examined a great number of witnesses; and among them, one of them who escaped from the Rotshay Castle. They have been furnished by the Admiralty with some important experiments. It is singular that, notwithstanding the repeated accidents of the kind above referred to which have taken place in this country, so little public inquiry has been made into the causes of those accidents. It is by no means improbable, that the information which would be obtained by a close investigation, might be of inestimable value for the preservation of property and life."

It appears by official documents that in Great Britain there are no fewer than 264,000 holders of stock in the bank of England, whose dividends do not exceed £200 a year. One hundred and ninety one thousand one hundred and seventy newspapers leave London for the country every week.

OLD LITERATURE.

Thoughts on Various Subjects, by Mr. Pope.

Authors in France seldom speak ill of each other, but when they have a personal pique; authors in England seldom speak well of each other, but when they have a personal friendship.

There is nothing wanting to make all rational and interested people in the world of one religion, but that they should walk together every day.

The longer we live, the more we shall be convinced, as we know either, that it is reasonable to love God, and despise man, as we know either.

That character in conversation, which commonly passes for agreeable, is made up of civility and falsehood.

A short and certain way to obtain the character of a reasonable and wise man, is, whenever any one tells you an opinion, to comply with it.

Some people are commended for a giddy kind of good humour, which is as much a virtue as drunkenness.

Those people only will constantly trouble you with a little office for them, who least deserve you should be any.

We are sometimes apt to wonder to see those people proud, who have done the meanest things; whereas a consciousness of having done poor things, and a shame of hearing of them, often make the composition we call pride an excuse is worse and more terrible than a lie: for an excuse is a lie guarded.

Praise is like ambrosia: a little whiff of it, and snatches, is very agreeable; but when a man holds a whole lump of it to your nose, it is a stink, and strikes you down like a young spirit fresh from heaven.

The general cry is against ingratitude; but the complaint is misplaced, it should be against vanity. None but direct villains are capable of wilful ingratitude; but almost every body is capable of thinking that he has done more than another deserves, while the other thinks he has received less than he deserves.

I never knew any man in my life, who could not bear another's misfortunes perfectly like a Christian.

Several explanations of casuists, to multiply the catalogue of sins, may be called amendments to the ten commandments.

It is observable that the ladies frequent tragedies more than comedies; the reason may be, that in tragedy the sex is deified and adored, in comedy exposed and ridiculed.

The character of covetousness is what a man generally acquires more through some nigardliness, or ill grace, a little or inconsiderable things, than in expenses of any consequence. A very few pounds a year would ease him of the scandal of avarice.

Some men's wit is like a dark lantern, which serves its own turn, and guides them their own way: but it is never known (according to the Scripture phrase) either to shine forth before men, or to glorify the Father in Heaven.

It often happens that those are the best people, whose characters have been most injured by slanders; as it is usually found that to be the sweetest fruit which the last is being pecked at.

The people all running to the capital city, is like a prodigence of all animal spirits to the heart; a symptom that the constitution is in danger.

The wonder we often express at our neighbours keeping dull company, would lessen, if we reflected, that most seek companions less to be talked to than to talk.

Amusement is the happiness of those who exact think.

A contented man is like a good tennis-player, who wears fatigues and confounds himself with running eternally at the ball, but stays still to himself.

Two things are equally unaccountable to reason, and not the object of reasoning; the wisdom of God, and the madness of man.

Many men, prejudiced early in disfavour of mankind by bad maxims, never aim at making friendships; and, while they only think of avoiding the evil, miss all the good they would meet them. They begin the world knaves, forger, and vile, while others only end so after disappointment.

The greatest things and the most praiseworthy that can be done for the public good, are not what require great parts, but great honesty! therefore for a king to make an amiable character, he needs only to be a man of common honesty, well advised.

No woman hates a man for being in love with her; but many a woman hates a man for being a friend to her.

The eye of a critic is often, like a microscope, made of very fine and nice, that it discovers the atoms, grains, and minutest particles, without ever comprehending the whole, comparing the parts, or seeing all at once the harmony.

A king may be a tool, a thing of straw; but if he serves to frighten his enemies, and secure our property, it is well enough; a scarecrow is a thing of straw, but it protects the corn.

Notwithstanding the common complaint of the lazevity of men in power, I have known no great ministers, or men of parts and business, so wicked as their inferiors, their sense and knowledge preserve them from a hundred common rogueries; and when they become bad, it is generally more from the necessity of their situation, than from a natural bent to evil.

Whatever may be said against a premier or sole minister, the evil of such a one, in an absolute government, need not be great: for it is possible, that almost any minister may be a better man than a king born and bred.

A man coming to the water side is surrounded by all the crew: every one is officious, every one makes applications, every one offering his services; the whole bustle of the place seems to be only for him. The same man going from the water side, no noise is made about him, no creature takes notice of him, all let him pass with utter neglect.—The picture of a minister when he comes into power, and when he goes out.

terior of the earth, as we have explored its surface and that numerous sources of rich minerals will be opened to man by this process, so simple, and at the same time so inexpensive, since it employs only the strength of a horse and a man.—N. Y. Post.

THE ARGUS.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1831.

Since our last, we have been happily favoured with a few American papers, to the 8th December, received by the Lily, Hall, from Baltimore, on the evening of the 22d inst. The most material European intelligence contained in them, we insert in this day's impression, the same being only more detailed accounts of the disturbances in several parts of Great Britain, previously noticed by us, with a few extracts from Parliamentary debates on the agitated state of the Empire, in consequence of the rejection of the Reform Bill by the Lords. By these it appears, that Ministers intend again to bring before Parliament a Reform Bill founded upon similar principles to those of the late Bill, but certainly upon a more moderate scale. Bent as the people of Great Britain are, upon some measure of Reform being introduced in their representation, it would be madness in the Peers to attempt to prevent it; and we are of opinion, both parties will be inclined to make concessions, that the wishes of the people may be complied with, with as little delay as possible, although the Lord Chancellor positively asserted, that the Bill must pass without the slightest modification.

By the address of the Birmingham Political Union to their countrymen, it would appear that a Prorogation of Parliament had taken place, but our papers contain nothing on the subject. On an occasion of such vital importance to the nation, His Majesty's speech, proroguing the Parliament must be highly interesting, and we regret not having received it.

The schooner Blossom, arrived last night from Kingston, Jamaica, bringing our files of the Courant, to the 3d inst., extracts from which we shall make in our next. We have only glanced over them, and observe nothing particularly interesting to our readers, excepting a few remarks of the Editor of that Journal upon Bahama politics, with reference to the conduct pursued by our Governor towards Major Nicolls, and the Magistrates, Messrs. Anderson and Duncombe.

That a spirited canvass for seats in the House of Assembly, is already commenced by both the Smythites and Colonists, there is not the slightest doubt, although, it is not yet positively known, when a House will be called together; and as this must be the final struggle of His Excellency's party, it may be confidently expected that every artifice, will be made use of, to gain supporters at the ensuing Election, as well as by bribery and threats, as by endeavours to excite alarm in the minds of the Electors,—an attempt at which, was most miserably essayed by our brother of the Royal Gazette, on Wednesday last. We have already, in a Circular, given that advice to the Electors, which we, in our humble judgment, consider best calculated to promote the interests of the Colony; and shall only here observe, that none of the arguments of our contemporary have, in the least, wrought any change in our sentiments, as expressed at that time. The Colony, it is allowed by every one, has suffered materially, both in a commercial and internal point of view, since the appointment of Sir James Carmichael Smyth to the Government. That it can suffer more, by any attempts to rid ourselves of him, we cannot believe. That public officers, or any other public creditors, should suffer by a cessation of revenue, would certainly be a matter of regret to all; but when principals, either in commercial or political societies, from sudden stress, or pressure, upon their capital, feel it necessary to consolidate their efforts upon any one material point, it is then that dependents of every description, best testify their gratitude to the source from whence they have derived their support for a series of years, by refraining from urging their demands for immediate settlement, or until such period of pressure has been fairly surmounted.

As regards the duties upon live stock and cattle, we appeal to the general knowledge of the community, whether any very great inconvenience was ever suffered previous to those heavy duties being laid on by our Legislature. We believe, upon information, that in three instances out of four of import of cattle from St. Domingo, where they can be purchased upon lower terms than in the United States, such serious loss was incurred by the importers as to effectually close the door upon subsequent similar speculations. As the planters, or rather stock-breeder, had not suffered prior to the passing that Act, we do not see that any change has been made, by time, in local circumstances, to warrant an alteration on this head being deemed as for the worse. Our streets and roads have had very large sums already bestowed upon them, and do not require

further repair at present, nor are likely to do so for twelve months to come.

Our short residence will not warrant a discussion of the "old duty act;" but cedars and timber, are articles of such serious necessity among the Windward Islands, and can be afforded by us so much cheaper than by any other Islands in the West Indies, that they must resort to us, if we do not ship in our own vessels to their ports, when the duties of course will become a part of their invoice charge upon such timber, and the wood-cutters will, in no way, feel the loss of employment. During the last year, no vessels carried cedar or timber to those Islands—consequently, we were visited by several large vessels; one of the cargoes of which, was more than equivalent to the whole export by our own small shipping, for the usual six months devoted to such trade.

As regards the "faith of the Colony," it will be best preserved, by preserving the means of support to those who, by paying taxes, and by otherwise supporting the Government, are the *surest bulwark* to the individuals, to whom the Colony is pledged; and upon whom the loss to the Slaveholders of their property, without chance of remuneration, certain loss would be entailed, and consequent loss of honour to the Colony, of a more decided character, than likely to arise from the interested fictions of gossips, who only fear that their already small stake may become one shilling deteriorated by any defence of the public rights. That Sir James Carmichael Smyth has in view so to render valueless our Slave property, every one knows from *fatal experience*; and upon such grounds as those of *self-preservation*, his Government should be most stoutly opposed by every TRUE CONEN and Slaveholder, throughout these widely extended Islands.

TO THE FREE AND INDEPENDENT ELECTORS OF THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF THE ISLAND OF NEW PROVIDENCE.

GENTLEMEN, The flattering testimonials of esteem which we have received from many of yourselves, individually, now call us forth, to offer ourselves as Candidates to represent your general interests, in the General Assembly about to be convened.

Although, possibly, the task might devolve upon many, whose pretensions to your favour may, from a variety of circumstances, stand paramount to our's, yet as our zeal for the welfare of our rock, has its origin in its being the place of our nativity, and subsequent nurture, we trust that it is unnecessary for us to offer a stronger pledge, that we will fearlessly discharge our duty towards you, as our fate, whatever it may be, is so deeply involved in your own.

It has ever been remarked by statist, and the best writers upon political economy, that there is the strongest and surest safety against a common enemy, in strong political combination, and union; and that there is no safer path for the inroads of such innovators upon our customs, and natural rights, than jarring interests and political differences, among a body of constituents.

Electors! We have to face certain evils, and our only safeguard will be, a firm and an unconquerable spirit. To succumb at once, is inevitable ruin; to resist, will, if we should prove ultimately unsuccessful, at least leave an approving feeling on our minds, of having duly discharged our duties to ourselves, and to our neighbour.

Who among you does not know, that it is the easiest and safest mode of being generous and humane, at the risk and expense of another? And who among you does not know, that the present system of things, has a tendency to sweep your latest resources, into the vortex of EMANCIPATION, without REMUNERATION—a step, by which many hope to cover the future ills of lives badly spent, and others seek to win the gold voted by a fanatic zeal, from an already impoverished exchequer, as rewards for rendering the general ways and means less, from a deterioration in commerce, consequent upon colonial annihilation.

Electors! From the circumstances of our Colonial decay, from our want of the means of affording a staple Colonial export to the mother country, we are deemed fit for the experiments of a fanatical administration, whose emissaries are only commencing their attacks upon our most vital, and only remaining resource,—our Slave population!!!

Like those of the wily serpent, you will find their insidious efforts cloaked in the guise of wisdom; should you yield, your only thanks will be derision, for what they will term your self-sacrifice.

Let your motto then be RESISTANCE, until you gain, at least, a pledge of REMUNERATION, well guaranteed by national compact, not by the vain promise of some Colonial Secretary, or his Deputy, who holds his office for no longer period, than to serve the turn of a predominant party.

We are, Gentlemen, Your obedient servants, GEORGE C. ANDERSON, CONRAD DUNCOMBE.

From the Baltimore American of the 3rd December. LATEST FROM ENGLAND.

The brig Lander, captain Gill, at this port yesterday from Coves, brings a Portsmouth paper of 17th of Oct. tober, containing London dates of the 15th, four days later than previous accounts. The politeness of an excellent commercial friend enables us to make the following extracts from it.

The Reform Bill continued to excite the most intense interest, and the receipt of the intelligence of its rejection in the House of Lords, was in most places followed up by numerous attended meetings, for the purpose of expressing the public sentiment in favour of Reform.

London, October 14th.—The Paris papers of Wednesday, and the Messenger and Gazette dated yesterday, arrived in Town this morning. The attention of the Parisians continues to be delivered from their own people, by the important events occurring in England. The receipt of a Telegraphic despatch by Government, announcing the majority of Lord Chalmers' motion, was diffused universal joy. An immediate rise in the funds was the consequence.—The discussion of the Peageage project was resumed in the Chamber of Deputies on Wednesday. The impression in Paris was, that the selection must be made from lists of candidates to be presented by the Electoral Colleges.

Private letters, brought by this express, state the existence of a report, that the affairs of Belgium and Holland had been satisfactorily arranged. The Cholera had re-appeared in St. Petersburg.—At Berlin it had unexpectedly resumed activity; but the physicians reckoned with confidence, on being able to control it.

The report of Lord Palmerston's resignation is utterly unfounded.—Times.

Wednesday being announced as the day on which the petitions agreed to in the metropolis should be presented to the King, preparations were commenced at an early hour in the different parishes, to proceed in procession to St. James' Palace. Upwards of 70,000 persons from Marylebone, Pancras, Paddington, Holborn, and other parishes, halted at the bottom of Regent Street, and then joined the civic procession, led by the Lord Mayor, Sheriffs, and city authorities. They were followed by the parishes of Newington, (Surry) St. Luke, Clerkenwell, St. James and others—the greater part of the gentlemen forming the procession, wearing oak and laurel leaves in the hats, light blue lavers, or bands of ribbon round the arms, as the "Badge of Reformers," and some wearing cades of black crape, and a few wore tri-coloured ribbons. Banners and flags were interspersed, with devices and patriotic inscriptions,—all emblematical of the general feeling.

The Lord Mayor, having presented the Address, His Majesty returned the following answer: "I receive with satisfaction the expression of your loyalty and attachment to my person and Government, and of your confidence in my constitutional advisers. You may be assured of my sincere desire to uphold, and to improve the securities afforded by the Constitution, for the maintenance of the just rights of my people; and you may rely on my continued disposition to further the adoption of such measures, as may seem best calculated for that purpose. For the safe and successful accomplishment of such measures, it is above all things necessary, that they should be discussed with calmness and deliberation; and I earnestly recommend you, to use all the influence you so justly possess with your fellow citizens, for the purpose of preserving the public peace from any interruption by acts of violence and commotion."

In such an immense assemblage of persons, consisting of at least 200,000, it was scarcely possible to expect but that some outrages would be committed.—There were, however, very few casualties, the principal being confined to the breaking of a few windows in the Marquis of Bristol's house in St. James' square; and as the Marquis of Londonderry was proceeding to the House of Lords, through the Park, he was pelted with stones, one of which was so severe, that, after being rescued by the Police, his Lordship was obliged to be taken home in a coach. The Duke of Cumberland, in proceeding to the House of Lords, was also attacked in the Park, and his Royal Highness was dragged from his horse, and very roughly used by the multitude. At this junction, several of the Police forced their way through the mob, and extricating His Royal Highness from the perilous situation into which he had fallen, succeeded in getting him through the mob, and escorted him on foot to the Horse Guards, it being deemed advisable, that he should not mount his horse again.

DESTRUCTION OF THE CASTLE OF NOTTINGHAM.

NOTTINGHAM, Tuesday, Three o'clock.—We are here in the most dreadful state of insubordination and riot. After the meeting in the market place, the windows of many persons in all parts of the town were broken, and an immense mob went through Spentan; at Nottingham place they tore down an immense range of iron palisades, and armed with these, they marched to Colwick Hall, the seat of John Masters, Esquire, and tore to pieces the furniture, and set fire to the house in two places; it was afterwards extinguished, without much injury. About seven o'clock, an attack was made on the town house of correction, which contains a vast number of prisoners; the outer door was forced, when on the arrival of the 15th Hussars, and the civil force, the mob instantly dispersed. In half an hour, the Royal Castle of Nottingham, now the property of the Duke of Newcastle, was discovered to be on fire, and before aid could arrive, was so completely in flames, that all attempts to save it were in vain. This beautiful edifice was more than one hundred yards from

any other building; it was not recently inhabited.—The magnificent stair cases and floorings of black oak and cedar, and the tapestry of Queen Anne, with every thing contained, are consumed. None but the external walls are left standing. The rioters were principally young men and boys from the country, to the number of 3,000 of 4,000.

RIOT AT DERBY.

On the arrival of the news of the fate of the Reform Bill, on Saturday night, an immense concourse of people assembled in front of the House of Mr. Masley, an extensive printer of that town, who was identified as the Anti-Reform correspondent of Lord Londonderry. An attack was immediately commenced on the windows of the House, which were speedily demolished. The residence of Mr. Hope, the Mayor, was next assailed, and the front of the house destroyed. The town clerk was so seriously injured, as to endanger his life; and considerable injury is also done to the property of Sir William Wilmot. The town goal has been broken open, and a complete escape of the prisoners taken place. An immense body of people, proceeded to Little Chester, and entirely destroyed the front of Mr. John Harrison's dwelling-house; returning back, almost every House was attacked and scarcely a window remained whole; but the Anti-Reformers shared much the same fate. The disturbances continued the whole of the night, and the greatest excesses were committed. The banking-house of Messrs. Grampson, suffered dreadfully; every window was forced; Mr. Haden's, surgeon, shared the same fate; Mr. Haden's son, Henry, was killed by the mob. On Wednesday, however, tranquillity laid, in a great measure, been restored.

HOUSE OF LORDS. October 12.

Some business of little importance first occupied the attention of the House. Public excitement.—The Lord Chancellor,—I rise to present a petition for Reform, from Peterhead, and am anxious to take this opportunity of stating what I intended to state last night, and what I consider my bounden duty to state in the face of your Lordships and the country, not merely in my judicial authority, as the first Magistrate of the country, but as a member of His Majesty's Government—I wish, I say, to state that one of the most certain and the surest means of retarding Reform, particularly the great measure of Reform, which has so long occupied the attention of the country, is a breach of the public peace. (Hear, hear.) Violent proceedings had, in different places, unfortunately been resorted to; but he was bound to state, that every violation of the public peace, in order to display zeal for the accomplishment of the measure, however it might be intended, was certainly against Parliamentary Reform. The people, naturally, were anxious, but they ought not to allow any thing like despair to take possession of their minds, or indulge any distrust in His Majesty's Councils. Such conduct, above all others, they must avoid, if they wish the Bill to succeed. I tell them that Reform is only delayed for a short period; I tell them that the Bill will pass—that the Bill must pass,—that a Bill founded on exactly similar principles, and equally extensive and efficient as the Bill which has just been thrown out, shall, in a very short period, become part and parcel of the law of the land. (Hear, hear.) I have deemed it my duty, for the sake of the peace of the country to give this friendly advice, most sincerely hoping that it may have the desired effect, and that it will be received in the spirit in which it is given.

Lord Wharfedale.—I am glad to hear from the noble and learned Lord, this admonition to refrain from the violence of property. When the question came before the House, I thought it my duty to oppose Reform in the way in which it was introduced. How I may act when the measure comes again before the House, will depend on circumstances; but I will repeat what I stated previous to the dissolution, that there could be no doubt, the time had now arrived when there must be a Reform in the Commons House of Parliament. To what degree, I am not prepared to say, nor what mode of Reform may be safely adopted; but when the question comes again before your Lordships, I shall exert the best of my ability to do justice to its merits. (Hear.) Several Bills were then passed through a stage, and the House adjourned.

October 13.—Reform Bill.—On the presentation of some Reform petitions by Lord Holland, the Earl of Harrowby observed, that he desired to avail himself of this opportunity to say, that, though he had resisted the Bill, he was not opposed to all Reform. His Lordship added that he would not object to the extension of the franchise to large and populous places, but that he did object to the disfranchising of so many boroughs, and to the creation of so many £10 voters, as would result from the Bill prepared by the Ministers. The Earl of Haddington expressed similar sentiments, adding, that when a measure of Reform was brought forward on constitutional grounds, it should have his favourable consideration.

STATE OF THE METROPOLIS. October 12.

Mr. Rutheven in presenting a petition from Galway, in favour of Parliamentary Reform, contended the decision of the Lords, and regretted that the people had conducted themselves peacefully in their course to meet this day. Sir Henry Hudge expressed astonishment at the conduct of the procession was praised, when noble relative, (Marquis of Londonderry) and had injured the Duke of Wellington's house. The Hon. Baronet then commended the letters to Lord J. Russell and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, acknowledging the receipt of the thanks voted them by the great Birmingham meeting; that of Lord

John Russell, in speaking of the "whisper of faction," he continued was designating the decision of the Lords as that of a "faction." Lord John Russell said he could not retract the expressions of his letter. He certainly did consider, that the opposition to the Bill was that of faction. He deplored the outrages that had been committed; they were more injurious to the cause of Reform; but he could not admit, that any such proceedings were encouraged by those letters. Sir C. Fitzclerk accused the Ministers of not appealing to the law to put down the commotions, and declared he would move an address to the King for a "special commission," to try those who had fired Nottingham Castle, because the Duke of Newcastle had honestly expressed his opinion against the Jacobinical and Revolutionary Bill.

London, October 12.—Mr. J. H. Plunkett, an Irish Catholic Barrister, is appointed to the office of Solicitor General in New South Wales. He is the first Roman Catholic promoted in any of the Colonies, under the provision of the Relief Bill. The Dublin election committee have declared Mr. Shaw and Lord Ingestrie, the sitting members, duly elected. The guard at the Horse Guards were doubled yesterday morning, and a strong force was stationed in the gun depot in the Park. At one, this additional force was withdrawn. Several of the Lords Lieutenants of Counties, left town on Sunday night, for their respective districts.

A young man was on Monday committed to take his trial at the Westminster sessions, for pelting with mud the Duke of Wellington, when on his way to the House of Lords. The whole of the Police force stationed in the environs, on Monday morning marched into the metropolis, and are lying some in the Barracks at the King's mews, and others in the Palace-yard. Large quantities of ammunition were delivered out to the troops in London, on Monday morning, at their respective barracks and quarters, and even the recruits at the recruit house are under arms.

The great undertaking of Mr. Osbaldstone, to ride 300 miles in ten successive hours, for a bet of 1,000 sovereigns in ten meetings. The ground selected for the performance, is in the neighbourhood of Cheveley, and has been staked out for the occasion.—Mr. O. will ride six of his own horses, and six belonging to another gentleman. Mr. O. and the horses are in active training. It is stated, that Mr. O'Connell has received the patent of precedence from the King, which will place him at the head of the King's Council.

The Caledonian Mercury states that the typhus fever was raging badly at Perth. The Birmingham political union, a society which sways as much power now in the country, as the Catholic association ever did in Ireland, have published an address, which we insert below, recommending the formation of political societies in every town in England, to concentrate public opinion, and to unite all voices in demanding Reform. They exhort the people to firmness, order and moderation.

BIRMINGHAM POLITICAL UNION.

The Council of the Birmingham political union, have published the following address:—

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

Second address of the Council of the Birmingham political union to all their fellow countrymen, in the United Kingdom.

King, Friends, Countrymen and Brothers!—Our gracious King, firm and inflexible in defence of his people, has again come forward in the moment of their extreme need. Regardless of the clamours of an infuriated faction, hovering around the steps of his throne, he has again, in person, nobly put forth his royal prerogative in our defence, and sent the House of Lords back into the midst of the people, to receive a lesson of the duties which they owe to their countrymen, and of the extreme dangers which must arise, if they should rashly persist in placing themselves in opposition to the irrevocable will of the nation!

Friends and Fellow Countrymen!—Our road is clear. Our mind is made up. We will stand by Lord Grey.—That illustrious statesman has declared, that the Bill of Reform shall become a law, in all its essential principles and provisions. The whole history of his life forbids us to distrust his word. The strength of an united nation, which he wields, forbids us to distrust his power. Therefore, we will stand by Lord Grey. And if by possibility, he should be driven from power, we will carry him back upon the shoulders of the people.

Friends and Fellow Countrymen!—The King, the Ministers, the House of Commons, and the people, are all united. All these have given proof, that they are true to the cause of liberty, and that they are determined to carry the Bill of Reform into a law. This holy league is invincible. Nothing can shake its power, if no discord or division arises within itself. It is for you, therefore, to shun discord, as the only rock on which your hopes can be wrecked. Discord among yourselves, would give to your enemies the only possible chance of obtaining a triumph over you. Let no dissension arise among you; and nothing can prevent the downfall of that atrocious oligarchy, which has so long trampled upon the liberty and the happiness of the country.

Friends and Fellow Countrymen!—At the same time that we show confidence in the King and in his Ministers, and a fixed determination to preserve the law, let us show no weakness, no timidity, no lukewarmness, in the cause of liberty. Let all be united as one man, in the enthusiastic and determined support in this great, this holy cause. Let political unions be formed instantly in every town, in every district, and in every village where they do not already exist. Let the nation stand for its strength, and in peaceful and commanding majesty, express its will; and that will is certain to become the law of the land.

Friends and Fellow Countrymen!—Be patient, be peaceful, be firm, be united, be determined. Place your confidence in the King and his Ministers. Until these shall deceive you, there can be no fear for the liberties of England.

Friends, Countrymen and Brothers!—Listen to us. The sword must not be drawn in England.—The terrible knell of the tucsin must not sound.—The tears of the widow

and the orphan must not mark our course. They are the last dread alternatives of an oppressed nation. The influence of the oligarchy, aided by a corrupt and degenerate bench of Bishops, has obtained a momentary triumph in the House of Lords. But the power of the King and of the law, will humble the oligarchy in the dust. Our gallant neighbours, the French, effected a glorious revolution by lifting the barricades cemented with the blood of the best of the nation. We will have no barricades.—Without blood—without anarchy—without violation of the law, we will accomplish the most glorious reformation recorded in the history of the world.

God bless the King. THOMAS ATWOOD, Chairman. By order of the Council. BENJAMIN HADLEY, Secretary.

DIED, On Thursday, after a short illness, William Henry, aged 10 years, son of the late Mr. George J. Robinson, of this place.

BY HENRY GREENSLADE & CO.

On Monday next, the 26th instant, AT THE VENUE HOUSE, At 10 O'clock, A. M. Will be Sold, Flour, Meal, Corn, Pease, Rice, Cheese, Butter, Lard, Soap, Candles, Pork, Crackers, Leaf, and Fig Tobacco, &c. &c. &c. ALSO—An assortment of Medicines. Terms—CASH. At three months' Credit, Negro Man George, a good Mason, December 24th.

BY HENRY GREENSLADE & CO.

On Monday next, the 26th instant, AT THE VENUE HOUSE, At 10 O'clock, A. M. Will be Sold, Bags Shot, Casks Whisky, Ditto Molasses, 1 puncheon Rum, AND—Immediately afterwards at the wharf of Messrs P. Nimmo & Co. 41 bales Cotton, Being part of property given sloop Feronia for services, rendered American ship Illinois, Waterman, master, from New Orleans, bound to New York, while on shore on the Little Bahama Bank. Terms—CASH on delivery. December 24th.

BY HENRY GREENSLADE & CO.

On Monday next, the 26th instant, AT THE VENUE HOUSE, At 10 O'clock, A. M. Will be sold, All that piece of Land, containing, by admeasurement, two hundred acres, situate to the westward of the town of Nassau; bounded northerly on the sea; southerly on land granted to Thomas Whewell; westerly on land of Francis Montell; and easterly on land granted to the Hon'ble James Moss. At 3 months credit. September 24th.

BY JOHNSON & SAUNDERS.

On Monday next, the 26th instant, AT THE VENUE HOUSE, At 10 O'clock, A. M. Will be sold Superfine fresh Flour, Sugar, Rice, Corn, Butter, Lard, Candles, Tobacco, &c. Terms—CASH. 1 case fine Plantillas, 1 do. do. Calico, 1 bale Dowlas. At one month's Credit, December 24th.

CHRIST CHURCH PARISH.

THE VESTRY HAVING fixed the ASSIZE OF BREAD at the rate of 40 per barrel of superfine Flour, Ordered, that the shilling loaf do weigh 2lbs. 6oz., and the sixpenny loaf 1lb. 3oz. By order of the Vestry. DAVID SPENCE, Vestry Clerk. VESTRY ROOM 6th, December, 1831.

NOTICE.

THE SUBSCRIBERS offer for sale, by private bargain. 6 lbs. choice Maderia Wine, 40 dozen do. do. do. 60 dozen do. Teneriffe do. 1 trunk Gentlemen's Shoes, 2 blue Dinner Sets. HENRY GREENSLADE & CO. December 24th.

GEORGE BIGGS, Editor.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1831.

VOL. I--No. XLVII.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—October 9.

SPEECH OF LORD WARRENHESTER, IN ANSWER TO EARL GREY.

Lord Warhelft rose, fully aware of the difficult position in which their lordships were placed. Those difficulties had been greatly increased by what had fallen from the noble earl who had just sat down. That noble earl had told them that by this bill the present government should stand or fall, and that if they did not pass that bill they would have something worse. (Loud cheers from the opposition benches.) He, however, must judge for himself, examine the bill, and if he found that it would be destructive of the constitution, and injurious to the known interests of the country, he would not be bound to support it. According to the speech of the noble earl they had no alternative but to adopt the bill as it stood, or to break up the government by rejecting it, with the certainty, after all, of having an equally efficient or extensive measure of reform thrust upon them. [Hear.] Not one word had the noble earl said as to the efficiency of the proposed constitution. It was not enough for the noble earl to attack the nomination boroughs as corrupt and anomalous, and to assail the Scotch representation as vicious and defective, but they must also show that the plan by which those boroughs and that representation were to be succeeded was efficient to the maintenance of the constitution. The Scotch representation, as a complete system, had a great many vices; but it was to be considered as a part of a system, and as such it was beneficial. He could not deny that there was something objectionable, something anomalous and improper, in the system of nomination; but the question was not whether the system was good or bad, but whether there were not practical advantages attending that system that compensated for its theoretical errors. [Hear, hear.] They had then to deal with a specific plan, which was to be held unalterable; and looking at the provisions of which he contended that it must lead to the destruction of the lords, if not the overthrow of the monarchy. [Cheers.] There was a party in this country who aimed at a total subversion of the constitution—at republicanism—and as soon as they saw this measure produced, they saw it in the seeds of all that they desired, and they exclaimed, with reference to the constitution and the framers of the bill, "The Lord hath delivered them into our hands." He had a small connexion in one nomination borough, but his life was before the country as a public man, and he appealed to his public conduct as a vindication of the purity of his motives. He would take the liberty of looking at the constitution proposed, and attempt to show that, of all the delusions which had been attempted to be placed upon the minds of a certain class of persons, the bill gave the franchise to persons paying 4s. 6d. or 3s. 10d. a week, which was one step from universal suffrage. But the government had withdrawn the original proposition, and the reformers had become loud for the restoration of the clause. The document were compelled to retract, and to get out of the dilemma, attributed the insertion of the passage to inadvertence. [Laughter.] Inadvertence! No person could exercise the franchise who had not occupied for fifteen or twenty months. Besides that, if a householder happened to move from one house to another, he had to commence his time of residence again. Nor was that the only bar to the exercise of the franchise, for there were registration and a variety of difficulties thrown in the way. When it was said that every town with a population of 15,000 ought to return a member to Parliament, then he said the constitution gave no such right. He was well acquainted with the great manufacturing towns in Yorkshire; and their interests might be protected by six members better than by those persons who, returned under the bill, would be compelled to seek for the grossest popularity, and in their search to flatter the worst feelings and prejudices of the voters. He contended that the alteration with respect to the representation of the counties was a delusion upon the land interest, as gross as was the delusion with respect to the £10. householders. Every one who was at all acquainted with the manufacturing towns, knew that they must exercise a considerable influence upon counties in which they were situated; and from the plan of dividing the counties that influence was still further increased. He knew much of Staffordshire and there the whole of the four members would be returned by the manufacturing interest. Of Warwickshire he knew something, and in that county also the members would be returned by the manufacturing interest. The bill proposed to give the representation of the counties to the agricultural interest, and exclude the voters from towns. It did no such thing. A person in a town was only excluded from voting for the county if his property gave him a vote for that town; and if a person had two freeholds in a town returning members, he might have a vote for the town upon account of one freehold, and for the county upon account of the other. It was a delusion upon the agricultural interest to say that the division of counties and the nominal exclusion of town voters, would operate as a balance between the interest and that manufacturing interest. Copyholders, leaseholders, and, lastly, tenants at will, to the amount of £50. a year, were to vote. Prima facie this gave great advantage to the landed proprietors; but if the landed proprietors exercised any influence over the tenant, he would soon find himself placed in a similar position with other persons, who had thought that they had a right to do what they pleased with their own. Many of the best qualified to protect the interests of a town and of a county, and to forward those of the country at large, were utterly unqualified to stand the brunt of a popular election, such as this bill would give rise to. This would soon be felt, and it would be found that the only way to afford an adequate protection would be to adopt vote by ballot. [Hear, hear.] And that brought him to another and a most important question. Would this bill be a

final settlement of the question of reform. He denied that it would be so. [Cheers.] The principle of the bill once adopted, there was no place left to hold by; change after change must still go on, till the people had acquired what they considered to be a full, free, and fair representation. [Hear, hear.] In his conscience he believed that the great majority of the respectable portion of the community were afraid of the bill. [Cheers from the opposition benches, and "Hear, hear," from the ministerial benches.] And he begged to ask those noble lords who were fond of referring to the feelings of the people, this one question—what was the character of the meetings which had been lately got up with respect to the bill? In the county of York he found that a requisition in favour of the bill had been got up, but amongst the list of names he found those of persons whom he had been fighting with upon this question all his life, and he should decidedly say that there was no very great feeling in that county in favour of this particular bill. It was impossible to deny, that at the late elections, a large majority in favour of the bill had been returned to the House of Commons. Delusion had been had recourse to, and the people had been induced to believe that they were called upon to decide either with the king or with the boroughmongers. That was the means by which it had been achieved, and if the noble earl wished to boast of it, he was perfectly welcome to do so. The bill would curtail the prerogative of the crown. If it should so happen that the monarch wished to appoint a prime Minister who was not rich, how was he to obtain a seat in Parliament? During his political life he did not remember a single Minister who had not been compelled to have recourse to these nomination boroughs; and therefore, he had a right to conclude that some facility of introducing his Ministers into the House of Commons was essential to the free exercise of the Royal prerogative; and as this bill would afford no such facility; it must, as a matter of course, curtail that prerogative. The country had a House of Commons popularly elected. What was the consequence? What was the result of attempted deliberation upon the bill? Some in the House of Commons had voted for the second reading upon a belief and expectation that in committee it might be altered; but when in committee they were laughed at, and they soon found that the House was delegated, and had not the power to deliberate. With respect to the nomination boroughs he begged to be understood as expressing no opinion, but he said of the rest of the bill that it was subversive of the constitution, and would lead to the destruction of the crown and the abolition of the House of Lords. They were told, day after day, by the advocates of the bill, that the measure; and a further question which had appeared that day, the Westminster Review, said the honest part of the radicals had done their duty as civilians, and were ready to do it as soldiers if necessary; that it was loudly reported the Lords intended to throw out the bill; and that at the worst, the people would have eight or ten days to make up their minds as to the course they should pursue with respect to that body. Such was the language, continued the noble lord, that was daily addressed by the reforming party to the House of Lords, let them say so, and they were ready to walk out of that House. [Cheers from the opposition benches, and cries of "No, no," from the ministerial benches.] This he said, that the country looked to the House of Peers to do their duty honestly, fearlessly, and without hesitation; and if they so discharged it, and to the best of their ability, the people of England would be grateful for such conduct. [Hear, hear.] The noble earl had addressed some remarks to the reverend bench, and he would follow the example. The right reverend bench were there not merely to consult their own individual interests, but as the him, honestly, truly, and if they agreed with judgments, that the bill was dangerous to the church, and destructive to the constitution, they were bound by their duty to the avowal of their opinions. [Loud cheers.] For himself, his posterity should never have to say that he had deserted his post in the hour of danger, or given way to intimidation. [Hear, hear.] No man could see in a more serious light than he did, that this was a struggle between the democracy and the supporters of the constitution; but he implored their lordships, as they prized the liberties of their country, to do their duty fearlessly and conscientiously, and to leave the rest in the hands of Providence and to the good sense of the people of England. In that good sense he had long experience a perfect reliance, and he was sure that reliance never would be shaken. [Loud cheering.] The noble lord moved as an amendment, "That this bill be rejected."

SECOND DAY.

Tuesday, October 3.

ADJOURNED DEBATE.

The Earl of Wichelesha, in every view of the present question, felt the responsibility attached to a British legislator. (Hear.) He knew no party but that of his country, nor any interest to his him. He would proceed, unawed by the violence of faction, or the foul, malicious, rancorous invective of a part of the press, which professing loudly the principles of liberty, exerted a more vile tyrannical influence upon the public mind, than any other despot over those who were mean and most base calumny against those who were too virtuous or too proud to do it homage. (Hear.) Even the most illustrious female of this country, the most exalted lady courtier and by outworned slanders by those champions of propriety and liberty. He would to God he knew the base calumniator—not the hired assassin, but his employer,

his infamous paymaster—eagerly as he would run to the invader of his country, still more readily would he thus levelled at all that was virtuous, exalted, pure, and spotless. That calumnious press he defied, for the benefit of every virtuous freeman would beat with his own hand, and all must feel as he did. [Hear, hear, hear.] The present question affected the constitution of the country, and on its decision would depend whether they were to send down that constitution to their children, or yield a general liberality on one side, and popish priests and a demagogues on the other. He had always been of opinion that the decayed boroughs, which were at the same time in the hands of individuals and almost without constitution, should be disposed of; that those which gave undue influence to persons should be got rid of. It was contrary to such boroughs that the Catholic Relief Bill had been carried. If the people had had their due voice at that time, he was conscious that that measure would have been rejected. He knew that a reformed Parliament would never have suffered it. He would not, therefore, vote against a bill which would disfranchise or remodel of the very best and decayed boroughs, which gave such powers to a minority as rendered possible such another act. The franchise freely to the people (of both which they had instances) should be given to populous towns. To refuse this was unjust. (Hear.) Now where were the defects of the system: small towns with nomination, and large unrepresented places. How did the bill remedy these defects? In the first place, all absentee freeholders were to be disfranchised, while the freeholder, although living 500 miles from his freehold could vote. Was this to save the expense of elections? He would save all he could, but he would not disfranchise unjustly and vainly. He agreed with the additions to counties given by the bill, and he approved the enfranchisement of towns, but he could not go to the sweeping length of disfranchisement proposed in schedules A and B. Let those in schedule A have each a member, increase the constituency, and enfranchise large towns, and he would support that measure. To the erection into boroughs of Greenwich, Woolwich, Finsbury, Marylebone, &c. he had insuperable objections. The effect would be to bring London a scene of political excitement and distraction as Paris was. Already had the bare announcement caused this political excitement, and its fruits were stagnation of trade, and a paralysis of industry. Again the bill clause was in very shape objectionable, and with these gross defects he thought the committee could not improve the bill, and he would vote against the second reading. Then the universal suffrage clause was little better than the universal suffrage. He must oppose the further progress of the measure, for this one false step could never be retraced, and its result would be the throwing of all political power into the hands of the people. If he admitted that individuals held unconstitutional power, the country could at least recover it, but there was no stepping back if that power was given to the people. Once destroy the equilibrium of power in the state, and the certain effect would be the destruction of the machine. In Kent, nine-tenths of the people would prefer his plan to that of the bill. [Hear.] The present government were not entitled to public confidence, because they had abused the King's prerogative to forward this measure. Let the peers do their duty to their King, their country, and their God. Their own existence was at stake, and could be secured only by the rejection of this measure. Let them look at France—that case of ship in which all was embarked was arising there. He who deserted his duty would meet the reward of desecration. But the king the lords would prove themselves equal as well as temporal he appealed, when he called on them to exert their courage. Reform might be popular, but that of the bill, the whole bill, and nothing but the bill. He spoke the sentiments of the community, of propriety and intellect, when he said that they would not support a measure calculated to destroy the equilibrium of the state, and the best interests of the country. (Hear, hear.)

The first year of travelling on the Liverpool and Manchester railway has expired—during a part of the time, however, there was not full accommodation for either passengers or goods, but it seems that 416,000 persons have travelled its whole distance, and about 34,000 persons short distances—a total of 450,000—and whose fares reach £90,000 sig.—a prodigious sum. The exact sum produced by the carriage of goods is not ascertained, but it is estimated a £90,000. This is surely a convincing proof of the utility of Rail-roads, and the favour with which they are regarded by the community. In this country we have no doubt they will prove as profitable and popular. The Glasgow and Grankirk railway was formally opened at the end of September. The locomotive engines performed their journeys in capital style, conveying elegant carriages and coaches filled with passengers at the rate of twenty miles an hour. It presented another splendid triumph of science and art.—American paper.

Ships for Sale.—The Montreal Gazette of the 23d ult. announces that it is the intention of the British Government to dispose of the ships of war at the Dock Yard at Kingston. By public auction on the 12th of January next. They consist of the St. Lawrence, 102; Kingston, 56; Burlington, 45; and Montreal, 24; now moored off the Dock Yard at Kingston, and of the frames of the Wolfe and Canada, both on the stocks and pierced for 110 guns each.

Our friend Daniels, of the Camden Journal, thus notices a proposal to exchange. The Tennessee editor must be a sad dog.—H. Review.

The Editor of a Tennessee paper, which has been commended in several weeks, writes on the margin of the number last received.—Exchange, d—n you. "Thank you, as much as though we did, but we can't go it. Afraid you would denounce the devil.

THE BAHAMA ARGUS. PUBLISHED SEMI-WEEKLY IN NASSAU, N. P. Right Dollars per annum—In advance.



POETRY.

A PEEP INTO THE SANCTUM. Old Comical's face was grim with delight, And joy in his heart, took the place of fright, When he open'd the Budget, and found he might stay, In that dear little place, where he's wish'd far away; And then the great joy of his heart he proclaimed, When thus from his Sanctum, he loudly exclaimed: "I very much thank thee, my honour'd friend, Who, with the loss of his own, my honour did send. What lies they have told!—No matter: the same I will myself tell, 'till my great name: And now they'll look for their well-gotten pay, Which I promised to make, if here I should stay. Already I've paid some, others, not yet. But I'm glad I've rewarded my dear little pet, And gave him a chance to be kind to the black, And spend every day to examine their backs. The rest I'll cheat of the promise I made. For to turn out some more, I'm really afraid. There's that cunning and tricky, but useful Old Sly, I would give him a place, if the tough one would die; For a place, he has served me so long and so well, For a place, he consented such falsehoods to tell. I confess I was sorry to turn out friend Jack— All he did was to fog poor Quamina's back— And I'd never have known it, if that foolish old man, Had not come with his yarns, and spoil'd all my plan; For Jack, though cream colour'd, himself is no fool— He was what I wanted, with a fine silver cup. There's one I have paid with a fine silver cup. And another one's quarrel about bread I took up. I'm determined to have a Militia parade, 'Till I've shew all my foes, I'm not yet afraid. For Angus, & Bruin, I care not one jot, I soon will convince them, they shall go to pot. Some tickets I'll issue, for a very great Bull; And a House of Assembly, I straightaway will call. Now, if my made man will get my friends in, I'll over the Conchs, the day will yet win. I'll keep up my spirits, all yet may be well, And then to Lord G*****h, the good news I'll tell." IAGO.

ODE TO THE WRITER OF TWO PETITIONS.

Forbear thee, ****, such whining, pining, sighing, Because thy two consumptive Brains are dying, By thee begotten, how could they be strong, So very like thyself, in all their features, Unhappy, miserable, dismal creatures. We only wonder that they've lived so long, What but insanity could well expect Perfection from such radical defect? "A son's ear cannot make a purse of silk;" We cannot to a whole, convert the shrimp; What folly, too, to put out each poor lamp, To nurses yielding not one drop of milk. Then, prithee, for thy bantlings sigh no more, So worthless, for oblivion they are ripe; Peace to their slumbers, as their date is o'er, Peace to their ashes, as I light my pipe.

From the Jamaica Courier.

JAMAICA HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

THURSDAY, November 24.

The Clergy Bill was read the second time and committed generally.

Mr. Finlayson presented the following petition: JAMAICA, ss. To the Hon. Richard Barrett, Speaker, and other the Members of the Hon. House of Assembly, The humble Petition of the undersigned inhabitants of Westmoreland—

Sheweth—That your Petitioners have serious reason to apprehend, that the Slave Law, which has so lately been permitted to come into operation, is likely again to be disrupted by legislative enactments, at the suggestion of the Colonial Office.

That your Petitioners humbly pray your Hon. House will suffer them to hope that no further concessions will be granted on a Law of such vital importance to the interest of this Island.

And your Petitioners will ever pray. [Here follows 45 signatures.] Mr. Finlayson moved it should lie on the table.

Mr. Beaumont—Bring the individual alluded to, as disturbing legislative enactments of this Island, at the suggestion of the Colonial Office. I shall claim the right of saying a few words in relation to it.

By a more recent, which that petition is disposed of. Mr. Finlayson moved it should lie on the table.

Mr. Beaumont—Bring the individual alluded to, as disturbing legislative enactments of this Island, at the suggestion of the Colonial Office. I shall claim the right of saying a few words in relation to it.

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tary upon my motives, should take place when he laid it before the House. I had always imagined, that the courtesy due from one gentleman to another, and that the one should communicate to the other such a document as this, before it was presented. My Honourable Colleague having been many years Member of this House, and for no short time its Speaker, must know parliamentary decorum better than I do, and, therefore, I was wrong in expecting from him that courtesy I should never have thought of refusing him. Having heard of the existence of this document, I asked my hon. colleague for a perusal of it, and then, and not till then, it was handed to me by him. I do not complain of my constituents—I am their servant, and they have a right to censure my proceedings, but they might have spared the implied aspersion. They might have waited to see whether I had forgotten my promise to resign my seat whenever they disapproved of me as their representative. I came not to this House as to a sanctuary against the Deputy Marshal. I can leave a House a free agent, needing no protection against long-suffering creditors. I shall fulfil my promise to my constituents, no longer to be their member than, whilst I have their approval; I shall act, however, with perfect temper, I will owe to many of my constituents who have signed that petition, respect and attachment, and to all I owe fidelity; but though it is in their power to require me to cease to be their representative, they have no right to expect I shall advocate opinions contrary to my conviction. My opinion and their's do not accord, and therefore we must part, but not in anger. I shall proceed as rapidly with that portion of the public business which I have undertaken, and when I have completed it, I shall immediately vacate my seat. In ten or twelve days, at the farthest, I shall effect this purpose; and then my constituents will be enabled to elect a representative, who may defend their interests with more ability than myself, but certainly with not more honesty. I hope, too, the representative that the constituency of Westmoreland will return, may be more to the approbation of my honourable colleague, than I have been, and that the honourable gentleman may find it pleasant to be more courteous to his new colleague, than he has ever been to me. In vacating my seat, I shall have the proud recollection that I have never been actuated by one selfish purpose. I second the motion of my honourable colleague, that the petition do lie on the table.

Mr. Finlayson—I received the petition by post, to-day, and as I could not conceive that it, in any way, alluded to the hon. member, my colleague, I did not show it to him. I am satisfied, that the statements in the petition in no way allude to the hon. member, my colleague, and I am very much obliged to him for his assurance, that he has no wish that he should vacate his seat. Petition, on motion of Mr. Bernard, ordered to lie on the table.

From the Jamaica Courier, November 26.

Bahama Politics.—We received yesterday by the Blossom, Nassau papers to the 16th inst. from which we are sorry to observe, that Sir James Carmichael Smyth, continues to pursue the same system of misrule and misconduct which has rendered him very unpopular in the Bahamas, where every honest man's voice appears to be raised against him. This is particularly to be regretted at a moment like the present, when conciliation ought to be the order of the day in every one of his Majesty's colonies. Such conduct as the inhabitants of the Bahamas have to complain of, is enough to estrange them from the country to which they owe allegiance; and, however insignificant these Islands may appear in the eyes of Sir James C. Smyth, he ought to remember, that they are in the neighbourhood of a powerful nation, eagerly anxious to take possession of them, and then good-bye to our trade through the Gulf Stream.—Sir James, if he is a politician, should bear this in his recollection, as well as that a former Governor of the Bahamas, (Lord Dunmore) by similar conduct, estranged the sentiments of the whole of the inhabitants of Virginia, from the mother country, and ultimately drove that powerful government to rebel against the authority of the Parent state. It is true, that in small communities, differences of opinion frequently lead to the most unpleasant results; but when the Executive is so seriously opposed to the wishes of the inhabitants, the sooner a separation takes place the better, and it is quite evident, from the excitement which now exists in the Bahamas, that nothing else will restore harmony among the inhabitants. The Governor, in blending his functions as Executive with the Magisterial character, exhibits a lamentable degree of ignorance of the laws of his country!—Sir James has been sent to administer the Laws of the Bahamas as he found them, and not by "General Orders," to construe them as he pleases. His conduct, in the case of Mr. Anderson, shews a degree of ignorance of civil law, for which a school-boy ought to be whipped.—Mr. Anderson's character has been too long established to require any eulogium at our hands; but, in his Magisterial character, he has exhibited a degree of firmness worthy of imitation; and his dignified reply to Sir James will be read with interest. Three other Magistrates have resigned their commissions, as they disdained to act under a Governor who wishes to amend and improve the laws, to suit "his will and pleasure!"

THE LATE PAROCHIAL MEETINGS.

The John Bull and Morning Chronicle had copied from the Island papers, most of the resolutions which had been entered into at the late meetings, held throughout the Island. The former paper, in introducing the Treasury and St. Mary's resolutions, makes the following observations:—

"The most striking and awful signs of the present times, under the auspices of the Whig Mongrel Ministry, are the generality of popular discontent, and the simultaneousness of national degradation. England is insulted, laughed at, cajoled, and bullied, even while a vast army is maintained,

From the Jamaica Courier, November 30. The letter, of which the following is an extract, only reached us late last evening, and we hasten to lay it before our readers, as it fully corroborates the accounts which we have already published, of the arbitrary, tyrannical, and oppressive conduct, adopted by Sir James C. Smyth, towards Major Nicolls, of the 2d West India Regiment, who, we believe, was an officer in His Majesty's service, before the Governor of the Bahamas was born! For Sir James C. Smyth's conduct we cannot account, unless we believe the report that the lunar influence of the Bahamas, has more effect than usual upon weak minds, placed in situations of authority. Would such tyranny be tolerated in France, Spain, or even Russia? In Turkey no repetition would be allowed to take place, and however grievous it may be to the feelings of a brave man, to be placed in the situation of Major Nicolls, that an officer, placed in a situation, which no civilian would brook, treats his oppressor because he is his superior officer with the courtesy due to a gentleman. That Major Nicolls will complain to Lord Hill, there can be no doubt, and there can be as little doubt that justice will be awarded to him; and it is peculiarly gratifying to the writer to learn, that Major Nicolls knows so well the duty of a soldier—first to obey, and then manfully complain against those who oppress him.

We do not think it quite fair or characteristic of the Bahamians to take advantage of the situation in which the sudden orders of Sir James C. Smyth placed the Major, particularly as we know that he has property to a considerable amount in the island.

Extract of a Letter from Nassau, dated 20th Nov. 1831.

"Things here are hourly getting worse—I am afraid Sir James is getting flighty; 'tis melancholy to see the Major's return, and the enclosed newspapers, will give you some idea of the dreadful outrage committed against our old friend. It is generally believed here, by the most respectable part of the community, that the insult was premeditated, and that Judge Sandilands went drunk to the ball purposely. The people here, are so enraged against the Judge, that he is turned out of office, and not allowed to enter any house except Government house, where he is to be seen to have an asylum, for no one goes there that can of a possibility keep away, except Mr. ***** and the said Judge Sandilands. The Major has been bound over in heavy recognizance to prosecute, but it is thought that in order to save Sandilands from being exposed, the Governor will order the Attorney-General not to prosecute. Sir James went on board the Columbine yesterday, to second breakfast; his health was not even drunk, nor was it drunk at the supper given by the Naval Officers, who, to do them every justice, seem to be very attentive to him; but, in fact, he is so very much disliked, that even his friends are afraid to propose his health. Mr. ***** the Police Magistrate, Nesbit, and He is not asked to the private theatricals: indeed, he is as much turned out of society, as Sandilands. Your young friend Ensign Hill, along with almost all the gentlemen that were in the ball-room, declared Sandilands was drunk. Sir James sent for Hill, and it is said, threatened him, if he persisted in saying so, to stand the consequences. Hill replied, I assure you, Sir, he was drunk. This enraged Sir James so much, that he has issued orders, transporting Hill to Salt Key, where a corporal, and three or four men are stationed, but there no officer was ever sent before; and this, with a view to save Sandilands, and thus absolutely thwarting the ends of justice, to gratify his own vindictive feelings. When the inhabitants heard that the Major was ordered off, they issued writs against him, for some little accounts he owed, and this so enraged Sir James, that he sent for the Deputy-Marshal, and asked him if there were any more writs against him, and when he found the whole only amounted to £72 sent ward that he would pay the amount, and send the Major on board by force, and this, merely to prevent the prosecution against his friend, Sandilands, who has indicted the Major; besides, he dreads the consequences of Sandilands being prosecuted, as all the community are against him. The Police Magistrate has been going about, seeking for affidavits, in the old way; but he will not succeed; and, I am happy to state, that Capt. Hobson, of the R. N., and Lieut. Hill, of the 2nd West India Regiment, have made affidavits in the Major's favour. If such conduct can be tolerated, the army has come to a pretty pass; and, I thank Heaven, that I am only a Militia-man. I understand, Sir James has not sent any charges against the Major, nor has he been informed of any deviation from propriety, nor is he even under arrest!"