

A paper that has been sent to us, and which is ably drawn up, goes into an elaborate exposition of the causes which have produced this contrariety of feeling in the manner in which it operates; the tendency of the whole institutions of French origin to assist the sordid and oppressive policy of the race of French Canadians against those of British blood and the fatal results of which if unrestrained, the manoeuvres of the French faction must be productive. We have not room or time for more than a brief extract here and there from the document to which we have referred, and which comes in the form of a complaint from our brethren of British birth or lineage, inhabiting Montreal and its vicinity, praying protection at the hands of "all men of British or Irish descent" throughout the whole of the Canadian provinces, against the oppressions with which those of alien blood viz. the French party, have visited them or threaten to inflict upon them.

In the first place the moral and intellectual degradation of the "French majority," to which our British Canadian fellow-subjects ascribe so many of the grievances weighing upon them, is stated in the following passages:—

"The want of education among the French majority, and their consequent inability to form a correct judgment of the acts of their political leaders, have engendered most of our grievances. The extent of that ignorance may be collected from the facts, that within the last two years, in each of two Grand Juries of the Court of King's Bench, for the district of Montreal, selected under a provincial law from among the wealthiest inhabitants of the rural parishes, there was found but one person competent to write his name; and that Trustees of Schools are specially permitted, by statute, to affix their crosses to their school reports.

"The political information of that part of the Canadian population engaged in agricultural pursuits is therefore derived exclusively from the few educated individuals scattered among them, who speak the same language, and who possess the means of directing public opinion, exempted from those salutary checks which education alone can bestow.

"The persons who wield this mighty power are, generally speaking, Seigniors, Lawyers and Notaries, of French extraction, all of whom, as will be shown hereafter, have a direct and selfish interest in maintaining a system of feudal law, injurious to the country and bearing with peculiar severity on British interests.

The efforts of the British inhabitants to procure relief from the severities at which they murmur, have been described as covert attacks upon the ancient customs and instruction of the province. National prejudices have been inflamed, and French majority, misled by their chiefs, and ignorant of the real nature of the questions mooted, have arrayed themselves (say the complainants) against the minority, composed of Englishmen and their descendants. After enumerating a long catalogue of evils growing out of the establishment of feudal tenure, with all its incidents, exactions, and burdensome hindrances to agricultural improvement and commercial industry, and marking further the sordid motives which are at the bottom of Canadian "agitation" as well as of Irish, the complainants express themselves in these emphatic terms:—

"Such are the considerations which govern a party exercising paramount influence in the House of Assembly; and thus it is that British liberality, which conferred upon the French population the elements of free government, has been perverted by designing and interested individuals to the means of retaining laws adverse to national prosperity and to the spirit of free institutions."

The concluding member of the foregoing paragraph lays open a grand secret of the impolicy of the British Government, which in conferring a 'free' constitution upon Frenchmen, who would never have dreamed of asking such a boon, and were and still are utterly incapable of applying it to the wholesome purpose of correcting vicious institutions, have tied it only to the aggravation of their most odious vices, and so debased the gift of liberty itself into an instrument of animosity against the power which vouchsafed it, and of exclusion from its benefits of those for whose sake it was bestowed.

This just, honest, and patriotic majority, in its hatred or terror of a British population, has imposed a tax on emigrants from Great Britain, and on no other emigrants. In adjusting the basis of the elective body, they have divided counties according to their actual population, without advertent to those prospective changes which ought to be considered as of certain occurrence, and of the most important nature, in a country whose population has been produced and nourished by an annual influx of emigrants from the parent state.

The qualification for voting has been so arranged as to embrace French Canadians and exclude British:—

"The qualification of Magistrates, of militia officers, and of Jurors, is made to depend upon real estate, the possession of which, in properties of limited value, is generally confined to Canadians, whilst Britons, whose capitals are more commonly embarked in commercial and manufacturing pursuits, are virtually debarred from those offices and public trusts; thus confiding our liberties to the discretion of a body of men, the greater number of whom are devoid of education, and have been taught to regard Britons as their natural enemies."

The systematic proceedings of this alien majority of Canadians, exhibited by ingenious devices and on a variety of subjects, have had for their predominant spirit the perpetuating the despotism of the French over the British population, and the shutting out the authority of the British Crown over the inhabitants of Canada. The beauties and blessings of the philosophical "self-government" of Lower Canada are not badly illustrated in the following paragraphs, with which, for the present, we shall conclude, recommending His Majesty's Ministers to keep a strict watch over the Parliamentary organs of this audacious and disaffected band of anti-English hypocrites, who, like many others of the clique, have reform on the tongue, and in the heart rebellion. The grant of representative government to such men was, we repeat it, an enormous mistake.

"The provincial banks called into existence by acts of the provincial legislature, and by the terms of their charters, compelled annually to exhibit statements of their affairs, have been openly denounced by Mr. Papineau, late Speaker of the Assembly, and organ of the French party, from no other possible motive than a desire to inflict injury upon Commerce, and consequently on Britons, by whom the commerce of the country is chiefly conducted.

"The same individual has publicly recommended to the French party to abstain from all intercourse with Britons—an advice which has been acted upon to a considerable extent.

"Not satisfied with the powers with which they are constitutionally invested, the French party in the Assembly have been incessantly occupied in attempting to arrogate to themselves a supremacy in the concerns of the province.

"Their refusal to pass laws, except of temporary

duration, has involved in uncertainty important interests which would require to be regulated by permanent enactments.

"Their claim to pass in review the salaries of all public officers by an annual civil list, voted by them, would, if acceded to, lead to a disorganization of Government, and ultimately render the judges and other public functionaries the instruments of their political animosities.

"The Legislative Council, a body appointed by the Crown, and where alone British interests are fairly represented, they are endeavoring to replace by an Elective Council, which, returned by the same constituency, must from necessity, be in all respects a counterpart of the Assembly—a measure which would remove the barriers that defend us against French tyranny, and give to a majority hostile to British interests a power that would be employed to sever the connexion between Canada and the Empire."—London Times.

**AMERICAN SLAVES SEIZED AND DETAINED IN BERMUDEA.**—It will be recollected that, some time since, a vessel having on board a cargo of American slaves, was driven by stress of weather into Bermuda, and there detained, and the slaves set at liberty by the authorities of the island. During the late session of the North Carolina Legislature, very strong resolutions were passed, condemning the act and designating it as little else than legalized robbery. The same circumstance has again occurred, in the case of the brig Enterprise, of Washington, bound for Charleston, with several slaves on board, of which we give the particulars below; and lest the wrath of the Southern Legislature should wax ungovernable, and talk about "robbery," "redress," and so forth, we will inform them that the same conduct will be pursued in any of the British Islands—it being part of the National Code, (to use Canning's word,) that "slavery cannot exist wherever British rule extends,"—the mere circumstance of even an accidental contact with a British soil, constituting as effectual an abrogation of the state of slavery, and the consequent loss of property dependent upon that state, as if the slaves were physically transferred to another world, or sunk to the bottom of the sea. Curran's eulogized speech has immortalized, in burning eloquence, the apothegm, as regards the Island of Great Britain:—"I speak," we quote from memory, "in the spirit of the British Constitution, and in the letter of the British law, when I assert, that slavery cannot exist within these islands. No matter in what language, inimical to freedom, his dog may have been pronounced. No matter what complexion an Indian or an African sun may have burned upon him; no matter in what battle liberty may have been cloven down; no matter what rites he may have been devoted upon the altar of slavery—the moment he touches the sacred soil of Britain, the altar and the god sink together in the dust; his body swells beyond the measure of his chains, that fall from around him; his spirit walks abroad in its own majesty, and he stands—redeemed, regenerated and disenthralled by the irresistible genius of universal emancipation."

Tho' the British Colonies have but lately ceased to be slave holding communities—yet, ever since the abolition of the slave trade, they have ceased to be slave importing states, and the integrity of the soil, has ever since been as incapable of violation in this respect as that of any port in the British Isles—so that the above splendid eulogy is now true "of every spot on which the flag of England waves," and the owners of the slaves should apply to insurance offices for relief—as certainly as if their property had been "captured in war," or been lost "by the perils of the sea"—or should submit as patiently to their loss as if the slaves had all perished, to use the law phrase "by the visitation of God."

If any of our readers, (says the Journal of Commerce,) need to be informed how it comes to pass that cargoes of American slaves are every now and then driven in Bermuda, we can only tell them that a brisk trade in human flesh is carried on, by sea, between the northernmost slave-holding States and the Southernmost, slave labor being in much greater demand, and the price of slaves much higher in the latter than in the former. The principal mart for the collection and shipment of these slaves, is the District of Columbia; the government of which is vested exclusively in Congress. One of the last cargoes shipped from that District, consisting of 78 persons, was taken on board the brig Enterprise, of this port, Elliot Smith, Master, bound to Charleston. But either on account of the Jonah on board, or some other reason, the brig will not go to Charleston, and after being tossed about by winds and waves a sufficient length of time, put into Bermuda about the 20th ult. in distress. It immediately became known to the inhabitants, that there were slaves on board, and accordingly on the following day, at the instance of the "Friendly Society" of colored people of Bermuda, a writ of Habeas Corpus was served upon all the Slaves, commanding them to be brought before the Chief Justice and answer for themselves whether they would proceed with the vessel to her destined port and continue slaves, or remain at Bermuda and be free. The rest of the proceedings in the case will give in the language of the Bermuda Royal Gazette received at this office.

The Constable with the Writ went off to the vessel, (then lying about 300 yards from the shore) and requested to see the Master, into whose hand the Writ was delivered. He passed it to a gentleman on the deck of the vessel, and asked him to read it; who, when he had done so, observed that the document was not served in proper form, and on the constable declining to take it back, it was dropped into the bottom of the boat. The Constable immediately returned to the shore to report proceedings. In the interim the Master having landed, a Merchant of the town of Hamilton, who had witnessed the transaction, very kindly intimated to Smith, the necessity of his regaining possession of the writ, which he fortunately succeeded in doing. The Master then came into Court, and pleaded very hard, the compliance with the writ might be deferred till the following morning, but under existing and somewhat suspicious circumstances the Court was peremptory; accordingly about 9 o'clock, P. M., the whole of the Slaves were marshalled into Court; there were children without a single connexion with them, who had no doubt been torn from the very arms of their parents to gratify man, who is ever inventing means to gain filthy lucre; there were women too, with infants at the breast; and altogether, they presented a scene most degrading and revolting to Christianity. It has been asserted and we place implicit confidence in our informant, that an attempt was made to tamper with these unfortunate creatures before they left the brigantine, by promising them money if they would but say when questioned they had rather proceed with the vessel. But how little did the tempter reckon on human feeling, (though his anticipations were very great) where such strong self interest was concerned; he little thought that the heart of the poor and oppressed colored mortal could, with freedom in

prospect, beat with as anxious a joy as that of a white person for any other cause; the result proved how groundless were his expectations.

The first man called upon was desired to stand up, and turn himself towards His Honor the Chief Justice, who plainly, kindly, and very appropriately, addressed him to this effect:—"Your name is Geo. Hammett; you came in the brig Enterprise, as a slave, and it is my duty, (understanding that you were kept on board that vessel against your will) to inform you that in this country you are free,—free as any white person; and should it be your wish to remain, here, instead of proceeding to the Port whither you are bound, to be sold or held to service as a slave, you will be protected by the authorities here; and if you do decide to remain, you will become, as I observe, a free person, and will be punished for any breach or breaking of the laws of this colony; while, if you conduct yourself with propriety, sobriety, honesty and industry, you will meet with encouragement from the whole community—do you there wish to remain and be a free person, or continue your voyage to the vessel's destined port, and remain a Slave?"—It would be difficult to describe the sort of joy and wonderment that was depicted upon the poor fellow's countenance, unawed now by perhaps worse than frowns of his late presser, when he audibly and unhesitatingly declared he would rather remain and be a free man. The whole of them were acquainted singly with their condition, and each answered singly. When the poor little boys, some of whom were barely six years old, were kindly spoken to by the Attorney General, and said they had no relations whatever with them, it was most interesting and at the same melancholy scene. O! that other Nations would follow the glorious example of the British people in doing away the odious system of Slavery, which, no matter by what political party brought about, will in after ages be spoken of as one of the noblest acts a nation ever accomplished, and one that will redound to the immortal honor of a Christian people.

But to continue, the whole of the Slaves, save a woman and five children, by name Ridgely declared themselves more desirous of remaining, and being free, than proceeding in the vessel. The Chief Justice gave them a parting admonition, somewhat to this effect: that they were not to suppose because they were now free, they were not to labor, but on the contrary, endeavor to impress upon their mind the necessity of an industrious, sober, honest line of conduct, as by their good or evil course of life, they must stand or fall; and he trusted they would appreciate, as they ought to do, this unlooked for boon of freedom, which by Divine Providence had been granted to them. He also observed, that too much could be said in praise of the Friendly Society of colored people, who had thus generously exerted themselves to rescue so many fellow beings from cruel thralldom.

The Attorney General then moved that a Subscription be immediately entered into for the present emergencies of those now free persons, until, as he observed, "they began to feel their way, and had obtained employment." About 70 dollars was the amount collected.

The crowd assembled to welcome the landing of these people was immense; they were received with cheers. The Court Room was filled almost to suffocation. The feeling of commiseration exhibited throughout the proceeding, by the Bermudian people of color, was really gratifying. Those persons who had but a short time since been owners of Slaves, spoke with disgust and utter detestation of the Slavery System, and described it quite as much as any Anti-slavery Society in the Mother Country could have wished, so thorough a change has taken place of late years in the mind of the people of this Colony. The Court did not adjourn till near midnight, when shelter was afforded to the now liberated people, by the Worshipful William M Cox, Esq., in an unoccupied Store-Room, in the town of Hamilton. They have all been since, as we understand, provided for, either as domestic servants, or taken under the protection of the members of the Friendly Society, before named.—N. Y. Commercial Advertiser.

It is believed in London, that the adjustment for the American Question, will become the signal for the re-construction of the French Cabinet. But though they appear to be pretty confident that the present Cabinet will shortly undergo some modification, they are not equally positive as to the mode in which the predicted modification, will be effected. "The ambition of the present Minister of the Interior, points to nothing less than the general direction of the affairs of the Government, with the possession of the seals of the Foreign-Office and the Presidency of the Council. Should he succeed in reaching the pinnacle of power, his friend, M. Guizot, would probably become his successor at the Home Department.

"This arrangement is of course incompatible with the co-operation of Marshal Soult, for whom a strong preference is still supposed to exist in the mind of the King; but as the retirement of Marshal Soult was undoubtedly brought about by M. Thiers, they are not very likely to act harmoniously together in the same Administration. His Majesty will therefore have to decide between the contending claims of Parliamentary eloquence & personal predilection and if it were not premature to form or to express any opinion on the subject, it would not be difficult to infer the course which King Louis Philippe is likely to pursue."

"The elevation M. Thiers to the first rank in the Ministry would produce the retirement of Admiral de Rigny, who has in fact already been spoken of in our political circles as the future Ambassador to London, a post for which he is eminently qualified much more so than for that he has hitherto filled, in consequence of his acknowledged deficiency as a Parliamentary orator."

**MELANCHOLY SHIPWRECK AND LOSS OF LIFE.**—It is with grief we record the following particulars, obtained verbally from the guard and driver of the Port Patrick mail. The Lion, of Boston, a vessel only three years old, of considerable burthen, and with a crew of fifteen hands, left Liverpool on Friday the 30th ult. From the unfavorable state of the weather, she had much to encounter in passing through the Channel, and on Saturday, from continued storm and fog, the captain determined to stand for some port on the Irish coast. But either failing in this, or mistaking the light at Port Patrick for those of Donegal, or Dundee, the Lion was run to the Scottish side, passed the Port, and was driven on shore a good way below the Dunskey Castle, among those high and jagged rocks that line the whole coast from the point mentioned to the Mull of Galloway with the exception of the opening that leads to Port Logan. The said accident occurred at three o'clock on Sunday morning, and such was the fury of the breakers that spouted against the rocks, that in the course of three hours the vessel has become a total wreck. Indeed, the oldest person on the shore has no recollection of having seen the work of destruction completed so suddenly. And it is painful to add that eleven of the crew, including the captain, found

a watery grave. In the four saved, one of the mate, three are so much injured that they seem to be very carefully nursed, and may remain long on the invalid list. One of the survivors states that the captain and himself were attempting to reach the rocks from the same point at the same time; but that the former having missed his footing, fell between the vessel and the boat, disappeared and was never seen again. At the time the mail left Port Patrick, only one body has been cast ashore; but boxes and bales of cloth were floating about, and Capt. Linton, with a party under his command, were exerting themselves to the utmost to recover as much of the cargo as possible. The mate was taken to the 'Gordon Arms.'

Capt. Bursley was highly respected for his seamanship accomplishments, and his many estimable qualities. On Wednesday the American ship-master was present in this port, deeply feeling the loss that they have sustained in his death, paid a mark of respect to his memory, by wearing their colors at half-mast.—Dumfries Courier.

## BRITISH WHIG.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"An Upper Canadian's Petition to John Bull" on Monday.

KINGSTON, THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 26, 1835.

We have no later news from England.

A bill has been introduced into the House of Assembly to enable the inhabitants of every township in the province to select three youths to be candidates for admittance into the District Schools or Kings College of which candidates, eight shall be chosen in every county to be educated, and boarded at the District School, and one more at the King's College. This bill also provides for the public examination of the teachers of common schools, and that an additional sum be paid to them annually, according to their proficiency. We know not whether this bill will pass into a law, nor under whose tutelage it is, but we know that it is a useful measure, and it has our best wishes.

If the following be not a subject for public animadversion, we should like to know upon what matters the editor of a newspaper should write.

A crying scandal is brought upon a christian church through the following circumstances. A shoemaker of Kingston, a man of a family, who instead of mending the soles of his customers, has lately directed his attention to the cure of their souls, was preparing to preach his introductory or trial sermon at the Methodist Chapel a few nights ago, when the neighborhood of his home was disturbed by the outcry that his female servant had been self delivered of an infant, which she stoutly maintained was the offspring of a criminal intercourse between herself and her master, the said would be divine. As a matter of course, this serious charge was promptly denied by the reputed father, and an investigation into the whole affair took place by the heads of the society of which he was a member, which terminated by a majority's declaring the crime not proved against the accused, thus falsifying the girl's testimony, who it is said still persists in the same tale, and who ought to be the best judge of the real paternity of her infant.

We ask, are such transactions as these fit subjects for public notice? We think they are, and moreover think, that were they often exposed, the crime of hypocrisy would become less frequent in christian communities, to the great benefit of the truly and sincerely pious.

Our readers will find an uncommon document in our columns to-day no less than the report of the debate upon the Clergy Reserves in the Legislative Council. It is but rarely that these Honorable Gentlemen suffer the sun to shine upon their actions.

A Coroner's Inquest was held at the County Jail, on Wednesday, on the body of a debtor named Hugh M. Donogh who had been confined in prison for nearly two years. As the prisoner died from the effects of natural indisposition, accelerated perhaps from close confinement, the Jury under direction of the Coroner returned a verdict of natural death.

Some of the Jurymen were for coupling with the verdict a severe censure against the inhumanity of the detaining creditor.

Starved.

On Wednesday evening, at the residence of Dr. Barker, by the Ven'ble Archdeacon Stuart, Mr. James Williamson, of Kingston, to Miss Mary Harriett Phillips, sister to Mr. Barker.

## MARKET PRICE.

KINGSTON, THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 1835.

	s. d.	s. d.
Beef by the cwt.	15 0	20 0
do. at the stall per lb.	0 4	0 5
Mutton, by the Sheep, per lb.	0 0	0 3
do. at the stall, per lb.	0 3	0 4
Fresh Pork, per cwt.	22 6	25 0
Fresh Butter, per lb.	0 8	0 9
Tub, do. do.	0 0	0 8
Eggs, per doz.	0 10	1 0
American Flour, per brl.	0 0	0 0
Canada, do. do.	17 6	20 0
do. do. per cwt.	10 0	11 3
Wheat, per bushel.	3 0	3 3
Rye, do. do.	2 9	0 0
Corn, do. do.	2 8	0 0
Barley, do. do.	2 0	2 3
Oats, do. do.	1 10	2 6
Potatoes, do. do.	1 9	2 0
Hay, per ton.	30 0	0 0
Straw, per bundle.	0 13	0 0
Fire Wood, per cord.	8 0	0 0
Soap, per cwt.	0 4	0 4
Fowls couple.	1 0	1 6
Pork, mess, bb.	80 0	0 0
do. prime mess.	70 0	0 0

## FORWARDING.

THE OTTAWA & RIDEAU Forwarding Company have taken at this place, Drummond's Wharf and Store, together with the new Wharves and Stores now building by Mr. Kirkpatrick, which will be ready on the opening of the navigation; at which time the Company will be prepared to receive and forward, by good substantial decked Vessels, any Freight that may offer between this and Montreal, by way of the Rideau Canal, upon as favorable terms as can be taken from Prescott to Montreal. As the Company's Freight Barges will be towed by Steamers the whole distance, there can be no detention in forwarding Merchandise by this route, nor shall there be any delay to the Lake Steam Boats and Schooners, discharging freight on Company's wharves, intended for this line.

GEO. BRUSH, Agent.

Drummond's Wharf, }  
Kingston, March 23d, 1835. }  
The Patriot of Toronto, will insert the above for three months.

## FIVE DOLLARS REWARD.

WHOEVER will give information of the person or persons who pulled down or otherwise defaced the handbills of Mr. Linton, Auctioneer, on Thursday last, shall receive a reward of \$5 upon application at the Auction Room.

ALSO,

Whoever will give information of the person or persons who broke the windows of Mr. Linton's Auction Room on Saturday and Monday nights last, shall be entitled to a like reward.

JAMES LINTON

Kingston March 26th, 1835.

## CAUTION.

THIS is to forbid all persons purchasing a note given by me in favor of Jehiel Hawley or bearer, for the sum of ten pounds, dated, April, 1832, payable in January following as the said note has been paid by me in full. JAMES LAKE, 3rd. 4th Co. Ernestown, March 26th, 1835.