POMEROY'S TRUNK.

FINAL TERMINATION OF THIS EXTRAORDINARY AFFAIR BY THE SUICIDE OF THE GERMAN LACHNER.

The full particulars of the discovery of the trunk taken from the steamboat Utica while in the possession of Copp, the agent of Pomeroy & Co., and the arrest of Beriot Lachner the German, who had stolen it was published in our paper of yesterday and the day previous. Since his arrest he has been confined in one of the cells on the second tier of the City Prison, and has appeared very moody and disconsolate, holding no conversation with any one not even the keepers. After the arrest and imprisonment of his wife on Saturday, she communicated to the Mayor and Justice Taylor the fact that her husband had destroyed all the drafts, checks, unsigned bank notes, and other unavailable papers, by burning them in the stove of their apartment at 32 Rivington street. The House was immediately searched, and on scraping the chimney below the stove pipe, the cinders of the unsigned notes of the Union Bank amounting to $131,000 were also found, and also those of the papers. The engravings of the notes were easily traced on the cinders, as is apparent sometimes in common newspaper print. This confirmed her statement, and it is therefore apparent, that none of the checks or drafts have been used or intended for use.

The cell in which Lachner is confined was opened about 4 o'clock by Keeper Fallon of the prison, to admit some person who had been sent by the Mayor. It was immediately closed, and at about ten minutes before 5 o'clock, Justice Taylor, who had concluded the search of the premises in Rivington street, returned to the prison to make some enquiry from Lachner, when the cell door was opened, and to the horror and astonishment of the keeper and all present, the unfortunate man was found suspended by the neck by his handkerchief, which he had tied to a stick and placed across the foot of his bunk which was raised on one end. The elevation of the bunk in this position caused his feet to touch the mattrass, which he had laid under him, and his legs were slightly drawn up. Finding it impossible to untie the knot around his neck, it being a slip noose and drawn fast, keeper Fallon raised him up while the handkerchief was cut in twain and the body lowered down, when it was ascertained that life appeared extinct, although his breast and abdomen were quite warm. A deputy keeper was immediately despatched for a physician, and returned almost instantly with Dr. Sickles, of the corner of Centre and Leonard streets. He felt his pulse and pronounced him dead.

Coroner Rawson was then called in, when he attempted restore to respiration by the use of a bellows applied to one of the nostrils, causing the mouth and other nostril to be closed. A slight contraction of the eyes was apparent on the first puff of the bellows into the lungs, the air of which was forced back by gentle pressure of the hand on his breast, but respiration was not produced. A looking glass was placed over his mouth, but no moisture was apparent on it. The attempt at respiration was continued with the aid of Dr. Sweeny, who was called in, but proved ineffectual. He was then pronounced dead and the cell closed. By this time the Mayor had arrived, and under his direction the wife of the unfortunate man, to whom he had been but recently married, was privately removed from the prison without the awful tidings being communicated to her.

We have no doubt that if a warm bath had been in readiness, and skilful aid been called in at once, the life of this unfortunate man might have been restored, although it is uncertain how long he had been suspended before the cell was opened. He was a very stout, well made man, his chest very full and expansive, and his neck large and muscular. The handkerchief had been drawn so tight around his neck as to cause a ridge an inch in width, that was quite black when he was cut down.

No papers were found in his pockets giving any explanation of his crime or intended suicide.

One thing is certain, however, from this act—he had no accomplices in the offence for which he was arrested, or he never would have destroyed himself. Thus has ended the most singular affair, some peculiarities of which we shall refer to-morrow.—[New York Herald Extra, January, 14, 1844.]

OCCUPATION OF THE OREGON TERRITORY—BILL FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT.

We have before us a copy of the bill introduced into the House of Representatives on the 4th inst. by Mr. Hughes, for the organization of a territorial government in the Oregon Territory. As this subject is exciting a great degree of attention both in this country and in Europe, and as this bill, if passed in its present shape, will doubtless involve very important consequences, we present to our readers the following abstract of its provisions. It contains 42 clauses or sections, namely:—

1st—This clause proposes that from and after a day to be hereafter inserted, the country, within the following boundaries, shall constitute a Territory for the purposes of a temporary government, by the name of Oregon: All the territory lying *west* of the Missouri river, and *south* of the 49th degree of north latitude, and *east* of the Rocky Mountains, and *north* of the boundary line between the United States and Texas, and *also* over the territory comprising the Rocky Mountains, and the country between them and the Pacific ocean *south* of 54 degrees 49 min. north latitude and *north* of the 42d degree of north latitude.

2d—Provides for the appointment of a Governor of the said Territory, who shall reside west of the Rocky Mountains.

3d—Provides for the appointment of a Secretary, who shall also reside west of the Rocky Mountains.

4th—Defines the duties of the Secretary.

5th—Provides for the establishment of a court with common law and chancery jurisdictions.

6th—Provides for the adoption of the civil and criminal laws of the United States till the organization of the General Assembly within the territory.

7th—Appoints the Governor commander of the militia.

8th—Empowers the Governor to appoint magistrates and civil officers previous to the organization of the General Assembly.

9th—Directs that when the General Assembly is organized they shall, by an act thereof, define the powers and duties of magistrates and civil officers.

10th and 11th—Empowers the Governor to lay off the Territory into districts and beats for civil and military purposes.

12th—Directs that when there shall be 25,000 free white male inhabitants over 21 years of age, citizens of the United States, they shall have authority to elect representatives to the General Assembly.

13th to 33d—These clauses, inclusive, prescribe the mode of election, and annual census, the number of representatives (not over 50) in the General Assembly, which shall consist of a Legislative Council and a House of Representatives, and defines the duties of the Governor in connection therewith, and also those of the officers of the court to be established under clause 5.

34th—Governor to perform the duties of Superintendent of Indian affairs within the Territory. Salary left blank.

35th—Salaries of Judges and Secretary to be paid out of the United States Treasury.—Amount left blank.

36th—Members of Legislature to receive $3 per day for every day in session, and fifteen cents mileage.

37th—Authorizes and requires the President of the United States to cause to be erected, at suitable places, a line of stockade forts and blockhouses, not exceeding five in number, from some point on the Missouri river, on the most practicable route to the South Pass in the Rocky Mountains.

38th—Requires the President to cause fortifications to be erected at or near the mouth of the Columbia river.

39th, 40th and 41st—Authorizes the President to appoint two additional Indian agents, to superintend the interest with the United States with any Indian tribes west of any agency now established by law. Salary of agents left blank, as well as the appropriation to carry the provisions of this bill into effect.

It will be seen, from this synopsis, that this bill embraces a complete organization for the territorial government of the Oregon country. There is, however, one important omission in its provisions. Probably this omission may have been purposely made for the purpose of meeting the contingency in the provisions of the treaty which still exists between the United States and England with regard to the territory in question. By that treaty, neither country can encroach upon the present position in which the territory is held between them without giving the other notice of its intention for one year in advance. If this bill should be passed by Congress, the blanks we have specified be filled up, and the President directed to organize a government at once, it would be his duty, in execution of the treaty between this country and England, as well as in obedience to the public voice of the nation, to veto the bill, at least until the provisions of the treaty had been carried into effect as regards the twelve months' notice. We are persuaded, however, that this movement in the House, and the debate and movement in the Senate upon the same subject, have all a common origin—that is, they are supported for the purpose of producing political excitement in the Western States upon the subject of the Oregon territory. And we have not the slightest doubt that whenever the time comes when action will be necessary to be taken, that the western country from north to south will act as one man upon this point. They will claim the whole of that territory, in opposition to all the claims put forth by Great Britain, and they will, *vi et armis*, take possession of it, if they are not allowed to do so peaceably. Nor is it in the power of any European government to prevent such an event taking place sooner or later. The western States of this country are increasing with a rapidity far beyond all precedent. They now form a mighty nation of themselves. They are in possession of one of the greatest valleys in the universe; indeed, were it possible, we should have to go to another planet in this system to find such a country as the Valley of the Mississippi presents to the sun every day that he rises from the east. We hear of Hindostan and Persia, of Egypt and of China—but all these countries are trifles when compared with the magnificence, in every point of view, which presents itself in the Valley of the Mississippi. They can, within their own limits, contain a population equal to the whole population of the globe at this day. In the Congress of the United States they are now, for the first time, beginning to feel their power, and every additional decennial census will only increase that power in a geometrical proportion. Such being the case, we have no doubt that the whole of the country in question, whatever be the claims of the British government, will eventually be in possession of the people of the western States. It is as sure as that darkness follows the light.

In the mean time, all these movements in Congress, we are persuaded, have no immediate bearing upon this question, or are intended to throw impediments in the way of the negotiations which are about to be opened at Washington by Mr. Packenham from England. They have been [illegible] pose of presidential electioneering during the next summer than with any other object; and, in this point of view, we do not apprehend either difficulty or danger growing out of them.—*New York Herald.*

Provincial Extracts.

COUNTY OF HURON.

Several Candidates are, it is said, already in the field for the County of Huron. Henry Hyndman, Esquire, Sheriff of the District, has (we are told) addressed the Electors. In the last *Colonist* we find the following Address from that sterling compound of wit, courage and independence, Dr. Dunlop. We read his address with more than a passing interest. It is worthy of his clear head and vigorous pen. Other constituencies besides that of Huron would do well to read and profit by its advice. May the worthy writer live long to inculcate loyalty and hold up humbug to grinning scorn.—*Patriot.*

To the Freeholders of the District of Huron.

TORONTO, 25th December, 1843.

MY FRIENDS AND NEIGHBOURS:

I have been called upon by several influential members of your body, again to request the honor of your support, as your Representive in Parliament. When I last addressed you, I thought it necessary to explain to you my opinions on political subjects; but having now been three years your Representative, and during that period, your eye having been fixed upon my political conduct, you are perfectly aware of what my opinions are; and it would be an insult to your common sense, to say anything on the subject. If you are satisfied with what I have done, I shall feel happy again to serve you; if not, you will do a flagrant injustice to your country, your children and yourselves, if you re-elect me. In that case, you ought to seek out some one who will more perfectly represent your wishes, and whose talents will better secure the carrying them into effect.

It can be of little importance to this province at large, whether an individual so obscure as myself shall be returned to sit in the councils of his country, or not. I am old; and the time that I have on earth, to enjoy or to suffer, must in the course of nature, be but short. I am childless; and those inestimable blessings which we have received from our ancestors, and which have been sealed with their blood, I have none to whom to bequeath. But let me entreat you, as patriots and as men, at the present critical crisis of the colony, to rally round the Governor General and the constitution of the country; and whomsoever you may see fit to send to represent the District of Huron in Parliament—a District dear to me as being the first founder and settler of it—you will send an honest and an upright, and independent man. The colony is now at the losing or the winning; and whether you shall enjoy the freedom of the British Constitution—a freedom which gives all the liberty to the subject that is compatible with the rights of others—will depend on the choice of your Representatives for the ensuing Parliament. On the conduct of the people of Canada, at the coming election, depends the all important question, whether they shall continue to enjoy that rational freedom with which the Almighty has hitherto blessed them; or whether they shall writhe under that most intolerable of all tyrannies—a demagogic ruled rabble.

At the instance of many friends I esteem, to whose judgment I bow with respect; and from the conviction that if elected, I shall fearlessly, unswayed by high or low, do my duty according to the best mechanics of my ability,—I solicit your support. But that God may bless you, and enable you to select the man most fit to conduct the bark of the Constitution through this dangerous and hazardous period.

I remain,
My friends and Neighbours,
Your sincere Friend,
WILLIAM DUNLOP.

The following is the reply of His Excellency the Governor General to the (opposition) Talbot District Address.

To the Magistracy, Freeholders, and Inhabitants of the District of Talbot.

I receive your address, Gentlemen, with the sincere respect which I must always regard as due to the frank and courteous expression of the sentiments of any portion of the inhabitants of this Province; and I thank you for your assurance of your unfeigned loyalty to our beloved Sovereign, and of your consideration towards me.

The Gentlemen of the late Executive Council, who resigned their seats, did so because I could not accede to demands on their part, a compliance with which would have virtually surrendered into their hands the Prerogative of the Crown, which it is my duty to maintain unimpaired.

The principle of Responsible Government had no connection with that proceeding, unless that principle can be supposed to mean that the Executive Council is supreme, and the Governor a mere tool in the hands of a party.

You entirely misapprehend me if you suppose that I am unwilling to avail myself of the information and assistance of the Executive Council, which on the contrary I am always desirous of obtaining.

I found a plan of Responsible Government practically established in this Colony, and I have endeavoured to carry it on so as to conduce to the public benefit. I shall adhere to the same course; and trust that with the aid of the Executive Council, and the Provincial Legislature, and with moderation and good sense on all sides, it may prove successful; and tend to promote the content of the people, and the welfare, prosperity, and happiness of the Colony, as an integral portion of the British Empire.

NOVA SCOTIA.

The following letters complete the correspondence which has passed between His Excellency, Lord Falkland, Lieut. Governor of Nova Scotia, and the gentlemen who have seceded from his Council. The question at issue still remains as it stands until the meeting of the Assembly:—

HALIFAX, 27th December, 1843.

To His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, &c. &c. &c.

I have the honor of acknowledging the receipt of your Excellency's communication of the 25th instant, addressed to Messrs. Howe, McNab, and myself, on the subject of our resignation of seats in the Council to which your Excellency was pleased to elevate us, on assuming the Government of this Province.

When I tendered my resignation to your Excellency, I anticipated that I might be required to defend that step in the Assembly, and would have preferred a course more congenial to my feelings than a discussion in writing, not likely to produce benefit to those engaged it; but the course adopted by your Excellency compels me to offer respectfully a few observations.

The right of the Lieutenant Governor in the exercise of the Royal Prerogative to call to his Councils whomsoever he may deem eligible I have always admitted, and still recognize to the fullest extent; but if wielding that power any member of his Council is convinced that a policy is pursued by which the Government is weakened, his usefulness impaired or political reputation hazarded, I am of opinion that he possesses the constitutional privilege of withdrawing from responsibility which he has not been instrumental in creating and is unwilling to assume; more particularly as the Lieutenant Governor is now clothed with power to dismiss public officers, whether of honor or emolument, if the policy of the country demands it.

For some time previous to the departure of your Excellency's predecessor, a large portion of the people of this Colony had pressed for the administration of the government more in accordance with their interests and feelings; to whom were opposed a numerous and influential body whose opinions were expressed by a minority in the Assembly, and almost the first duty which devolved on your Excellency was to work out this principle, sanctioned by the Parent State, and approved by a majority of the Assembly, to accomplish which you formed a Council composed of persons enter[illegible] your application of a mixed government, and so long as the members, selected by your Excellency continued to cooperate harmoniously, confidence was reposed in that body, and measures submitted to the Assembly generally carried.

I was, as your Excellency is aware, opposed to the Dissolution of the Assembly. I could not perceive the urgent necessity of the measure, especially as that branch of the Legislature had invariably sustained your Excellency's Government, and signified by a vote, their confidence. I certainly was unconscious of the Council being openly divided on the question of Party Government, that never having been discussed to my knowledge in the Assembly or either Council, and I cannot believe that opinions have been elicited from the people on that subject by the recent elections. I admit that individuals differing publicly, and openly addressing the people on those differences have endeavoured to gain influence with particular constituencies by espousing or denouncing such a measure, but the general wish of the people is for a government created by a union of persons in whom they rely and who repose mutual confidence in each other.

When I understood from you Excellency that differences between members of your Executive were reconciled, that they had consented to act together, and that you intended to meet the convened, with the same Council that surrounded you at the dissolution of the late Assembly, of course, as I had kept aloof from the discussions which existed, and had avowed myself free from the influence of any individual, I could have no objection to continue a member of that body, and lend my aid to support your Excellency's Administration; but the change of your Excellency's determination influenced mine, and the appointment of a Gentleman, for whom personally I entertain great regard, evinced a line of policy so destructive to the vigour of your Excellency's Government in the Assembly that I felt unable to defend it to the satisfaction of myself or that body.

A Council formed on the principle of representing different political sentiments and interests existing in the Legislature with a view of producing concord between its branches, can only be useful so long as those interested have confidence in the justice of those who create it, and even the *appearance* of depressing one interest, or elevating another will unsettle the equilibrium so essential for its preservation, and produce discord instead of harmony.

The party forming a majority in the Assembly during Sir Colin Campbell's Administration, and an equality, if not majority in the late house, although they complained that they were not numerically represented at your Excellency's Council, yielded cordial support to your Government, which upon the principle adverted to, it would have been prudent to retain; yet the advisers of your Excellency, notwithstanding the public manifestation of difference of opinion on various subjects between leading members of your Government, and the reluctance evinced by Dr. Howe in renewing his adhesion to it, recommended the appointment of a gentleman to the Council, who, it is said, was conspicuous at the late election in the opposition to members of your Council.

I do not think any Government can remain powerful unless it possesses the confidence of the majority of the people, and their political sentiments I believe are liberal; giving so numerous a party cause for withdrawing support, I deem unadvised; and the course pursued, I apprehend, will produce that effect, and diminish the influence of those who approve of it; therefore I ought not to hold offices, the tenure of which I have always understood from your Excellency, rested on political support.

I feel that your Excellency is under the impression that a large majority of the Assembly will sustain the views of your Excellency's advisers; if so the removal from your Council of myself and others, will materially increase the power of your Government, and the mere circumstance of our withdrawal does not imply opposition to your Excellency's Administration, unless the measures of it are considered objectionable.

The experiment of wresting the prerogative of the Crown from the Queen's representative will not be attempted by any public man responsible to the people of Nova Scotia, who entertain a just estimate of constitutional Government, and prize that prerogative as highly as their most immediate privileges. I never wish to see it attacked, and will be found foremost in its defence if invaded, and I regret that the conscientious discharge of a public duty should have occasioned such an idea, or that reluctance to sustain and defend an appointment of a gentleman who has never sought the suffrages of the people, when others are compelled to ask renewed assurances of their confidence, which seemed to disregard the claims of many whose political support for years has been given to Government, and to some of whom such marks of distinction have been almost preffered, should subject me to such an imputation; but I must, notwithstanding, repeat what heretofore has been unquestioned, the constitutional right of retiring from a Government when unprepared and unwilling to defend its acts, the judicious exercise of which privilege will be tested by the increased or diminished confidence of the people.

I have the honor to be, your Excellency's obedient Servant,

JAMES B. UNIACKE.

Mr. Howe will be obliged by Messrs. English and Blackadar publishing the enclosed letter, the previous part of the correspondence having appeared in the Gazette.

HALIFAX, December 26, 1843.

MY LORD,

Having, at very heavy personal sacrifices, deemed it my duty to resign into your Lordship's hands the offices I held, I was prepared to defend the course I had taken, on the floor of the Assembly, and to meet the objections which might there be urged by your Excellency's advisers, in the presence of those who must ultimately decide on the wisdom and propriety of my conduct. This, I believe, is the constitutional mode of adjusting such points as are now at issue between us—a departure from it has elsewhere produced embarrassment, and may here complicate what seems to be a very simple question. Further correspondence, I fear, can now do no good, and must therefore offer a few observations upon the letter of the 25th inst. with which I have just been honored.

When I consented to take a seat in the Executive Council, the party with whom I acted formed a considerable majority in the Assembly, which majority was not weakened by the Elections of 1840. Those gentlemen, during the three years I sat in the Council, were represented at the Board by *two*, and for a short time, by *three* members who enjoyed their confidence. Their opponents, a minority in the House, had, during *all* this time, *six* Representatives in Council. This inequality, as your Lordship knows, produced much dissatisfaction among the Liberal party, notwithstanding which, by great exertion, a majority of them were rallied to give steady support to the Government. This was done, because their leaders were anxious to give to her Majesty's Government their best assistance in carrying out a new and advantageous system of administration in British America, and because they relied on the pledge given by Lord Sydenham, and subsequently by your Excellency, that, as opportunities offered, the inequality should be redressed. In the new House, as I judge of the returns, this party, without taking Mr. Uniacke and his friends into consideration, will constitute at least one half the members—they would have had twenty members, if Mr. Moser had not been appointed, but *two* out of *eight* at the Board. Thus, your Excellency must acknowledge, would have been a sufficiently slender "representation" of the "political sentiments and interests" of one large party "in the Legislature;" yet I was willing to have met the House, rather in deference to your wishes, and advice of friends, than with any confident hope that, without increase of influence in Council, the party to whom I have reference would have been satisfied. My argument to them had always been, "have patience—as opportunities offer justice will be done." While a disposition was shewn to do justice, as vacancies occurred, force was given to this argument.—When, however, your Excellency announced your intention to appoint Mr. Almon, thereby giving one half the House a representative of *two*, while the other was to have *seven*, I felt that the "policy" was "changed"—that justice was not to be done—that the only ground upon which I had induced my friends to support the Government, or could hope to induce them, was to be struck away, and I left in a position of sanctioning a policy by which a fair representation of their political sentiments and interests was to be indefinitely postponed. It was no wish, therefore, to wrest the prerogative from the Queen's Representative," which induced me to resign, but a desire to guard myself from a total loss of confidence and influence in the Assembly, by which I would be deprived of all power either to serve Her Majesty or benefit the Province. I respect the Queen's prerogative as much as I do the privileges of the people, and your Excellency knows, that during the three years I served you, I never counselled its surrender, or attempted to tamper with it in the slightest degree; but it would be a hard case, if the prerogative could be so strained as to compel public men to serve the Crown, at the price of their consistency, and the wreck of their reputations.

Assuming that Mr. Uniacke and his friends were to act with mine, then the case would be but little better, because we, who had good reason to count upon a majority of the Assembly, were to have *six* seats in the Council, while the minority, led by Mr. Johnson, were to have *five*, even without Mr. Almond, and, with him, they were to have *six*. Under these circumstances, it was a proof of our desire to avoid all embarrassment, that we consented to meet the House with a Council thus constituted, and it is not surprising that we should have opposed the appointment, which we believe could not upon your Lordship's own principles, be defended.

With respect to "party Government," your Lordship is well aware, that for many years prior to your arrival, party government existed here in its most offensive form—the minority having all the Executive influence, and the entire distribution of patronage, while the great body of the people had nothing but a representation of two to one in the Assembly. Your Lordship found the Executive and Legislative Councils, and almost all the public offices, filled from the minority, under this vicious party government, to which your present advisers cling as long as it could be sustained. They now profess to dislike a party government merely because her Majesty declares that the interests and opinions of the majority are hereafter to be respected, and yet being a minority, they seek to possess, in the Executive Council, an unvarying and clear ascendancy.

It is true that your Excellency has done a good deal, as opportunities offered, to win confidence and support by a fairer distribution of patronage; a few satisfactory appointments have been made to the Executive and Legislative Councils, but, at both Boards, and in public commissions and departments, the preponderance is still largely in favor of that party who support your present advisers. It is, perhaps, your Lordship's misfortune rather than your fault, that more could not be done in a short administration to redress this state of things, but you will at once perceive, that the only guarantee the people had, that it would ever be improved, was founded on the assurance that the party who have equal, if not superior claims, with those who have so long profited by this patronage, would fairly participate in those counsels which were to influence its distribution.

The desire for what is called "party Government" has arisen in this Province out of circumstances over which neither your Excellency nor myself have had much control. For several years your Lordship was called upon, almost weekly, by the friends and supporters of your present advisers; to dismiss from your Council the few Representatives which the majority of the Assembly had there—and latterly, others have claimed a party government, for two reasons, first, because they believed that those who gave your Lordship but hollow support, fared equally well with those who sustained the administration cheerfully—and, secondly, because circumstances, to which I need not refer, had created the impression that the Council was not only divided upon important public questions, but that some of its members entertained for each other no very friendly feelings.

I have never asked, and do not now desire, a party government formed of but one interest, to the exclusion of all others; but it does appear to me that it should be better to form a strong government, of gentlemen representing different interests and different sections of the country, but agreeing upon common principles and common measures, and secure of a good working majority in the Assembly, rather than to attempt, by any exercise of the prerogative, to bind men together who have but few private or public ties, and who cannot fail to weaken any government by the absence of that united personal influence upon society and public opinion, which the members of the Council should steadily exert, and without which they cannot expect support either in Parliament or throughout the country.

To Mr. Almon, personally, I have no objections—his elevation to the Legislative Council I should and have opposed; but your Lordship's opinion of his political position differs widely from mine. Mr. Almon supported the last administration, which was of a decidedly exclusive party character, and whatever he may have said, in the few brief public observations he made from the hustings, he voted and acted with the minority in this township against Mr. McNab, a member of the Government, and with those who have incessantly demanded a party government, based on a representative minority. Mr. Almon's party connexions and opinions were, then, sufficiently decided; but I had other objections, I did not think it wise, in making an appointment to the Executive Council, under the present system, to pass over the members of both branches of the Legislature, *of all parties*, in favor of a gentleman, who had never represented any constituency, and for no graver public necessity than his relationship to Mr. Johnston.

That I did consider that those members of Council who had opposed the dissolution, with their friends in the Assembly, were "in a position" to enable you to carry on your government without Mr. Johnston, your Lordship may remember—that I did not "insist on his dismissal" is proved by the fact, of my consenting to serve with him, though I never attempted to conceal from your Excellency that some change or modification of the Council might be forced upon the Executive by the Assembly. What might have been Mr. Johnston's opinion as to the propriety of retaining my services had he been confident of a majority, I cannot determine, but I would not much like to hold a seat by so frail tenure as the moderation of those by whom he is sustained. My belief is, that an erroneous impression has been made upon your lordship's mind both as to the composition of the new House, and the construction which will be placed upon the policy of the new appointment.—Those who differ with my friends and myself will soon have an opportunity of testing the correctness of our judgment and the accuracy of their own calculations. I thought and still think, it would have been better to have tried the temper of the new House, without making any appointment, or to have made one that would have brought to the Government some parliamentary support.

"The claim" which we "assert" in our "resignations," your Lordship will permit me to observe is simply this:—that we not only have the right but are bound to retire from the Council, when a course is adopted which we believe will damage our public characters, and shake the confidence of the Assembly in the Executive Government. I should be unworthy to advise your Excellency, if I did not back the sincerity of my opinions by the cheerful surrender of office, and your Excellency might reasonably complain, if I clung to what was only given to me as a guarantee for sincerity, and ought to be yielded up as a pledge of grave and deliberate conviction.

Retirement from the Council does not necessarily involve "opposition" to the Government. Personal or factious opposition to your Lordship I am incapable of. Whether or not your advisers are to meet with hostility, in the Assembly, will depend upon the wisdom of future arrangement, the soundness of their principles, and the value of the measures they bring down. I fear, from the course pursued, that a large body of the leading men in the Legislature will be driven into opposition; and it is more than probable that, unless those who have advised it, materially change the views by which they paralyzed the last Administration that they almost exclusively influenced, I shall be compelled, however reluctantly, to press upon them, at times, what may appear to be the opinions and interests of the country.

I have the honor to be, with great respect, your Lordship's most obedient, very humble servant,

JOSEPH HOWE.

To His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, &c. &c. &c.

HALIFAX, 28th December, 1843.

MY LORD,

I have the honour to acknowledge your Excellency's letter of the 25th inst., addressed also to Mr. Uniacke and Mr Howe, and think it due to your Lordship and myself to state, that although Mr. Almon's appointment to the Executive Council was the immediate cause of my resignation, it was not the only circumstance which influenced me in coming to that conclusion.

Having been a member of the Council under His Excellency Sir Colin Campbell, your Lordship will not fail to remember that you urged upon me the necessity of obtaining a seat in the House of Assembly, and that I consented to stand for the Township in order to retain my place in the Government and protect the interests of the party to which I have always been attached. That party in the Assembly and elsewhere uniformly and cordially sustained your Excellency's Administration, although they were far from satisfied with *their share* of Power in the Executive Council, and murmured against many of the appointments which were conferred on their opponents. My belief is that their personal regard for your Lordship, and an assurance of your disposition to do them justice, reconciled them to some acts which were distasteful to them, and would otherwise have been rejected in the Assembly.

Several Members voted for the Qualification Bill chiefly from this feeling, and trusted to time to allay the discontent which was excited by that measure in many of the Counties.

The majority of the last House therefore were entitled in my opinion to the protection and favour of Government; and, having in some cases sustained it at the risk of their popularity, they had reason to complain of the suddenness of the dissolution and particular time at which it was determined on. So decisive a step adopted by your Lordship notwithstanding the remonstrance of all the Members of your Council who represented the feelings and wishes of the Liberal party, seemed to indicate a change of policy, and would have justified us, perhaps, in then resigning.

After the Elections I was willing, and, as your Lordship is aware, induced Mr. Howe also to remain in Council, and meet the Assembly, but I had no expectation when I did this, that the Liberal party were to be weakened and the opposition party proportionably strengthened by a new appointment.

Mr. Almon's opinion on a party Council I have learned for the first time from your Lordship's letter, having never before heard of the declaration your Lordship refers to.

Mr. Almon's political opinions were, however, sufficiently manifested at the Halifax Election, and although I would not be understood as entertaining any personal objection to him, I am convinced that his personal elevation will be far from acceptable, and would have rendered it impossible to reconcile the Liberal Party in the Assembly to a Council so constructed. I may, however, be mistaken in my judgment, and if your Lordship's present advisers can command a majority in the House, it will approve the wisdom of your Lordship's choice. But whatever the event may be I will not regret the step I have taken, because I feel that I could not otherwise have preserved the confidence of the people which I hitherto enjoyed, nor of those with whom I have generally acted in the Assembly.

I beg to renew to your Lordship, the assurances of my personal respect, and have the honor to be,

Your Lordship's most obt servant,
JAMES McNAB.

His Excellency the Lieut. Governor, &c.

BRITISH WHIG.

"Opifer per Orbem Dicor."

KINGSTON, FRIDAY, JANUARY 19, 1844.

COUNTRY LETTERS RECEIVED SINCE OUR LAST.

A. C. S., Frankford; J. M'M., Montreal; J. S., Washington.

We observe that that extremely moderate, and highly consistent journal, the *Montreal Herald*, exhibits great wrath at some remarks which we made respecting the Union and the Seat of Government. The rabid wrath of the *Herald* comes with a peculiarly good grace from a print which for many years past has been distinguished above all other papers in Canada for the extreme violence and animosity which it has ever displayed towards its political opponents; and the antics which it displays in its anger are highly amusing. As a man in the first stage of intoxication fancies all his neighbors in the same state, so the *Herald*, which has notoriously been long subject to political mania, has taken a fancy into his addled pate that all his contemporaries are laboring under the same disease. As it is an innocent delusion, it would be cruel to undeceive him.

The *Montreal Herald*, by its insane violence, was one of the chief causes of the late unnatural rebellion in the lower Province, and well do we remember its dolorous yells to us for aid, and supplication to the people of Upper Canada to consent to that Union, which it now tells us we dare not dissolve. Time will show. In his valour he doubtless imagines that he and his 20,000 British in Montreal, are more than a match for the hundreds of thousands of French Canadians surrounding them, in the only District in which martial law was proclaimed. In 1837 and '38 he was of a very different opinion, if we could judge by his piteous appeals to us for assistance.

The prospect of metropolitan greatness constantly floating in the disordered imagination of the *Herald*, appears to have elevated him quite into the clouds, and he looks down upon the poor unfortunate Kingstonians with supreme contempt. In fact he crows over us most unmercifully. But he had better not hollow before he is out of the wood. He may find that our prophecy of the Repeal of the Union may turn out correct, and dissipate all his golden dreams into thin air. The anticipated rise in the value of newspaper property in Montreal, and the consequent increase of his salary, has evidently turned the brains of the poor editor of the *Herald*, who, perched in his lofty garret, looks down with supreme contempt on the *British Whig*. We can easily afford to endure the abuse of twenty such as he of the *Herald*, who certainly displays more wrath than wit. We hope that the poor creature will shortly amuse his unfortunate readers by another ebullition of spleen.

Correspondence of the British Whig.

WASHINGTON, 12th January, 1844.

MY DEAR WHIG,—

In my last "Jonathan," I think I left off in the midst of description of some sort; but of the where, or the what, I do not exactly remember. The necessary connection however, is of little consequence; I shall leap at once in *medias res*, any where just as it happens. I write you in the House of Representatives, while a Western member is speaking to his constituents for re-election. They live one thousand miles distant it is true, but what of that; he will take care to have his speech printed, and sent to them in packages,—at the cost of the nation. Instead of being the Hall of Legislation, this is emphatically the Hall of speech-making. The petty debates of your Provincial Parliament dwindle in comparison, into absolute small talk. From all parts of the Union congregate here men representing opposing interests, and disguise the matter as we may—the Union is but a bundle of such. The West, the mighty West seeks to establish the Mississippi—that father of Waters, as the outlet to its vast and encreasing productions, and grasps at national appropriations to this end. The East struggles to maintain New York and Boston as the commercial emporiums; and force the industrial products of the former through the old channels thereto. The South desires free trade, that it may furnish Europe, and especially Great Britain, with its staples—break down the manufactures of the North; and supply it with those of foreign nations, which it gets in exchange for its Cotton, Tobacco and Rice, the product of slave labor. Canada, or England via Canada, is on the other hand, labouring by a system of internal improvements, connecting the northern lakes with the St. Lawrence to divest the trade of a large section of the West, bordering thereon in that direction. Thus we have internal, and external influences at work; and all struggling for ascendency—the supremacy of sectional, or divided interest, and the talk and the argument to which it gives rise, is, as Thos. Carlyle says, enough, not only to make the angels, but the very Jackasses weep! What will be the upshot of it all—twenty-five years will probably develope. Perhaps before that time, we shall be able to discern more closely the *road's end*. Meantime, by way of illustration, let me give you an example or two from the congressional doings here of the past week; and as you Connucks are wonderfully ignorant of Yankee politics, they may serve to instruct some of the numerous readers of the Whig.

The South wakefully jealous of the most distant interference with its slavish institutions on the part of the North, interdicted for the last ten years by a rule of the House, the reception of all Petitions having the slightest reference to slavery or its abolition. The liberal party, however, although pretending to acknowledge the constitutional right of the Slave States alone to legislate on this question, insisted that they had a right to petition Congress, as the local legislature of this district, for its abolition therein. The Slave-holding portion of the House of Representatives, looked upon—to use vulgar political parlance—petitions of this kind, as but the entering wedge to to the total overthrow of their whole system; and strenuously resisted their introduction within its Halls. This policy was looked upon as a flagrant infringement of one of the constitutional and inalienable prerogatives of the people, to wit, that of petition. The opposition of the south, gave encreased life, and more active energy to the abolitionists of the North. Every device which ingenuity could conjure up, was in consequence had recourse to, in order to dodge round the obnoxious rule which prohibited their petitions on this subject; ex-President Adams, has been their Hercules and champion during the whole of the struggle. Hitherto, the politicians of the North have coalesced with those of the South, to kick out of door all and every thing connected with abolition. But this policy will no longer do. The evil has been augmented by it ten fold; and the Liberty party vote of last year, showed such a shameful encrease that their eyes have been opened to the necessity of rescinding the rule alluded to, and receiving at least the petitions of the people, however strongly they might reject their prayers. For some years past, the abolitionists have taken political action—organised as a political party—to carry out their views, and the politicians have become awake to the fact, that the party who continues to cling to the old policy will be lost. It will endanger their supremacy, if not defeat their candidate for the Presidency. Hence, the very same men, who were forward to suppress even abolition meetings five or six years ago, are now equally prompt to advocate the right of the people to petition Congress, or any, and every subject, which they may deem a grievance; and they, and not Congress, are the best and only Judges of what that may be. So great indeed, has been the revolution in this respect, that some Southern members take the same ground. They see the necessity of risking the consequences, or suffering very speedily overwhelming political defeat. There are men however, who look upon such a concession, as only a step to a great end; and they resolutely adhere to their old position. They neither flinch nor flag in their opposition; and are willing not only to risk their party ascendency, but the integrity of the Union itself, than yield an inch. Nay more, they look upon the reception of such petitions as the certain fore-runner of its dissolution. They affect, to be able to sustain their institutions by their own strong arm: and rather than consent to abolish slavery in this district, they would voluntarily dissolve the Compact. For my part, I do not believe, slavery could be maintained a single year, were the South separated from the North.

You will observe, that all this, only brings into play and action, the discordant elements existing at the formation of the constitution, and compromised by that instrument. The South and the North, are essentially antagonistic. They feel it; and hence the opposite policy they pursue to strengthen themselves. The revolution in Texas was got up by the former, and the question of its annexation is now being agitated to that end. They also endeavour to stave off, the settlement of the Oregon, because its acquisition would strengthen the hands of the North, and widen its influence. Iowa and Wisconsin will soon be new states, encreasing the already preponderating interest of the North, and the necessity is felt of possessing Texas to counterbalance it. Since the formation of the Government, the South has had the chief management of national affairs—Presidents, Ambassadors, and nearly every high officer in the nation, have been centre fled by it; but the sceptre must soon depart from Judah, unless they extend their empire of slavery beyond the Rio Grand; and probably embrace within its limits the CALIFORNIAS. Of course England will not permit this, unless forced to do so by her own internal dissensions; but the South will risk a war to ac[illegible] power, would be most destructive to her industrial pursuits; because on England she relies for the purchase of nearly all her staple productions; but of what she esteems two evils, she will choose what she supposes, the least. She will risk it to maintain her influence at home, and widen and spread her institutions southward. Her success in securing Texas in an other affair. *But one thing you may rest assured, there are intrigues at this moment on foot to attain them.* I emphasise these words, that the knowing may discover my latent meaning; for I dare not be more explicit.

I have no wish to speculate however on this subject at present. Suffice it to say, that I think the South, notwithstanding the last advice from Washington, would be careless about preserving the present Union, were the result of certain movements now in process to extend her Slave empire in the direction she wishes, successful.—Failing in this, she knows full well, that Slavery will be overthrown, and the North would gladly leave her to look after the Negroes and Indians herself. A more extended limit Southward she must have, as a mart for her Slaves; or give them up. The North and West, might form a Federal union with the British Provinces. This will startle your loyalty, my dear Whig, but believe me, such an event is in the womb of time. I for one, neither think it impossible, nor far distant. Besides, only look at the map, and you will see, that God so ordained it. The St. Lawrence, once England has finished for us your Great Works, will be the natural outlet, of the products of all the States bordering on the great Northern Lakes. This will make them one in interest with Canada; as it will bind them to become one in a national point of view. The idea of the perpetuity of COLONIAL DEPENDENCE with such mighty sources of greatness within yourself; is after all, but loyalty run mad. With the simple and honest, it is in fact, but the misdirection of the sentiment of nationality—with the dishonest—it is merely used