

under the impression of becoming subjects, and in order to receive that bounty and favour of the government, who invited them.

They were now, however, called on to decide a question which involved the interests of all such persons in this Province. He confessed he was shaken yesterday, but on cool reflection, and hearing the able arguments on the other side, he was confirmed in his former opinions. When he carried the extent to which this point would be carried, and that all Americans coming into this Province after the treaty of '63 would be considered aliens he was satisfied—and no act of the provincial Legislature could justify such an opinion. Some acts of the British Parliament were quoted as authorities on this subject; but he did not consider any of these Statutes in force in this Province, when they were not recognized by any provincial act, otherwise the British Statutes would have more force than our own provincial acts. The doctrine of allegiance, as laid down by persons opposed to Mr. Bidwell, if adopted would reduce this country to a shocking state. In England, a poor man would not be allowed to go from one parish to another; in other countries a man would expatriate himself by going out of a certain state; but he was sensible the British government differed very much from the strictness which was endeavoured to be attached to this question, in this country. Other nations have naturalized British subjects, there was nothing more common; the Americans all came to this Province on the good faith of this government, and to tell them now that they must for ever remain aliens, would be a mockery on legislation. The people of the United States have been encouraged into this country by the government and were on 7th Oct. 30, 1783, which statute was confirmed by our own provincial act, and they were allowed to bring a certain quantity of goods and baggage into the province duty free, and the magistrates were authorized by the Governor to administer the oath of allegiance to them. He [Mr. Bidwell] had consulted several books on this occasion where the subject was ably handled, and he could not be induced to think that Americans after residing seven years in Canada, and taking the oath of allegiance, would be considered as aliens in the custom house in England, on their going there. How, he asked, did the Executive government treat them here?—They were invited to this Province and many of them as U. E. Loyalists, received grants of land free of fees—others received grants, and were charged fees as other subjects. It was evident that the British government considered them subjects, as General Lee, and many other revolutionary officers, received their half pay in the United States, from the British government after the treaty.

An hon. gentleman had said, that if Mr. Bidwell were a British subject, Madison, Jefferson, and Monroe, might come in, claim the privileges of British subjects, and represent the People of this Province in Parliament. He [Mr. W.] was satisfied that those gentlemen could renew their allegiance if they thought proper; the door was left open to all, from the President down to the common ex-culturer; but the officers of state never could without repealing the act of last Session, take their seats as members in the house. That act was passed to exclude such men as Jefferson, &c. from a seat in parliament, and it obtained the unanimous support of those members who opposed the claim of Mr. Bidwell. He would ask those gentlemen what was the object they had in view, when they supported a bill to prevent the high officers of the United States representing the people of this Province? Did they not, by the passing of that act, recognize the principle, that before its passing, they were upon conforming with the provisions of our Statutes, qualified to represent the people of this Province?—Surely, if the hon. gentlemen were satisfied at the time of the passing of that act, that such men were not entitled to renew their allegiance, they would not act so absurd as to pass a bill to prevent their representing the people! He [Mr. W.] saw the necessity of passing that bill; it passed both houses unanimously; and so satisfied were the Executive of this Province, of the wisdom manifested by both houses in the passing of that bill, that his Excellency, upon the prorogation of Parliament thanked us particularly for that one act.

Could the house for a moment imagine, that the Executive of Upper Canada, who engrossed and commanded all the wisdom and legal information in the Province, would advise his Excellency to thank, in his speech from the Throne, both houses of Parliament for the passing of a bill, unless they saw a necessity for its enactment? He was sure they would not; and he was surprised to see the gentlemen who advocated last session, the necessity of that act, deny, by their arguments, the policy of it this session?—As the names of Madison, &c. had been mentioned, he would notice a man, who, in a revolutionary point of view, stood far above them—a man, whose whole life was devoted to anarchy and rebellion; a man who delighted to war against those heavenly institutions by which the affections of man became cemented to a Saviour and to each other—he meant no less a personage than the celebrated Tom Paine; a British subject, and he might add, the very fountain of Rebellion in America.

This man was not only abhorred by the British Government, but by the majority of the British Nation—the sworn enemy to Kings, he frequently encountered; as a leader, the troops of his Sovereign; yet, this man, with all his vices, returned to England long after the United States had been declared independent, and was received and acknowledged by the Government as a British subject. During his residence in England he carried on business as a British subject; he was prosecuted as a British subject, and outlawed as a British subject; and how, he asked, could they make him an outlaw if he were not a British subject? Surely, if a man came to war against those principles which allowed the privileges of a British subject, this house could not deny that right to Mr. Bidwell. The law that protected the rights of the one, must protect the rights of the other; and until an act was passed by this Parliament, or the Parliament of Great Britain, disqualifying persons born in the United States from being eligible to a seat in this House, Mr. Bidwell's right could not be questioned.

It would be doing extreme injustice to declare these people aliens now, who were always looked on as natural subjects, both by

the Government at home and in this country. He was therefore of opinion that Mr. Bidwell the candidate, was entitled to all the rights and privileges of a British subject in this Colony.

Mr. Hutton said there stood a Resolution on the Journals, that if the allegations of the petition of Robert Perry, Jun. and others, were true, they were sufficient to make void the election; he thought these allegations were sufficiently proved, and that the election should be made void. He found great difficulty in making up his mind on the question of allegiance, as the opinions on that subject were so various; however he would vote for the Resolutions by the hon. member for Norfolk, as it was admitted on all sides that this house was not competent to decide the question of allegiance, and if they decided against Mr. Bidwell in this case, they would disturb the feelings of thousands of the inhabitants of this Province; this they should avoid doing if possible. After the ratification of the treaty of '63, many persons came from the United States and enjoyed all the rights and privileges of subjects; and even held situations under the government of this country; and for this house to say now, that all such persons were aliens, would in his mind be attended with great difficulty, and should not be done.

Mr. Walsh said the hon. member for Kingston was willing to receive them as subjects, if they had declared their intentions of becoming such in a proper time. He was of opinion that if any distinction of time was to be made, it was at the late war. He thought that if certificates had been produced that the candidate was a subject of the U. States during the late war, the returning officer would be justified in refusing him; but this was not the case with Mr. Bidwell, as he came to this province 10 years before the late war, therefore he must be considered a natural subject. He would suppose for instance, that Mr. Bidwell purchased lands after coming to this province, received a grant of them from this Government, that another person would attempt to drive him from his lands by force, and that he appealed to this house; would this house sanction such conduct? certainly not. Then if Mr. Bidwell was competent to hold lands, he thought it a mere bugbear to say he was not eligible to a seat in this house. All persons coming into this province previous to the late war were considered as natural subjects after complying with the provisions of the law, and it was not till after the war that a contrary impression seemed to exist, with respect to persons coming in. He would therefore vote for the resolutions in favor of Mr. Bidwell.

Messrs. Jones and Baldwin's resolutions were put and negatived.

Mr. Nichol, seconded by Mr. Randall, moved—

1st. That it be resolved, that the allegations set forth in the Petition of Robert Perry, Jun. and others, freeholders of the incorporated Counties of Lenox and Addington, touching the election of Matthew Clark, Esq. to represent the said incorporated Counties in the House of Assembly of this Province, have been proved, and that the said election is void.—Carried.

2d. Resolved, that the conduct of the Returning Officer in refusing to allow Marshall S. Bidwell, Esq. to be polled at the said election, was an illegal assumption of power, in violation of his duty, and a high breach of the privileges of this House, as well as an infringement of the rights of the whole body of Electors of this Province.—Carried.

3d. That it is the opinion of this House that in so doing the Returning Officer did not act corruptly or maliciously, but from misconception of his duty, and that this house does not see any necessity for censuring the said Returning Officer for his conduct at the said election.—Carried.

4th. That the said Marshall S. Bidwell in so far as allegiance is concerned, was and is eligible to a seat in this House.—Carried.

KINGSTON BANK.

Mr. J. Jones of the select committee on the Kingston Bank, submitted a report and a bill appointing Commissioners to take charge of the funds of that establishment, and legalizing the bonds of the Cashier and Teller of the Bank, with other provisions for relieving the sufferers by that Institution.

Mr. Jones said in bringing forward this bill he would make a few observations. In examining transactions of the Kingston Bank, a scene of fraud and iniquity was developed before the committee, exceeding any thing that ever came within his knowledge. There was an abstraction of the funds of the Bank, by which the public have been defrauded; and the committee were perfectly satisfied, that this fraud was committed by the President, the Cashier, or the Teller, although they could not determine which of them was guilty of it. The committee therefore drew up the present bill vesting the funds of the bank in Commissioners, and legalizing the bonds of the Cashier and Teller, which were at present illegal. The President of the Bank got possession of the notes of the Bank to the amount of £3000, by which means he compelled the Directors to erase his name, as bill, from the bond of the Cashier, for £10,000. It would be seen by every person that the conduct of the President was most disgraceful, and that the Cashier and Teller acted, at all events, most inconsiderately—and the Directors were blameable for not looking more closely into their statements, which were false, and their accounts incorrect, having been put down at mere haphazard for several months—we have seen and heard a great deal about the money Institutions in the United States; but under all circumstances, the transactions of the Kingston Bank, as developed by the persons concerned in it, were the most disgraceful that ever came before him, from any country. He then moved that this bill be read a second time on Monday.

Mr. Nichol agreed with every part of the bill, except the last clause, which went to prevent the establishment of such institutions without a charter.—He saw no necessity for adding this clause, as the Kingston Bank and all such institutions were nuisances at common law, and might be indicted as such.

Mr. J. Jones explained—he thought that clause necessary above any other, as it would preserve the country from such institutions in future, notwithstanding that he considered them illegal, and that they might be indicted by a jury as nuisances.

The report was then read, which stated that the Committee had proceeded to such consideration, and having taken the examination of witnesses, that it appears to the Committee that the said Institution is illegal, and declared to be a nuisance by the act of the Parliament of Great Britain, passed in the fourteenth year of George 3d, chap. 37,

and that therefore its notes and bills are void, and only recoverable under the provisions of the said act.—That in consequence of the difficulty of recovering small sums under the said act, it became almost nugatory—your Committee would therefore recommend the enactment of a law by which relief may be afforded to the creditors of the said Institution.

The immediate failure of the said Bank appears to your Committee to have been evidently occasioned by the criminal conduct of its President, Cashier, and Teller, in various acts detailed in the said examination.—The conduct of the Directors of the said Institution is also reprehensible, inasmuch as no enquiry appears to have been made by them into the state of the Bank.

(To be continued.)

COMMUNICATIONS.

For the U. C. Herald.

"In all disputes, 'tis found in practice,
"No argument like matter of fact is."

In my last communication, the public attention was pointed to that clause of the Kingston Bank Act, in which "all safe conveyance or transfer whatsoever of the private property or estates of the said Benjamin Whitney," (and other persons enumerated therein) made, before the passing of the act, in contemplation of the failure of the Bank, were declared "to be fraudulent and void, and of no effect." In addition to the cases already stated, I will at present simply mention three other instances of fair, lawful, meritorious conveyances, destroyed by the indiscriminating stroke of this detestable clause of the statute.

One of the enumerated officers of the Bank sold and conveyed a farm of land, situated in the township of Kingston, for the price of seven hundred and fifty pounds, paid in Kingston Bank Bills. This transfer was made with a knowledge and contemplation of the failure of the Bank, being after that event and before the date of the act; and although it was bona fide and valid at the time, it has become void and of no effect, and even "fraudulent," by force of this execrable clause of the statute. The purchaser, a stranger of good character, and respectable connections, who has gone to Scotland for his family, will, upon his return, have the mortification to find that for the crime of confiding in the laws of this Province for the protection and security of private property, he is sentenced to the loss of his farm, of which he had a good indisputable title, and for which he has paid three thousand dollars; and that, in the mean time, he has been condemned without a hearing, and stigmatized, by a public statute, as guilty of a fraud.

Another of the officers of the Bank, a year or two ago, bargained and sold a small but valuable tract of land in the vicinity of the town of Kingston. The price was paid, and the purchaser went into possession, and has erected an elegant dwelling house and other improvements on the premises; but the deed of transfer, although ready for execution, happened not to be in fact executed, until after the failure of the Bank, &c. is therefore rendered void and of no effect; and the owner thereby robbed of not only the price of his land, but also the value of his labor and money expended on it.

Some of the Directors, to secure the large sums in which they had imprudently become indebted to the Bank, gave mortgages of real estate, to the amount of seven or eight thousand pounds. The mortgages were drawn and executed under the immediate advice and direction of the law officer of the Bank, and were doubtless given and taken in good faith. A mortgage, being a conditional sale and conveyance of property, is within the comprehensive terms of "all safe conveyance or transfer whatsoever," which include conditional as well as absolute conveyances. These mortgages were executed soon after the failure of the Bank and consequently in a full view and contemplation of that well known fact; and being made "heretofore," that is before the passing of the act, they are directly and unequivocally declared "to be fraudulent and void and of no effect."

The disappointed stockholders and other creditors of the insolvent Bank will form their own opinions, whether this legislative discharge of solid securities to such an amount, let it be the result of either ignorance or design, is excusable or not, in these slippery times, when a general want of confidence is the order of the day, and the transmission of titles, and rights, and the consequent insecurity of property and insolvency of debtors are unalloyed produced by the example and effect of the act itself. They will also judge for themselves, whom they ought to consider responsible for it.

These plain matters of fact, and every step taken in the execution of the law, will, more satisfactorily than any theoretic reasoning, show the character of an act, which merits severer terms of reprobation, than my respect for the legislature, who were imprudently led to adopt it, will permit me to express. I am still of the opinion, heretofore expressed, that, if the legislature had been duly apprized of the real facts of the case, this impudent Blue-law would never have disgraced our Provincial Statute Book.

A disinterested Spectator.

For the U. C. Herald.

The acting but unavowed Editor of the Chronicle labours to insinuate, although he has not the hardihood to assert it, that he is not one of its heretofore professed Editors. It is easy to conceive why he wishes to conceal his responsibility for the former editorial conduct of the paper. But his characteristic figures and quotations from school books, and the general character of his style afford irrefragable evidence of identity, and no mere imitation.

This *alter-ego* Editor has, in the Chronicle of yesterday, poured out another vial of his wrath, not directed, as his last week's discharge was, against the readers of the Herald, indiscriminately, but aimed more immediately at those who dislike his favourite Bank Act, or doubt the infallibility of the Commissioners, of whom he is generally understood to be one. He says, "we willingly leave the law to be abused by every man who chooses; and as for the Commissioners, they may take care of themselves, which we suppose they are able to do." The Bank law does give the Commissioners such dangerous powers and means and temptations, that it is indeed liable to be abused, and there is a general apprehension that it will accordingly be abused, and prostituted to selfish purposes, especially of favoritism and speculation; but, for very obvious reasons, oth-

er people in general are not so willing, as this editorial Commissioner seems to be, to acquiesce in such abuse of it. I perfectly agree with him, that the Commissioners will take good care of themselves, and that they are enabled to do so; but I cannot join him in thinking this a matter of exultation; nor did I expect so free a disclosure of his feelings & expectations on the subject. This precious confession indicates either a settled contempt for public opinion, or a vain belief that he is effectually concealed from public view, behind the back of his foreman.

TOM TICKLER.

May 24th, 1833.

To Doctor Baldwin.

"Coelum non animam mutant, qui trans mare currunt...."

SIR,

I am not perfectly aware if I am strictly correct in thus addressing you as a member of our Parliament, but of this I am perfectly convinced, that it is with my very best feelings as an Irish Emigrant, as an Irish Gentleman that I do, in the name of my countrymen, of any consideration, in this Province, return you my most sincere and hearty thanks, for your well timed motion as to the business of Emigration, and the situation of the Emigrants in Upper Canada, moved by you on the 8th day of March last, and seconded by Mr. Hamilton, of Wentworth.

It is your best endeavours for rendering more comfortable the lives, and situation of tens of thousands of Families, now already within the compass of the mighty forests of this grand and happy portion of North America.

It is your best endeavours for rendering more easy access to ground for our hundreds of thousands of inhabitants from the United Kingdom, yet to arrive, and let me ask what is it that induces those persons and their families to seek across the Atlantic? They come to attain in this country, what Horace invites his friend to obtain at Ulbric—

"Id, quod petis, est hic, est Ulbric, æquis tibi non deficiat annis."

We all come to better ourselves here; (as the Irishman says) the poor man to gain comfort, the man of business competency; and pray have we not men of gentlemanly feelings and education in Quebec, Montreal, and elsewhere, in York, Kingston, &c. &c. who aim at elegance in living also?

Yours,
SAM. CHEARNLEY.

MISCELLANEOUS.

LOSS OF THE ALERT PACKET.

The following painfully interesting particulars of this melancholy catastrophe, are derived from the oral relation of one of the cabin passengers, a respectable tradesman in Liverpool, who was fortunately saved. The account thus drawn up was published in the Liverpool Courier. It is a mournful detail.

"We sailed from the Pigeon-house, Dublin, at half past eight o'clock on Tuesday evening. There were, as nearly as I can judge, about fifteen passengers, including myself in the cabin. Among them were three ladies, one of whom had an infant about eleven months old with her. The appearance of the cabin passengers was most respectable. We had a favourable breeze throughout the night, and made the Welsh coast early in the morning. About ten o'clock however, (as I have since understood) the breeze died away, and the packet was driven by the force of the current, towards the West Maise Rock. Captain Morgan immediately ordered the boat ahead, in full confidence that it would succeed in towing the packet out of danger, but in this he was unhappily disappointed, the unfortunate vessel being driven, by the strength of the tide, on the fatal rock. It was about half past ten o'clock when she struck. I was in my berth, in the cabin, at the moment. The shock though not very violent, was sufficient to arouse me. I started up instantly, and found the passengers in the cabin in a state of confusion and alarm. I immediately ran upon the deck, and found it in a similar state of confusion. I returned to the cabin, and discovered, with feelings not to be described, that the water had, in the mean time, made its way into it. The confusion and alarm among the passengers below increased with the increasing danger. The ladies were screaming with affright, and even the gentlemen were alarmed at the imminency of the danger which threatened them. I immediately quitted the scene of horror, and making my way up the deck, ran up the shrouds. As my way up the shrouds, I was obliged to make my way towards the water had risen to a considerable height in the hold, and baffled every exertion which was made by the passengers and such of the crew as remained on board to bail it out. I now saw, for the first time, the boat ahead, a short distance from the extremity of the bowsprit, with several of the packet's crew in it. I came down the shrouds, and making my way towards the bowsprit, endeavoured to get into the boat. I was, however, prevented by some of the persons belonging to the packet, who, who stated, that if I were allowed to get into the boat, there would be a general rush towards it, by which means it would run the risk of being swamped, and thus cut off the only chance of any person being saved. Determined, however, to renew the attempt at a favourable moment, I remained partially concealed in the fore part of the vessel. Espying my opportunity when the boat was a yard or two from the extremity of the bowsprit, and when I had seen the last seaman get into it, I ran along the bowsprit, but, in attempting to get into the boat, I unfortunately fell into the sea. I was taken up, by one of the crew who pulled me into the boat, being the first passenger who was received into it. At this moment several other passengers made their way along the bowsprit to endeavour to get into the boat, some of whom succeeded in gaining it, whilst others fell into the water and were drowned. The boat still remained at a short distance from the bowsprit of the vessel, those already on board deeming it unsafe to come too near, for fear of a rush being made, by the crowd left on board the packet, to get in. The captain next made an attempt to reach the boat, by swimming towards it. A rope was thrown to ward him by one of his crew, which he was so fortunate as to grasp, and was pulled into the boat. As soon as he caught hold of the rope, several unfortunate passengers, who had plunged into the sea at the same moment as the Captain, were observed to cling to his body, in the hope of saving themselves by that means; but such was the crowded state of the boat, which was already almost level with the water, that the crew dared not venture to take any more into it, and they were seen to severally swim in the water. When we rowed finally off, we left four or five unfortunate men struggling in the water, with no chance of escape from an untimely grave. A boy of about fourteen years of age, and who, I understood, was the cabin boy, was about this time observed to lash himself to a piece of wood, and throw himself into the sea, in the hopes of supporting himself till

the arrival of succour. Just as it was determined to quit the sinking vessel, a man got hold of the boat, to which he clung, earnestly entreating the crew to take him in; but they, fearing the boat might be sunk by the additional weight on one side, lashed him to its side. In this state he remained nearly half an hour; when the people, finding that he retarded the boat's way through the water (the tide then running strongly against them) deemed it expedient, at all risks, to take him in, which they happily accomplished. During the time we were rowing towards the shore, which was attended with great difficulty and fatigue, I kept my eye fixed upon the packet, which was driving fast off the land. Of the precise moment at which she disappeared I cannot speak with certainty; but she must, I think, have sunk about three quarters of an hour after we quitted her, and whilst we were in the act of landing, for when I looked for her from the shore, I could not discover her, and a man who met us when we landed, stated, that he had seen her go down. No sooner had the crew landed the passengers who were in a state of great exhaustion from having been in the water, than they heroically resolved, although the boat was nearly full of water, to return with all expedition to the spot where the packet was supposed to have sunk. They were accordingly, and succeeded in rescuing three individuals, who had sustained themselves in the water by some buoyant article from a watery grave.

"It were in vain to attempt to describe the scene of horror which the deck of the packet exhibited, when we were on the point of quitting forever the multitude which crowded it. It was a scene which would have melted the hardest heart. For some time before that moment all hope of preservation had been abandoned; and the unfortunate crew were waiting, in awful suspense, the dreadful death which stared them in the face. Many of them had fallen on their knees, and were imploring the mercy of Heaven; whilst others were sending up the most pious and heart rending screams, which drew tears even from those in the boat who had some chance of escape.

There were many women on board, with young children, to whom they clung with a mother's fondness in this scene of death; the frantic shrieks extorted by their maternal agony, were most piercing, and were heard long after the boat had quitted the sinking wreck. A poor soldier had his whole family on board, consisting of his wife and several children, and was observed endeavouring to afford them that consolation in that awful situation which was denied to himself. In short, it was a scene of horror which has seldom been equalled, and such as I trust I shall never behold again."

This most dreadful shipwreck appears from the information which we have been able to gather, to have been caused by the packet being kept close in with the Welsh coast. If a vessel can be run between the Sherreries and the main land, the passage is not understood, thereby considerably shortened. This, it is supposed, was the object of the Captain of the Alert; but the breeze being unexpectedly away, and a strong current running in the direction of the breakers, a loss of human life ensued, the bare mention of which makes one shudder. The Captain, we hear, is like a man distracted, fearing the catastrophe will be imputed to neglect or carelessness on his part. The gentleman from whom we received the substance of the preceding narrative, was not on deck when the vessel was drifting towards the rocks; but he said that it was his individual opinion, as well as the opinion of the survivors with whom he conversed, that no blame was imputable to the Captain.

Twenty-nine of the bodies have been found, and taken to Holyhead churchyard. Additional particulars of the loss of the Alert Packet, from Dublin for Liverpool, copied from the Liverpool Mercury.

A Mr. McKenzie, it appears, a cabin passenger, (native of Scotland) was, after being two hours in the water, picked up from a crate. It is believed that three other persons endeavoured to save themselves in the same way, but the crate could only support one, and that one was saved. Amongst those who perished was a respected and valued townsman, Mr. Martindale. The Dublin Patriot numbers amongst the lost, Mr. Richard Hore, of College, a gentleman much respected. The same paper adds the name of another passenger, Lieut. Col. Kelly, of Natgrove, county Galway, who was discovered by some papers found on his person. The following were the names of the cabin passengers booked—Mr. Benneson, Batchellors-walk; Mr. Lindsey, from Gresson's Hotel; Mr. Martindale, Old Leicester Hotel; Mr. Urquhart, Gresham's Hotel; Mr. Thomas, Paradise-row; Mr. Cote, Hillman Hotel; Miss Lyons, Grafton-street; Mr. Coulbourn, Coldblowlane. We lament to add, many others went; indeed it will be some time before any accurate list can be obtained, the steward being among the drowned. The Patriot estimates the number on board, passengers and crew, at 129.

MY DOG AND MY SHADOW.

In a solitary excursion through a wood, Major Halden fell in with a man, whose singular appearance attracted his attention. He was sitting on the ground at the foot of a beach tree, eating a crust of bread, which he shared bit by bit with his dog. His dress betrayed the utmost poverty, but his countenance exhibited every symptom of cheerfulness. The Major saluted him as he rode past, and the man pulled off his hat.

Do you see? said he to his dog, laughing.

What could the dog see? asked the Major, whose curiosity was much excited by the man's happy looks.

The stranger laughed. Aye, said the man, in a humorous tone, I wish to make the dog take notice of your civility; it is so uncommon for a well-dressed person on horseback, and an officer besides, to lift his hat or cap to a tattered foot passenger like me.

Who are you then? said the Major to the man, looking at him attentively.

A child of fortune.

A child of fortune! You mistake, without doubt; for your coat seems to speak otherwise.

My coat is in the right, sir. But, as I can joke in this coat—the only one I have,—it is of as much value to me as a new one, even if it had a star upon it.

If what you say does not proceed from a disordered mind, you are in the right countryman.

A disordered mind, or a light mind, is sometimes the gift of God, at least for