

to regard with distrust and horror every proposition, "good, bad, or indifferent," which happens to meet with the smallest possible favour from our adversaries. We have never known a good thing to come from that direction; and this is our firm conviction, that that which might seem to be good in other hands loses its virtue in theirs.

If Mr. Maclean had stated that we "opposed" the plan of abolishing the Legislative Council and giving the Crown the nomination of a limited number of members of the House of Assembly, which is again the burthen of his song in the last *Islander*—and which he has borrowed from the recent history of Newfoundland—his statement would have been perfectly true, and this controversy would not have arisen. We can discover no points of attraction in a system which is neither British nor Republican, and which was near producing a rebellion amongst the Newfoundlanders.

#### ILLEGAL APPROPRIATIONS OF THE PUBLIC MONEY.

EVER since the House of Assembly passed censure on the Executive Council in March last, it has been, almost constantly, by its own acts, justifying the censure. Its days being numbered, it seems to be the desire of the Council to fill to overflowing its cup of infamy.

The last bad act we have to chronicle—and we hope it is the last—is the authority given to the Governor to issue Warrants on the Treasury in payment of official salaries. These Warrants, it is said, are to be paid out of the produce of the Tenpenny Acts, and that the Colonial Minister has given his sanction for such payments. If this statement be true, Lord Grey could never have been made aware of the fact, that the duties levied under the Tenpenny Acts are included in the Revenue Law of last Session, and are, of course, barred against appropriation with the other revenues, under certain sections of that law. Legislation becomes a farce when Acts of the Assembly can thus be set aside, with or without the authority of the Secretary of State. But the authority of the Secretary of State, obtained, no doubt, as it has been in this instance, in utter ignorance of the facts, will not shield the guilty parties in this Colony from the consequences of their guilt. If the Treasurer will pay those Warrants, or endorse them for payment, he must do so at his own personal risk, and at that of his securities. If Mr. Smith is aware of his true position, those Warrants will be valueless as so much waste paper: if he is not, the House of Assembly will be equally culpable should it neglect to take steps to enforce the penalty of one thousand pounds.

Shortly after the prorogation of the Legislature the Government busied itself mightily in forwarding circulars to the gentlemen engaged in the public offices, informing them that they could not receive their salaries as usual, because the House of Assembly had made no appropriation for them. Now we find that the want of an appropriation is no bar to the payment of salaries—that, in short, the Government is self-convicted of deceit and falsehood. A short time ago the Government lamented that it had not ten shillings to pay for the erection of a Telegraph Staff, and the Jails were to be thrown open for the escape of felons and

murderers, because there was no provision for their maintenance, though money was not then required for that purpose. It appears now to be the opinion of the Government, that public officers can and shall be paid for their services!

After this we may not be surprised if the Executive usurp all the powers of the two Branches of the Legislature.

#### AMERICAN SLAVERY. A V.

The following is an extract from a very able speech delivered in the House of Representatives, by the Hon. Thaddeus Stephens of Pennsylvania:—

"In my judgment not only the Slave States but the General Government, recognising and aiding as it does slavery, is a despotism. I do not use the word declamatory, but strictly legal signification. That the Government is despotic where the rulers govern subjects by their own mere will—by decrees and laws emanating from their uncontrolled will, in the enactment and extension of which the ruled have no voice, and under which they have no right except at the will of the rulers. Despotism does not depend upon the number of the rulers or the number of the subjects. It may have one ruler or many. Rome was a despotism under Nero; so she was under the Triumvirate. Athens was a despotism under her thirty tyrants, under her four hundred tyrants, under her three thousand tyrants. It has been generally observed that despotism increases in severity with the number of despots; the responsibility is more divided, and the claims more numerous. The triumvirs each demanded his victims. The smaller the number of subjects in proportion to the tyrants the more cruel the oppression, because the less danger from rebellion. In this government the free white citizens are the rulers—the sovereigns as we delight to be called. All others are subjects. There are perhaps some sixteen or seventeen millions of sovereigns, and some four millions of subjects.

The rulers and the ruled are of all colors from the clear white of Caucasian tribes to the swarthy Ethiopian. The former, by courtesy, are called white; the latter, black. In this Government, the subject has no rights, social, political, or personal. He has no voice in the laws which govern him. He can hold no property. His very wife and children are not his. His labour is another's. He, and all that appertains to him, are the absolute property of his rulers. He is governed, bought, sold, punished, executed, by laws to which he never gave his assent, and by rulers which he never chose. He is not a serf merely, with half the rights of men, like the subjects of despotic Russia, but a naked slave, stripped of every right which God and Nature gave him, and which the high spirit of our Revolution declared inalienable—which he himself could not surrender, and which man could not take away from him. Is he not, then, the subject of despotic sway?

The Slaves of Athens and Rome were free, in comparison. They had some rights—could acquire some property—could choose their own masters, and purchase their own freedom; and when free, could rise in social and political life. The Slaves of America, then, lie under the most absolute and grinding despotism that the world ever saw. But who are the despots? The rulers of the country—the sovereign people? Not merely the Slaveholder who cracks the lash; he is but the instrument of despotism. That despotism is the Government of the Slave States, and the United States, consisting of all its rulers—all the free citizens. Do not look upon this as a paradox, because you and I and the sixteen millions of rulers are free. The rulers of every despotism are free. Nicholas of Russia is free. The grand Sultan of Turkey is free. The Butcher of Austria is free. Augustus, Anthony, and Lepidus, were free while they drenched Rome in blood. The Thirty Tyrants, the Four Hundred, the Three Thousand, were free while they bound their countrymen in chains. You and I and the sixteen millions are

free, while we fasten iron chains and rivet manacles on four millions of our fellow men, tear their wives and children from them, separate them, sell them, and doom them to perpetual, eternal bondage. Are we not, then, despots—despots such as history will brand, and God abhors?

But we are told that it is none of our business; that Southern Slavery is a matter between the Slaveholders and their own consciences. I trust it may be so decided by impartial history, that unerring Judge, that we may not be branded with that great stigma, and that grievous burden may not weigh upon our souls. But could we hope for that justification, if now, when we have the power to prevent it, we should permit this evil to spread over thousands of square leagues now free, and settle upon unborn millions? Sir, for myself, I should look upon any Northern man, enlightened by a Northern education, who would directly or indirectly, by omission or commission, permit it to spread one rood over God's free earth, as a traitor to liberty and a recreant to his God.

#### PICNIC PARTY, SHEDIAC.

On Tuesday Morning last as soon as it was ascertained that the Steamer *Rose* from Charlottetown had appeared off the harbour, every preparation was made by the Ladies and Gentlemen of Shediac for the reception of the numerous party on board; the flags of the different vessels British, American, German, and Norwegian, were hoisted, salutes were fired, and every possible demonstration resorted to, in order to give them a cordial and hearty welcome. At 6 o'clock a discharge from the *Rose* announced that her anchor was apeak, and soon after she was perceived steaming direct for the Basin; in passing the shipping, the yard's were manned and three hearty cheers were given and responded to. As she approached the public landing, the excellent Brass Band on board enlivened the scene with several merry strains; and after landing, amid a profusion of congratulations, the party was escorted to partake of the good cheer which was so amply prepared and provided. Toward noon Coaches, Waggon, and other vehicles, were gratuitously supplied, and a few hours were spent in visiting, gossiping, and other friendly chit chat. A sumptuous collation was served upon the green parterre, and after each had partaken of the good things of this life, and pledged and quaffed in innocent mirth and jollity, the assembly retired to an adjoining mead, there to trip "the light fantastic toe" on nature's flowery carpet. Numerous select groups were formed and Waltzes, Quadrilles, Polkas, Contra dances, &c., were heeled and toed in rapid succession, and with such earnestness and good will that every man, woman and child seemed as if touched with a magic wand, as all were in motion.—Dancing continued until 5 o'clock, when another repast was partaken of; after which, songs, glees, duets, &c., were sung by several of the company; and as the hour for embarkation approached, it was thought advisable to bring the festivities of the day to a close. Accompanied by a numerous train of friends and acquaintances, the Ladies and Gentlemen comprising the party were escorted to the wharf, and after many an affectionate adieu, and promise of renewed friendship, were handed into the Boats, and in a few moments were on board of the *Rose*, the well known favourite air, "Should auld acquaintance be forgot," was immediately struck up, which was cheered and echoed from the shore. Shortly after, the Steamer got under way, and was soon out of sight; each party pleased with the day's recreation, and naturally resolved, soon again to meet.

Such innocent pastimes tend in a great measure to drown gloom and dispel lassitude, and wearisomeness. For our own part, we were highly delighted, as every thing passed off quietly and with good humour. Report states that the *Rose* is to pay us a visit every alternate week.—Should this be the case, it will afford us an opportunity of returning the compliment.

Yours, Sir, ONE OF THE PARTY.  
Shediac, July 24, 1850.

PATENT ARTIFICIAL SLATE, AND UNCHANGEABLE METALLIC PAINTS.—We have much pleasure in directing the attention of our readers to an advertisement, in another column, of John Ross, Esq., of Truro, Nova Scotia, the Patentee of the above excellent material for the preservation of both wood and metals. Mr. Ross has expended large sums of money in developing the Mineral Resources of Colchester, and we are heartily glad that this discovery promises to prove alike valuable and remunerating. To ship-owners, in particular, the Metallic Paints are destined to be of prime value. The certificates of parties who have experimented with these Paints afford ample ground for the strongest recommendation of so valuable an ingredient as the Patentee advertises. We hope to have some certificates from the ship-owners of our own Port soon, to add to the growing celebrity of this newly-discovered compound. Of its value as a fire-proof ingredient, we learn that too much cannot be said; and so soon as its virtues have been a little more tested and generally known, its effects will be to reduce premiums of Insurance wherever it is used. It has lately been proposed in England to erect a species of cheap tombstone for the poorer classes, to be composed of a plastic earth called *terra colla*. Upon these erections, it is further proposed, by moveable types, to effect cheap inscriptions, previously to the clay being baked. The idea has struck us that a Juniper slab, well coated with this slate, to be coloured as required, might constitute a monument of the most durable character, and cheap inscriptions might be effected upon the slating in the way above intimated, by moveable types. Why not?

The enterprising firm of Messrs. BLACKS are Agents for Halifax and will furnish any information required as to the value and method of using the Artificial Slate and Metallic Paints. The following are some of a number of certificates furnished from St. John, N. B. to the Patentee:—

SIR,—I have just painted a New Ship with your purple Metallic Iron Paint, and I have much pleasure in stating that I never painted a Ship with so small a quantity of Paint and Oil, and took so well. From its adhesive qualities, and the manner it covers the wood, I have no doubt but it will be more durable and much cheaper than any other paint used for such purposes, and would recommend it to the public generally.

Yours, &c. ROBERT G. MORAN.

SIR,—I have lately painted a New Brig with your Purple Metallic Iron Paint, and have pleasure in stating that I never painted a vessel to look so well at so small a cost, and am fully persuaded that it is the best article in use for Ship or Iron work, and would recommend it to the public generally. It only wants to be tried to prove its cheapness and durability.

Yours, &c.

JOHN KIRK.

SIR,—I have used your Patent Metallic Paint, and find it has given perfect satisfaction. I think it is a superior article for any work exposed to the action of Salt Water, as it stands and wears well in any climate. I do highly recommend it for Ship Work, Iron covered buildings, &c.

The Artificial Slate Paint, if it was more generally used, we would have less fires in our City than we have had; it also preserves the shingles from rot. The cheapness of your Paints is highly in their favour, if nothing else.

C. F. THOMPSON, Painter.

Mr. Andrew Mitchell, at present residing at Charlottetown, is the Prince Edward Island agent for the above articles.

#### ORDINATION.

On Sunday last, at the Episcopal Church of St. Paul's, the Bishop of Fredericton, acting for the Bishop of Nova Scotia, whose continued illness has prevented his periodical visitation, ordained to Deacon's Orders HENRY BIRCHFIELD SWABEY, Esq., B. A., second son of the Hon. William Swabey. We understand the Rev. Mr. Swabey is to have pastoral