

ence to this matter or not, and if correctly informed, to ask the hon. gentleman who represented the Government in that House, whether the Treasurer had taken the step alluded to, solely upon his own responsibility, or had been authorized to do so by the Lieutenant Governor in Council. The House, he said, could not have forgotten the loud and angry outcry which had been raised against the late Lieutenant Governor, because he directed the proper authorities to enforce, agreeably to the Statute, the payment of Merchants' Bonds, as they became due. He (Mr. W.) thought inconvenience might result from the rejection of the Notes of Banks in the adjoining Provinces at the Treasury, where they had been heretofore regularly received; and it was well known that the paper of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick obtained considerable circulation in this Island, and was considered preferable to our own. He did not mean to question the Treasurer's right to refuse that paper; but he could not understand why it was rejected now, any more than at any former period, unless, perhaps, the measure was deemed a necessary preparation for the completion of the financial changes about to take place. His main object was, however, to ascertain whether the step had been taken with or without the sanction of the Executive.

Mr. Palmer said he had no doubt a proper answer would be given to the question; but he would like to know why the hon. Mr. Coles had been called upon to answer it.

Mr. Whelan expressed surprise at the remark made by the hon. member for Charlottetown. He (Mr. W.) had called upon the hon. Mr. Coles, because he considered him the most competent person to give the information required, in consequence of his holding a seat in the Executive Council. It was unnecessary, he thought, to remind the hon. member for Charlottetown, that the course which he (Mr. W.) had adopted in this respect, was not an unusual one. It was the practice in the British House of Commons, and in the Parliaments of the adjacent Provinces, for any member to ask another who might hold a seat in the Executive, for information touching any act of the Government or any public proceeding of its officers.

The hon. Mr. Coles replied. He had himself heard the fact stated by the hon. member for King's County (Mr. Whelan) respecting the rejection, at the Treasury, of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Notes; but he was not aware that any such proceeding had been submitted or the consideration of the local Government: he had certainly received no intimation from His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor upon the subject; but he would suggest, as the best mode of obtaining accurate information, the adoption of an address to His Excellency. Then the matter dropped, and the House adjourned.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR—Reporting is now become a trade; what would the good folks of this Island have thought fifteen years since, of £70 or £80 a year for reporting the speeches of their members? Yet, at that time, a clearer view was given in the Gazette of the chief arguments used in favor of and against any measure, than can now be obtained from any of the Island Newspapers. The system of this Session, however, answers some gentlemen; for if they speak five minutes, their Reporter can make a speech for them, which, in the customary mode of delivery, would occupy ten or fifteen minutes. He can, besides, furnish new arguments, elegant similes, and other ornaments of speech on one side; and, by a little jugglery, can render, in part, ridiculous, the speeches printed as those of the opposite party.

In the *Islander* of 12th February, on the debate respecting Mr. Coles' seat, Mr. Rae is represented as asking "How long were the waters of the Nile to be divided, and on one side of its banks to be cut wholesome water, and on the other that which caused destruction?" Here, if never before, is Mrs. Malaprop's "Allegory on the banks of the Nile." But did he really perpetrate such an offence against sense and taste? He made no allusion to the Nile; but he did allude to the knife of the Persian Queen, poisoned on one side. This was not in bad taste, yet it was not original; it has been used, at least once, in a similar case, in Britain.

Again, in your own paper of 12th February, in the report of the debate on the 4th Feb., Dr. Conroy is made to state that "If Mr. Coles refer to history, he will find that no less a person than Cardinal Wolsey had to retire from the House, outside the Bar, while his case was pending." The Doctor did make an allusion to the Cardinal, rather an ill-chosen one, and expressed in indefinite terms, but nothing so gross as is stated in your paper. Mr. Rae, in answer thereto, is represented as having said "that the Doctor had mis-stated facts, he, the Cardinal, having walked about the House (of course while his own cause was pending), and that he might have at down had he pleased." What Mr. Rae did say was, that the reign of Henry 8th, was not one to be referred to for precedents favourable to the independence of Parliament; that, on the occasion alluded to by the Doctor, a man at the head of the Church, and as Prime Minister, more arrogant and influential than any who have succeeded him, and not a member of the House of Commons, entered while the House was sitting, with the manifest intention of dictating to, and answering that body; and

though the Speaker would not assent to his demand for immediate personal conference with the members, yet for some time he continued to walk backwards and forwards in the body of the House.

Sir, no reporting at all, is better than such unhappy misconceptions. The similes, metaphors, &c., are awkward enough of themselves; but don't make members responsible for anacronisms and misconceptions, which they did not enunciate.

Your humble servant,  
X.

8th March, 1848.

THE EXAMINER.

SATURDAY, MARCH 11, 1848.

BIG MARTIN VERSUS THE LONDON TIMES.

In the *Islander* of yesterday week, appears a long wisby-washy article from the pen of that excellent and estimable individual, BIG MARTIN COLLARD, meant to be a reply to an able exposition of public affairs in Prince Edward Island, given in a late No. of the *London Times*.

Imagine, gentle reader, if you can, without making the welkin ring, with a loud and uproarious cackination, this, the climax of madness, folly, and absurdity—*The Islander* answering the *Times*!!! Surely, none but John Iags could have conceived the idea—Collard has some sense. We doubt not but the Editors of the *London Times*—since they appear to have obtained so correct a knowledge of our Island affairs—have received some information touching the character of the individual who has been, within the last three or four years, the only supporter, through the Press, of the high and respectable official party in this Island; and we should not be at all surprised to see, in imitation of a Downing Street Despatch, a paragraph in a future No. of the *Times*, to the following effect:—"There appears, in a paper called the *Islander*, published at Charlottetown, in P. E. Island, some paragraphs of angry and incoherent declamation, called forth by an article recently published in the *Times*. Knowing this to be written by an individual who has been distinguished, under various respectable circumstances, by the name of *Collard*; we have only to observe, that we can hold no controversy with him, until he return to Halifax, and take his trial for the crime alleged against him."

As *Big Martin* has not disproved a single proposition or weakened a single argument put forth in the *Times*, we deem it unnecessary to occupy any of our space in reverting to the several topics discussed. The abuse lavished upon Sir Henry Humberly, can be readily forgiven by his most enthusiastic friends. It was, no doubt, meant as an illustration of *the ass kicking at the dead lion*. But, we can assure the *Islander* and its patrons, that, however smooth present appearances may be, Sir Henry is not defunct, and neither are the enquiries set on foot by him in a condition at all likely to be smothered.

We think we know enough of the proceedings of the Colonial Office—(no matter how our information is obtained)—to assure those public functionaries, whose acts have been reviewed by the Editors of the *Times*, that, if they are unjustly aspersed, they will have an opportunity—as in justice they ought to have, and why do they not come forward and claim it—of placing themselves beyond all suspicion.

Our co-temporary need not think that, by his indulgence in vulgar threats and challenges, he can betray us into making any premature or imprudent revelations. Our own love of justice, and knowledge of the *status quo*, are sufficient guarantees that we shall remain proof against all such temptations. Surely it is in vain that the net is spread in the sight of any bird.

Since the above paragraphs were written, the following verses were laid upon our Table. We confess that we do not pretend to comprehend the entire meaning sought to be conveyed in the verses, and we think that *Big Martin* would render an essential service, not only to ourselves, but to the public generally, if he would come forward and explain the *double entendres* which are so provokingly, yet happily, versified; as he will be, no doubt, fully cognizant of their hidden meaning.

COLLARD UPON COLLARD

The surprising modesty and rare honesty—alike characteristic of the scribe and his employers—with which *Collard* as "*the Literary Man*" of the *Gazette*, quotes and eulogizes himself as the Editor of the *Islander*; and the innocence and meekness with which, as the Editor of the *Islander*, he lauds the extent of his knowledge and the liberality of his views, as set forth in his contributions to the *Gazette*; cannot, we think, be either sufficiently admired or laughed at. 'Tis Harlequin playing upon his tabor and dancing to his own music.

To see COLLARD upon COLLARD,  
Full of ecstatic love—  
All thoughts of decency and sense,  
By rapture placed above—

As warmly, in the public eye,  
He deals self-pleasing strokes,  
In each observant, knowing one,  
Contempt's cool smile provokes.

But, this we may forgive the man,  
Whom few to please would try,

And who, upon himself alone,  
For worship can rely.

We only execrate his deeds,  
When, close behind our backs,  
With furor seized, he perpetrates  
Felicitous attacks.

PETER PINDAR, JUN.

THE ELECTION OF THE HON. G. COLES.

Mr. Coles' re-election has given much cause for congratulation, not only because it has resulted in placing that gentleman again in that House, where, unless changed in nature, he will never shrink from advocating the rights of his fellow subjects and exposing those long-standing abuses, which, as it were, override the great majority of the people; but because it exhibits the truth, that the Electors of the Island—however art, prejudice, and falsehood may, for a time, succeed in concealing from them the real state of their position—will not tolerate oppression, or suffer even one, from whom they have, for a season, differed, through misconception, in opinion on questions of public moment, to be crushed by tyranny and a heartless combination; and most satisfactorily proves that the same innate love of freedom, and free institutions, which leads them to contemplate with delight the prospect of enjoying, at no distant day, the Constitution under which their fathers and forefathers have lived in its entirety,—teaches them that to hasten the approach of that desired moment, they must faithfully support, in the Legislature, those who struggle for this end. Their conduct at the late election shews that they have learned to distinguish between those who truly wish for a British Constitutional System of Government, and those who, unable to stem the torrent, which the love of freedom and justice has borne against the shaking barriers of exclusiveness, nepotism, and monopoly, behind which they are entrenched, are desirous to turn the stream aside into a new channel, knowing that resistance to its power is vain. In short, they see the difference between a fiction and a reality; between a shadow and a substance; between that true Responsible System which will give them their just and constitutional influence, and that flimsy subterfuge which was proposed in the words of Mr. John Longworth's ill-fated amendment in the Session of 1847, a passage from which we here repeat:

"We therefore humbly pray, that such system of Departmental Government, as would involve the resignation of the offices of the Treasurer, Colonial Secretary, Attorney General, and Surveyor General, on their being left in a minority in the Executive Council, should not be extended to us, or held to be in force in this Colony."

Mr. Coles' election is the first event which has afforded the public voice an opportunity of being heard on this subject. In 1847, Mr. Coles left New London in a minority of 227. He left it, on Wednesday week in a majority of 36. In 1847, in the month of May, he left Brackley Point in a small majority of 27; but, on Friday week, in the very depth of winter, and at the time of its greatest rigour, he left it in a majority of 175! a majority which, be it observed, would have been greatly increased, had not the honorable gentleman—seeing his adversary was entirely *hors de combat*, and could not command another vote—requested his own friends to refrain from giving any more votes on his behalf, that the Poll might be terminated forthwith.

We learn volumes from these facts; but two things more particularly: first, the public opinion of the manner in which Mr. Coles has been treated, converting, for very decency's sake, adversaries into friends, and awakening contempt, opposition and abhorrence against his enemies. Secondly, the growth of the conviction to which we have alluded, that it is necessary for every elector, for his own sake, to lend his support to the cause which Mr. Coles and his friends in the Legislature are pledged to support.

But there is, perhaps, no more remarkable feature in the recent election, than the absence of those who, on a former occasion, did not blush to oppose the return of a member of the Government of which they formed a part, and under which they then held, as they still hold, nearly every office. The public will give these parties no credit for a returning sense of duty; but will readily attribute their inaction to its true cause—a settled conviction on their own part that their influence, even though backed by all the strategy which they put in practice last year, could not avail against a people who view their proceedings with disgust. Yes, the public will shrewdly conjecture that, being, as every body knows, wise in their generation, they have thought it, perhaps, as well not to place themselves again, and under a second Lieutenant Governor, in a position so improper and so unconstitutional.

The example of upright independence, which the Electors of the First District of Queen's County have just given to their fellow electors throughout the Island, will not, we trust, prove to have been given in vain. On the contrary, roused and inspirited by their noble achievement, we hope to find every other constituency in the country, as opportunity shall offer, successively and triumphantly acting upon the same genuine principles of freedom, which have been the honorable and glorious motives to action on the part of the honest, unbought, and un intimidated supporters of Mr. Coles at the late election.

And, so long as the people shall reflect upon the late triumph of freedom and independence, begun at New London, and nobly and happily accomplished at