a considerable loss to them, which, at the lowest calculation, will be between five and ten pounds. But behold, when they presented themselves before the Board last week for examination, they were told that those only could be examined whose time had expired, notwithstanding that the Act expressly says that Teachers can present themselves for re-examination immediately after the passing thereof. Now, I will put the question to the good sense of the public—Have not the Board acted towards those whom they refused to examine with the greatest injustice? Just consider the idea of us poor schoolmasters spending three or four weeks, this time of year, on very heavy expenses, preparing ourselves to pass the Board according to law; and then to be told that we could not be examined, because the time for which we agreed to teach had not expired. If our time will not expire for nine or ten months hence, and if we are now qualified to pass the Board, are we to be defrauded of the increase of salary. Alas! we are not as fortunate as Mr. Donald Currie, of Charlottetown, who is receiving, I believe, four times as much as any of us, for doing perhaps less. But we should remember that we never were ecclesiastical students of the Free Church, as I understand he was. How am I to characterize the manner in which we have been treated—is it not injustice and tyranny? I think that any jury of honest men would make the members of the Board reimburse the expenses incurred by the teachers, thus treated with the most flagrant injustice.

I will now say a few words about favoritism. I dare say, honest reader, that you will be startled when you read the word *favoritism*, after just seeing that the majority of the Board are Ministers of the Gospel, who should be models of every christian virtue, particularly of *justice*. Whether some of these Revd. gentlemen were guilty of favoritism or not, let the reader judge from the following facts. On Thursday last several Teachers came before the Board for examination. The bystanders—some thirty District Teachers and pupils from the Normal School—were told by the members of the Board that this was to be a model examination, and that they might form therefrom an idea of the manner in which they themselves would be examined. Of those examined Messrs. McKinnon, John and Edward Roche, passed as Teachers of the highest class with much honor. The prompt and correct answers of the latter to a series of questions in Astronomy attracted great attention. No one who has been acquainted with the Messrs. Roche for a moment doubted that they would pass without any difficulty—and the same may be said of Mr. McKinnon, who was lately under the able tutorship of Mr. Kenny, and who also acquitted himself very honorably in French. The examination which these gentlemen underwent was a very good searching one—indeed, I might add severe. But no one will blame the Board for its being such. For it is well known that many of our fraternity are a disgrace to the profession, and the only good way of getting clear of them is to subject them to a thorough examination. But all should be subjected to a strict examination, without favor or partiality; and if any members of the Board forget their duty in this respect, they will be guilty of injustice and dishonesty, and should be forthwith dismissed from their office. Now, let us see what took place on last Friday. Three gentlemen, who, if they were not overburthened with knowledge and intellect, presented at least a formidable looking appearance, in consequence of the very abundant crop of beard which graced the lower and lateral portions of their face, were examined this day before the Board, which, on this occasion, consisted only of *two Rev. gentlemen, and Mr. McNeill, the Secretary*. One of the candidates presented a certificate from the Rev. Mr. Crawford, a Presbyterian Minister, which certificate was read aloud before all present, and favorably commented on by the Rev. George Sutherland. Now, I believe that this certificate was unnecessary, for the candidate had passed the Board before; but the sequel will show that it proved to be of very material advantage in covering a multitude of errors. I myself, and all the Teachers present, thought that these gentlemen would be subjected to an examination something like the *model* examination which took place the previous day. *Three* sentences from an article in the English Reader, called "The Art of Printing," were given out as dictation. This dictation was written on *slates*, whereas it is generally written on *paper*. If we can judge from the number of marks made by Mr. McNeill, when looking over the slates, one of the candidates must have made no fewer than nine mistakes, and yet he passed. Now, those candidates for the same class, who had been examined the same week, got for dictation about thirty lines from the "Constitution of Greece." But the latter had no certificate from the Rev. Mr. Crawford. The questions in Arithmetic which were proposed, were the following:

"What is the duty on 112 lbs. of Opium, at 9s 6d per lb?!

"How many revolutions would a Cart-wheel, 13¾ feet in circumference, make in a mile?!

"Extract the square root of 256.

"Divide 1 by 10.25."

I am not certain about the figures in the last two questions. In Geography, they were asked "What was the Capital of Ireland? What were the boundaries of New Brunswick?" The last question none of them could answer! In General Information, they could not tell who was the Governor of either Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, or Canada!! Not one of them could tell who the Emperor of Austria was!!! And only one of them could tell the title of the Empress of Russia!!!! Yet these intelligent gentlemen after this model examination passed the Board!!!!! *O, tempora! O mores! Ubinam gentium sumus?* Will the Rev. George Sutherland, or any one of the Triumvirate who composed the Board on last Friday, have the kindness to tell the public the reason why those three young gentlemen were not examined with the candidates of the same class who were examined on Thursday; for, be it remembered, these same three persons were then present? Perhaps you, Mr. Editor, will be kind enough to let the public know whether the *three* who composed the Board will receive any extra pay for that apparently unnecessary meeting—all the circumstances connected with which appear very suspicious. I may add, that one of the persons who passed on this occasion was in ecstacy at his success, and was heard to say that he did well that day,—he had gained five pounds one shilling—the latter being the price of his dinner which he missed. I think he has great reason to thank his "certificate."

If the Board of Education continue to act as it did at the time referred to, we may expect very little improvement in those Teachers who will be provided with a certificate from the Rev. Mr. Crawford, or any other Presbyterian Minister; and hence stolid ignorance will continue in too many instances to disgrace the character of the Teachers of the Island. Indeed, I have heard several candidates say that when they will present themselves before the Board they will be careful to have a good long certificate of character from their Minister. Anything which I have said regarding favoritism is not to be applied to Messrs. Hensley and Kenny—the latter of whom, although a Roman Catholic, I have always heard spoken of by Protestant Teachers as most faithful and impartial in the discharge of his duties as a member of the Board.

I have not been accustomed to write for the press, and hence this hurriedly written letter will not be without mistakes. I trust, however, that it will be the humble means of calling public attention to what I consider a great injustice, and also to that which appears to me to be a shameful act of favoritism on the part of those whose judgment and action should be characterized by justice and the strictest impartiality.

June 2, 1860. A TEACHER.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

"When evil strives the worst have greatest names."

THE NEW COLLEGE.

Sir—The study of the Greek and Latin languages is to take a more prominent place in the New College than it did in the Central Academy. Instead of this being an improvement for the student, or an advantage to the tax-payer, the sequel will show it to be an evil, entailing loss of valuable time to the one, and a burthen, involving expense—giving no return to the other.

The folly of making a young person waste the spring of his manhood in learning the Greek and Latin classics would not be persevered in only that a knowledge of Latin is still required in order to enter upon the study of Law, Medicine and Divinity. That this is a great misfortune some of the best writers of the present and preceding centuries have admitted. It is especially an evil when more attention is paid to the acquirement of the Latin and Greek than is necessary to enter any of the professions, and more so now than previously, when there are so many more useful branches of education to demand and engage the student's attention. Says Locke, in his work on Education:—"I know not why any one should waste his time and beat his head about the Latin Grammar, who does not intend to be a critic, or make speeches, and write despatches in it." The advantages which are derived from classical learning, says Rev. Sydney Smith, involve a serious and doubtful question. "We will venture to say, that there never was a more complete instance in any country of such extravagant and overacted attachment to any branch of knowledge as that which obtains in this country in regard to classical knowledge. A young Englishman goes to school at six or seven years old, and he remains in a course of education till twenty-three or twenty-four years of age. In all that time his sole and exclusive occupation is learning Latin and Greek; he has scarcely a notion that there is any other kind of excellence; and the great system of facts with which he is the most perfectly acquainted, are the intrigues of the heathen gods, with whom Pan slept?—with whom Jupiter?—whom Apollo ravished? These facts the English youth get by heart the moment they quit the nursery; and are most sedulously and industriously instructed in them till the best and most active part of life is passed away. Now, this long career of classical learning, we may, if we please, denominate a foundation; but it is a foundation so far above ground, that there is absolutely no room to put anything upon it. If you occupy a man with one thing till he is twenty-four years of age, you have exhausted all his leisure time; he is called into the world and compelled to act; or is surrounded with pleasures, and thinks and reads no more. If you have neglected to put other things in him, they will never get in afterwards; if you have fed him only with words, he will remain a narrow and limited being to the end of his existence."

The brilliant and witty essayist adds, what nearly every one who has studied the classical languages will acknowledge to be in a greater or less degree true:—"Another misfortune of classical learning, as taught in England, is, that scholars come in process of time, and from the effects of association, to love the instrument better than the end—not the luxury which the difficulty encloses, but the difficulty—not the filbert, but the shell—not what may be read in Greek, but Greek itself. It is not so much the man who has mastered the wisdom of the ancients that is valued, as he who displays his knowledge of the vehicle in which that wisdom is conveyed. The glory is to show I am a scholar. The good sense and ingenuity I may gain by my acquaintance with ancient authors is matter of opinion; but if I bestow an immensity of pains upon a point of accent or quantity, this is something positive; I establish my pretensions to the name of scholar, and gain the credit of learning, while I sacrifice all its utility."

The following, and concluding extract from the same pen, seems to me to be as applicable to our meddlers with the education of the Colony, and to their contemplated *improvements*, as it was when directed against the system of education and its supporters, nearly fifty years ago, in the Mother Country:—"Another evil in the present system of classical education is the extraordinary perfection which is aimed at in teaching those languages; a needless perfection; an accuracy which is sought for in nothing else*** The English clergy, in whose hands education entirely rests, bring up the first young men of the country as if they were all to keep grammar schools in little country towns; and a nobleman, upon whose knowledge and liberality the honour and welfare of his country may depend, is diligently worried for half his life with the small pedantry of longs and shorts. There is a timid and absurd apprehension, on the part of ecclesiastical tutors, of letting out the minds of youth upon difficult and important subjects. They fancy that mental exertion must end in religious scepticism, and to preserve the principles of their pupils, they confine them to the safe and elegant imbecility of classical learning. A genuine Oxford tutor would shudder to hear his young men disputing upon political truth, forming and pulling down theories, and indulging in all the boldness of youthful discussion. He would augur nothing from it but impiety to God and treason to kings. And yet, who vilifies both more than the holy poltroon who carefully averts from them the searching eye of reason, and who knows no better method of teaching the highest duties than by extirpating the finest qualities and habits of the mind? If our religion is a fable, the sooner it is exploded the better. If our Government is bad, it should be amended. But we have no doubt of the truth of the one or of the excellence of the other; and are convinced that both will be placed on a firmer basis in proportion as the minds of men are more trained to the investigation of truth. At present we act with the minds of our young men as the Dutch did with their exuberant spices. An infinite quantity of talent is annually destroyed in the Universities of England by the miserable jealousy and littleness of ecclesiastical instructors. It is in vain to say we have produced great men under this system. We have produced great men under all systems. Every Englishman must pass half his life in learning Latin and Greek; and classical learning is supposed to have produced the talents which it has not been able to distinguish. It is scarcely possible to prevent great men from rising up under any system of education, however bad. Teach men demonology or astrology, and you will still have a portion of original genius, in spite of these or any other branches of ignorance and folly".

I have marked other extracts from several authors which I am unable to give, as they would require more space than is available, which would further show, that so far as the classics are concerned, we have no need of a New College, and that they received quite enough attention, if not too much, in the Central Academy. At present we will quote but the following, which is to be found in *Chambers's Edinburgh Journal*. I feel assured that it deserves the consideration of those persons who may think of sending their sons to receive a classical education in the New College:—"The sons of all our noblest families, and of the most estimable people in the country, are, after certain preparations, eventually sent to those slaughter-houses of the understanding, our public schools, where, weaned from the charms of the living world, they are nailed to the study of two dead languages—like galley slaves, they are chained to these oars, and are actually flogged if they neglect to labour. Instead of imbibing knowledge suited to their youthful age, they are made to learn the names of Actæon's hounds—to study the life of Alexander's horse—to know the fate of Alcibiades' dog; in short, it is too well known that Dr. Lempriere made £3000 a-year by the sale of a dictionary, in which he had amassed, 'for the use of schools,' tales and rubbish of this description. The poor boy at last 'gets', as it is termed, 'into Ovid,' where he is made to study every thing which human ingenuity could invent to sully, degrade, and ruin the mind of a young person. The Almighty Creator of the universe is caricatured by a set of grotesque personages termed gods and goddesses, so grossly sensual, so inordinately licentious, that were they to-day to appear in London, before sunset they would probably be every one of them where they ought to be—at the tread-mill. The poor boy, however, must pore over all their amours, natural and unnatural; he must learn by heart the birth, parentage, and education of each, with the biography of their numerous offspring, earthly as well as unearthly. He must study love letters from the heavens to the earth, and metamorphoses which have almost all some low, impure object. The only geography he learns is 'the world known to the ancients.' Although a member of the first maritime nation on the globe, he learns no nautical science but that possessed by people who scarcely dared to leave their shores; all his knowledge of military life is that childish picture of it which might fairly be entitled 'war without gunpowder.' But even the little which on these subjects he does learn, is so mixed up with fable, that his mind gets puzzled and debilitated to such a degree, that he becomes actually unable to distinguish truth from falsehood; and when he reads that Hannibal melted the Alps with vinegar, he does not know whether it really be true or not."

On perusing the above we will be able easily to account for the imbecility and immorality which often is the characteristic of those who receive what is called a good education. How often and how truly might not these words of Cicero be applied to the classical scholars of the present day! "*Nostros homines similes esse Syrorum venalium; ut quis que optime Græce sciret, ita esse nequissimum.*" *De Orat.* The men of those times were like the Syrian slaves; the more Greek they knew the greater knaves they were.

Now, if what has been said of the classics is true, when applied to large wealthy countries, what folly is it not to attempt in this small, comparatively impoverished Colony what has been condemned by men of sense in England. All that is required in this Island is a respectable high school, or Academy, wherein Latin just necessary to enter Law or Medicine, would be taught, and wherein the students would be fitted for the business duties of life. It must be remembered that but very few will in this Colony qualify themselves for the professions. Of doctors I will say nothing; but every town and city in the New World is flooded with lawyers, and in this place many of them are nearly briefless, as numerous and as useless as militia officers. It is not then for our young men to qualify themselves to become doctors or lawyers that we want a College, but that they may be skilful mechanics, agriculturists, merchants, manufacturers, engineers, and architects. But it will be said we want the new College to prepare young men for the Church. For ecclesiastics, at least, of some denominations of Christians, a knowledge of Greek and Latin is certainly indispensable. A great part of the Holy Scriptures has come down to us in the Greek language, which is a reason why divinity students should study that language. Besides being necessary for the study of the Old and New Testaments, to the Catholic it is further required in order to read the Fathers, and to derive proper fruit from the courses of philosophy and theology which are taught in the Latin language. But Catholics having a College of their own wherein a superior education, at a mere nominal charge, can be obtained, can receive no benefit from the establishment of a New College; while a large portion of our Protestant population do not require their ministers to be classically educated—nor indeed—and I say it not with disrespect—to be possessed of any but the most ordinary education. It must be obvious, then, that this Prince of Wales College cannot meet the wants of any but a very inconsiderable few. Indeed, it seems manifest, that the establishment of the College will be of manifold disadvantages to the middle class who send their sons to the Academy. They do not want, nor have they the means to have their children encumbered with mataphysics and such "higher" branches, which have been aptly designated by an American writer "antiquated trash."

Another of the contemplated improvements, for which forsooth the Academy could not provide, and for which a new College must be established, is the study of the German language! Within the last half century the German language has been considerably cultivated in many of the States of Europe, and also in the United States of America, and deservedly, for its literature has been enriched by the genius, and research and brilliant wit of such men as Goethe, Niebuhr and Henrich Heine, and a galaxy of lesser stars of splendid lustre. Would that we were prepared for these things! But we must not imitate the frog which tried to swell himself as large as the ox. The machinery which is admirable to work the "Great Eastern" would swamp the "Ino," our little river boat. We should remain content with the English translations of these authors until our countrymen learn to read their mother tongue. It is notorious that hundreds of Englishmen, Irishmen, and Scotchmen in this Colony cannot read; the money which is to be expended uselessly on the New College would, with a trifling assistance, establish in connexion with the district schools—*Free Night Schools throughout the Island*, wherein the adult population, needing and desiring it, would receive the benefits to be derived from the education which they were unable to acquire in earlier days.

If this be too practical for our magnificent quixotic legislators, I hesitate not to say that they should have the Gaelic language to be taught in the New College in lieu of German. Would it not confer a greater benefit upon the people of this Island, considering that nearly two-thirds of our population are of Celtic origin, and that, at least, one-fifth speak the Erse? The gallant Colonel who proposed German would have immortalized himself, and endeared himself to his "intelligent constituents," had he stood out more bravely for the Gaelic. The Little Grand Turk had more sense than his illustrious colleagues in the Executive when he declared, that "he could not see what good was to come of German, mataphysics, and such outlandish things whatever." But on his friend—the Alexander of dead languages, using his persuasive eloquence, he exclaimed:—"Oh! ho! as it be for a whales College, I vote for it however." Were it not for the opposition of the Grand Turk to the new College Bill—which, by-the-bye, was the reason why it was produced so late in the Session—the great Colonel would have thought of the Gaelic. How popular it would have made him with those to whom he said last Session of Assembly he "conferred an honour by consenting to allow himself to be their representative!" By taking a few lessons in Gaelic he could expound to them the beauties of his "Land Commission," which is to bestow on them free farms for nine hundred and ninety-nine years at a nameless rent! It is related of the Prince of Burbon that he was a hypochondriac, and that sometimes he thought himself a hare, and ranged his noble park from place to place with wonderful agility. Now, the gallant Colonel must have thought himself a Hessian when he proposed the German in the College Bill, leading on an army of mercenaries, which certainly would be a less ridiculous figure than that of a certain great hero when he made his first military debut in this city, by leading the Gael to the Indignation Meeting held here some two years ago.

In conclusion, I will merely advert to the refusal of the Government to grant a proportionate sum towards St. Dunstan's, the Catholic College. The Catholics will not receive any benefit from the new College; they contribute nearly one-half the amount expended on education. The simplest rules of equity and the dictates of common honesty should, therefore, oblige a fair grant to be given towards the support of the Catholic College. Before many years elapse the people of this Colony may decide that the denominational system of education is the fairest, most economical, and the most satisfactory. In the meantime the Government, as they have established a College, which will be virtually sectarian, should not evince dog-in-the-mangerism by refusing support to other institutions. In the mother country, where Catholics are not as numerous in proportion to the Protestant population as they are here, their Colleges are supported by the Imperial Government. In Austria, where Protestants are not a tithe of the population, schools and Colleges of Protestants are maintained by the Government, though these schools and Colleges are under the immediate control of Protestant ecclesiastics. In this Island twenty years since, when the annual grant for education was somewhat like £4000, the Catholic College, St. Andrew's, then in existence, received £75; now, when the annual grant is £15,000, St. Dunstan's College receives nothing! Some persons not remarkable for modesty assert that the Prince of Wales College is not to be sectarian, but is to be open to all. Now, St. Dunstan's College is open to all who may desire to enter it, yet no one asserts that it is not a Denominational institution. That the Catholic College is less sectarian than the new College will be under the control of gentlemen such as Rev. Messrs. Fitzgerald and Sutherland, I feel convinced; and that the new institution will be closed to Catholic professors, and Catholic students who do not desire to be perverted, we may expect as certainly as if Dante's inscription:—

"Turk, Jew, or Atheist
Is welcome here, but not a Papist,"

were posted in large letters—speaking the desire of the Government—on the front of the building.

The policy of the present Government, to proscribe Catholics and Liberal Protestants, is too well known to mislead one for a moment to suppose that any but their most subservient dependents will be appointed to pocket the salaries attached to the professors' chairs in the new College. When the Government advertised for a person to fill Mr. Monk's place in the Normal School, a leading member of the dominant party was asked, if a Catholic, having necessary experience and education, would be likely to receive the appointment if he applied? The answer was candid, he replied, No, it is needless for a Catholic to apply! The Catholics of this Colony should deeply consider their position. A young man of the Roman Catholic religion, no matter how high and honourable his ambition, however great and varied his talents, however distinguished and exalted his virtues, while the present Government remain in power cannot hope to receive the reward which is not refused to merit in any other enlightened country. Let the Catholics be prepared to act with the thousands of Liberal Protestants in this Island who love liberty too well to sanction odious proscription; and intolerance and deception will not long continue to exercise their baneful influence over this Colony. Two Sessions have the present Government been in power, and they have practised delusions unworthy even of a Barnum, and have wielded a tyranny more oppressive than that which roused the indignation of Washington and his compatriots,—a sway more unrestrained in its vindictiveness than that which in the person of Gessler deserved and received the avenging arrow of William Tell.

An epitome of their deceptions and petty tyranny is to be found in the establishment of the Prince of Wales College. In a former letter it was shown that the New College was the project of a few intolerant persons,—that the scheme was exposed and derided by Mr. Duncan Maclean, the late spokesman of the Conservative party,—that the College Bill was passed hurriedly and indecently into law,—that it does not prove any regard for education, for as a result of the measure, the Second Master of the Academy receives a salary of £100 as Clerk of the Executive for slighting his duties in the Central Academy, for which he receives £150 annually,—and that for half the expense the Central Academy could be made to answer the educational requirements of the College. In this letter I have adduced conclusive evidence to show that the study of the Greek and Latin classics received sufficient attention in the Academy, and that in a small Colony like this, to devote longer time to them, as contemplated by the New College, will be an evil. I have found the "New College" a convenient peg whereon to hang other remarks which do not require recapitulation, which will prove, in my opinion, that it has been conceived in selfishness and folly, brought forth in haste and thoughtlessness, and that it will result in extravagance of the public funds.

I remain truly,

May 20, 1860. CONSERVATIVE.

For the Examiner.

SALMAGUNDI.

BY SNOOKS.

Preparations for the Prince—clearing out the gutters—a new live Major—and a Government gift uniform for the Adjutant General!! Great Blue-Ribbon anticipations on His Royal Highness's visit! It is whispered, in *high* circles, that some of low degree will get the generous handle! Look out for the interesting announcement! Sir Jerry McTrifle, Kt. of the Byre; Sir John Rhodes, Kt. of Oyster Ponds; Sir Alexander ——— Kt. of the Gray Horse; Sir John Poorbuckle, Kt. of the Halter; Sir John Straw, Kt. of Cardigan; and Sir James Lamb, Kt. of the Ewe, &c.

Rumour states as true that the Hon. T. H. Haviland, now in England, will have the order of Knighthood conferred upon him before leaving for Prince Edward Island. Knight Bachelors are becoming plenty as weeds, now a-days. In other times the order was bestowed only on those whom deeds of valor graced—whom science called her distinguished sons—whom art as masters owned—whom literature acknowledged as souls of intellectual power, that had reached the height where "fame's proud temple shines afar;" or those who had done their country or their kind some valuable service; or some faithful public servant, whose talent claimed a meed of honour; but now, *O tempora! O mores!* without a claim or shadow af desert, 'tis, Rise, Sir Knight!

The thing's a drug, the honor past away,
Since Bachelor Knights within the present day,
Are made of mean and undeserving clay.

Mr. Cornelius Little, who for a long time has filled the office of Warehouse-Keeper, with much assiduity, capacity and attention, obliging and courteous in hours and out of office hours,—in truth, giving utmost satisfaction to the community, which awards him a high meed of praise for his efficiency and obliging conduct in office—has, without any plea, or cause, or fault of any kind, been dismissed peremptorily from his post; and is superseded by a partizan of the Government, whose fitness for the office, owing to early habits and occupations, there is every reason to doubt. This was a bad appointment, and very displeasing to the mercantile community, by which it is condemned and the dismissal of Mr. Little censured.

Messrs. Lord and Treneman, worthy and excellent Commissioners for the Recovery of Small Debts, were displaced from that office, and Messrs. T. B. Tremain and John Morris have been appointed in their stead. These gentlemen, if they were not such prejudiced political partizans, might fill the seats and do the duty well enough. Of Mr. Tremain, Snooks says, he has long looked for office, and it is hoped he will rest easier for the future, and that the little "brief authority" with which he is endowed, will give an improved appearance to the outward man. Of Mr. Morris, Snooks will but observe, that he knows how many black beans will make a white one, and, moreover, he is a *Brick*.

Mr. Thingamy beats Larry O'Gaff, who, honest hood and mortar man, went up the ladder, step by step to promotion; but Mr. Thingamy, only a lance corporal's comrade, undergoing a sudden metamorphosis, burst out in lightening speed from the shell, all cock-a-hoop plumed and cap-a-pie from crown to toe, with spurs at heel, a Major chicken.

"Throw up your tails, ye birds of gout,
And hail him Cock-a-doodle doo."

Here is a fine model officer manufactory from full flat foot privates, for you, soldats, where sooner than you could say trigger, out pops, like Jack from the coalbox, a fully caparisoned Major, constituted Major of all the Rifles including the Scythe Rifles, and minor Major of all live Majors.

The Charlottetown Volunteers, at a meeting held by them last week, expressed their dissatisfaction and disapproval of the appointment of the Hon. T. H. Haviland, jr. as Major commanding the Volunteers.

The discourteous, impolitic and unpalatable appointment of Mr. Haviland, brought out remarks and sentiments at the meeting which could not be gratifying to the feelings or pretensions of that gentleman. The odor in which he is held amongst those who buckle on the armour of defence, was the antipodes of flattery to a man of his importance, and the feeling exhibited at the meeting must unmistakeably convince *the Major* of the estimation he obtains with the Volunteers. A large number of the meeting declared their determination not to serve under Major Haviland, and Captains Rankin and Pollard signified their intention to resign as Captains of the corps. There is every appearance of a breaking up of the Volunteer Companies, through that injudicious and generally distasteful appointment, unless Mr. Haviland has the prudence and good judgment to retire from a post where his presence is obnoxious, and make room for some able chieftain with whom the corps would play the soldier, or could meet the foe.

Mr. Haviland was present at the meeting, and after the displeasure storm had lulled a little, he made rather a schoolboy whining appeal, representing what he had done as a member of Government for the Volunteers—the money which he (like a good fellow) had obtained, behind the curtain, for them from the Treasury, and insinuated how grateful they ought to be for his patronage and solicitude, but *not* a man threw up his cap and said, "Long live the Major." In the course of his speech, Mr. H. inadvertently told the meeting how he had thrust his fingers into the public contingent fund, and had taken therefrom £30 of the public money for private appropriation, namely, the purchase of a full dress militia uniform, sword and all equipments—this glittering toggery to be presented to the Adjutant General, or, in other words, to dress that officer in uniform cap-a-pie, to the pleasant tune of £30, at the public expense. This was an unwarrantable and uncalledfor application of public money for a private purpose,—it was a gross misappropriation of the people's money, and destroys confidence in the economy, and stabs the integrity of the Government that permitted and sanctioned it. If the Government were anxious to have the Adjutant General appear full figure in military costume, not at his own expense, they should have arrayed him in soldier's garb at their own individual cost, or by private subscription.

Salmagundi Hall, June, 1860.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., June 12, 1860.

THE SWAMPING OF THE COUNCIL.

It has just leaked out that one of the "circumstances" by which His Excellency the Lieut. Governor was "restrained" in destroying the independence of the upper House, was the presentation to him of a document, signed by the majority of the House of Assembly, with one or two exceptions, in which they declared their determination to do no business with the Council as it was then constructed.

What a commentary on our boasted "representative institutions" is furnished by this undeniable fact! How well it tallies with the shuffling conduct of the Government in refusing to give any of the correspondence which occurred, or any explanation whatever, respecting the very large increase in the number of Councillors! And how contemptible is the conduct of the majority of the House, who sheltered themselves behind the Lieut. Governor, saying that it was *his* prerogative to increase the number of Councillors, and to withhold, if he thought proper, the reasons why, when they know they *forced* His Excellency to do the one rash act which naturally led to the other indiscreet one! and when they should reflect that the members of the Executive Council are the parties really responsible for the exercise of the prerogative. We sincerely pity the Lieut. Governor for thus allowing himself to be made the tool and scapegoat of those unscrupulous men. We have no doubt that he thinks he has done what is perfectly right—that he is fairly representing his Royal Mistress in all his acts—and that he is administering the Government according to the forms of the British Constitution; but we beg to state, as our deliberate opinion, that he is doing no such thing. We consider that he is exercising—or has at least done so in the instance referred to—his great powers for the benefit and at the dictation of a cabal. If the majority came down to the House, and, after giving full deliberation to the matter, passed a resolution, declaring their unwillingness to go on with the business of the country until the Council were changed, showing that the Council had systematically obstructed their measures,—and if then His Excellency ventured to comply with the resolution of the House, his doing so might be entitled to some favourable consideration. But he has suffered himself to be silenced, under the ridiculous plea of "the prerogative;" and having given way to the arbitrary designs of his dictators in one instance, who knows whether he will have nerve enough to resist further encroachments, should they be attempted, and it is not unlikely; and should they involve the rights of individuals as well as the rights of the many—and this is not beyond the range of possibility; for the rubicon of despotism once passed, the invader of public liberty seldom checks his rash and impetuous career.

The *Islander*, in its last issue, draws what it deems, no doubt, to be an ingenious and humorous picture of a memorial alleged to have been forwarded to the Queen by certain members of the Legislative Council against the increase to the number of that body. We assure the editor of the *Islander* that he has quite mistaken his vocation when he attempts to play the humourist. It is not his forte. He cannot raise a laugh by his caricatures of political opponents, unless by making it patent to all the world that the laugh is sure to be against himself. He has no genius for painting, such as Hogarth delighted in; but if there were a Hogarth who used "coal tar and other ingredients," the editor of the *Islander* might be considered his match.

After stating what the memorial "no doubt sets forth," Mr. Pope seems to think that there *are* doubts about its contents, for he says: "The memorial, *whatever it may have contained*, has called forth from the editor of the *Examiner* a lengthy comment upon the Election Bill." The *Islander* is quite mistaken. We never saw anything of the kind referred to. We do not know that such a thing as a memorial was prepared about the violation done to the Legislative Council. That arbitrary act was the only matter that called forth our comments, and we shall have many more to offer before we finally dismiss the subject.

Alluding to the Election Bill, for the rejection of which the Council were so unceremoniously swamped, the *Islander* says, that "it was intended, if possible, to prevent dishonest persons from voting more than once at an election, and to confine such persons to their proper districts." This is all nonsense. The present law furnishes ample checks against such fraud. The real object of the new Bill was, to fritter away the franchise, by placing its exercise under the controul of Government officials, who were to be paid for thus interfering with the rights of the subject.

"It is well known." says the *Islander*, "that numbers of Mr. Whelan's supporters, at the last election, travelled from district to district, voting at each polling place 'on their franchise,' and as they disregarded an oath, there was no means of preventing them from recording their votes." Now, we will venture to say that we have never read, even in the *Islander*, a more foul and deliberate calumny than the above extract contains. Mr. Pope knows that he has stated a wilful falsehood, and that he has libelled a large portion of his fellow-colonists; for he is unable to prove that *even one* individual practised the fraud referred to. We challenge him to give us a solitary instance in support of this most unwarrantable assertion. Mr. Whelan's election was not based upon such ticklish grounds as to require surreptitious means of any kind for securing it. He can, as he has heretofore done, beat his opponent by hundreds, without canvassing a vote.

Our contemporary admits that "personal altercations" between members of the Government have been "occasionally" witnessed on the floor of the present House of Assembly. "Occasionally," in this instance, means nearly every day. "All this," adds the *Islander*, "while it is to be deprecated, is proof that members of the Government are, at least, independent .... There are no office holders on the floor of the House, and Mr. Longworth, or Mr. J. C. Pope may differ in opinion from Col. Gray or Mr. Haviland, without being threatened with the loss of office." When we remind our readers of the significant fact, that the brother of one of the members who indulge in the "altercations" deprecated and condemned by the *Islander*, holds the office of Colonial Secretary—that the brother of another is Collector of Excise—that the cousin and partner of another is Attorney General—and that in consequence of these connexions, to say nothing of minor ones, the quarrels are speedily patched up, we think the "altercations" may be held to indicate more pugnacity and peevishness than independence or disinterestedness. As regards the alleged absence of office holders from the House, let us ask, are there not three Commissioners of Small Debts in the Assembly—two out-and-out supporters of the Government, and one in the minority, who sometimes divides his affections between his old friends and his new ones?—and there are three more Commissioners including the Sheriff for Prince County, in the upper House, all supporters of the Government. The late appointment of Commissioners for revising the Statutes includes two members of the Legislature—one in the Assembly and one in the Council. They will both receive very handsome pay for their services; while one of them has been in the enjoyment, since his party attained office, of considerable emoluments in his capacity of Queen's Counsel. As Law Commissioners, they may discharge their duties in a satisfactory manner; but, at the same time, it is undeniable that they owe their appointment to their parliamentary position, and they will put up with many affronts rather than break up a party which keeps them in pay.

The editor of the *Islander* informs us that our representations with regard to the "altercations" between members of the Government "will be entitled to notice" when we can shew that a member of the Executive "has been compelled to support a measure which, on the floor of the House, he had opposed." Our contemporary has been rather incautious in giving this challenge, for we can shew that not *one*, but *two* members of the Government had been *obliged* to support a measure which they had previously opposed. When the Elective Council Bill was before the House in the Session before the last, Mr. Coles moved, as an amendment to the Bill, that candidates for seats in the upper House should hold their property qualifications in the Counties for which they offered. Three members of the Government supported this motion—viz: Messrs. Longworth, Pope and Laird. But their leader no sooner saw this defection in his ranks than he manifested his displeasure by the utmost irritability, threatening to vote against the whole Bill if the objectionable amendment were not withdrawn. The threat had the desired effect. Two out of the three—Messrs. Pope and Longworth—almost immediately recanted, voting against Mr. Coles's amendment, and against their own convictions.

The allusion, in the first part of the *Islander's* editorial, to the "education" of the members of the old Council—their alleged desire for pay, and for an annual supply of stationery at the public expense—is scarcely worth notice. We may, however, remark, that as yet we have had no proof of superior educational acquirements on the part of the new members. If they are endowed with extraordinary elocutionary powers, they, perhaps, feel as Sheridan did, when, failing in his maiden efforts at oratory, he exclaimed—"D—n, it is in me, and it must come out;" but we are afraid it is not given to us, nor to any of our generation, to read or listen to their oratorical displays. We have no doubt they have carried home their share of the public plunder, in the shape of stationery, as well as others; and if report speaks true, nature and early training have not qualified some of them to make that use of it for which stationery was designed. As regards their alleged contempt for pay, we are quite sure that not one of the five new Councillors is possessed of such a princely income as would induce him to turn up his nose in scorn at the accession of even twenty pounds sterling per annum; and all the little world of Prince Edward Island knows that only a few years ago one of the five independent peers of our little House of Lords threw up his seat in that august assembly, because he did not get the little salary of twenty pounds sterling per annum; while another of the new peers considered that he had done quite enough service to the State by occupying his Legislative chair two whole days, without pay, after which he made hasty tracks to the land of notions to sell his small potatoes and oats.

Lady railway speculators are becoming quite numerous in England, and among them Maria Marchioness, of Ailesbury, reigns queen. She is a large holder of railway and mining shares, is perfectly posted on the prices and prospects of the daily market, and is a good judge of what are likely to turn successful ventures.