PARTIZAN RELIGIONISTS.

From our earliest days, the simple teachings of the "Mother's Catechism" have left upon our mind the distinct and irremovable impression, that the leading features of true religion is to be pure, peaceable, gentle, and easy to be entreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy; and, somehow, we ever have the feeling, that, without these, in our private or public profession, no matter the cause or circumstance, the mere parade of a religious adherence is obnoxious to the true sensitive mind. The truly pious do not like to have what they value so highly brought into our streets for idle show, and the silly pleasureing of gaping curiosity. Even the careless in religious matters, and the honest, virtuous freethinker, condemn such a course of procedure, from the fact of Christianity being of such a character as can and does exalt human nature by its teachings and examples. Its purity has an elevating tendency; but bring it, arrayed in decorative vulgarity, into street contact with all that is vulgar and vicious, and we will find it speedily and surely losing its calm, sublime influence over the heart and mind of mankind. The spirit of Christianity is the very opposite to display, pomp, and bannered demonstrations—the quiet retirement of the soul is its chosen place; and is by operating there, upon the action of the human brain, free from all vulgarity and ostentatious exhibition, we find it retaining and extending a benign ascendancy over outside humanity. Calling ourselves "Protestant" this or "Catholic" that, is little to our credit if we bear not about with us silent good deeds, the quiet credentials of sincerity. In religion, as in all things else, the world's experience ever realizes that

"Words are but wind, its actions speak the mind;"

and we fear much that the truth of this adage is again evidenced by the recent display of "gilt and tinsel," "bigotry and obstinacy," in the name of Orange Protestant Christianity.

How repulsive to every delicate feeling is the idea of seeing some noisy, headstrong—and very probably inebriated—partizan, marching in bravado-style through some crowded street, with the open Bible suspended on his breast! Emblem it may be of their order, but to put it to such purposes is to degrade "The Book of Books," and by such vulgar usage tend to bring upon its solemn truths derision, and upon its genuine believers insult and ridicule. No matter whether we ourselves walk up to its instructions—that is our business alone, for which we only are accountable, and our consistency or inconsistency is of consequence chiefly to ourselves—still, we cannot but reverence that Bible from which we lisped our earliest lessons and acquired our earliest ideas of knowledge; we may have indeed neglected it and all its teachings, but the heart even yet, and amidst all its wanderings, bears tenderly towards its loving kindness, and thrills with sorrow to see it debased by the public, vulgar use of its sacred presence to grace a public partisan procession. And to us of Scottish blood, filled with the dear remembrances of Sabbath-day and fireside scenes of worship, this ostentatious proclamation of the Word seems an unhallowed freedom, for, with our poet Nicol, we can all within our secret hearts exclaim:

"Thou doubly-precious book!
Unto thy light what doth not Scotland owe?
Thou teachest age to die,
And youth in truth unsullied up to grow!
In lowly homes a comforter art thou—
A sunbeam sent from God—an everlasting bow!"

And, in addition, may we remark, that if the truths and teachings of the book had been carried as carefully within the breasts of these Protestant partisans in Canada the other week, as it itself was gaily and gallantly displayed on the outside, we would certainly have observed less unseemly conduct, and less of that mulish obstinacy, that, right or wrong, will not yield, however direct its course may be to create annoyance, bad feeling, and disturbance.

We have not the remotest desire to find fault with Orangemen prizing their belief, having their lodges, and spreading their order before the world. But we do insist that all this should be done in good taste; and, as it presumes to be a religious order, everything in its connexion should be pervaded with the spirit of that it claims to represent. Now, in this instance of the Prince's visit, all of this was violated, and violated in the grossest manner. On such an occasion as this first public visit of the heir of England's throne to his mother's very extensive North American possessions, to which he came, not as the representative of any church hierarchy, but as the representative of that civil Government that grants liberty of conscience to all, certainly it was outrageously out of place for the votaries of one religious denomination to appear publicly with insignia and dress obnoxious to another religious denomination, which made no similar exhibition. Religious differences of opinion had nothing earthly to do in welcoming the Prince to Canada; and had the Irish Catholics been equally foolish with the Irish Protestants, the results might have been of a very serious nature. As has too frequently happened elsewhere, fighting and murdering would have been the inevitable consequences, and all in the empty name of a religious profession. Public profession, indeed, but blessed with neither public nor private practice. Let the members of Orange societies maintain their organizations if they choose, and especially if they are of any benefit in cases of sickness, or distress, or death, but let them be maintained with security to the public peace, and on that understanding only. If dangerous, let them be put down, by law if necessary; but we would far rather see them wise and prudent enough themselves to refrain in future from all such disturbing and useless exhibitions; and they may depend upon it that such a course of action would redound to their credit, and give them a higher standing than they now occupy in the estimation of those with whom politically, or religiously, or otherwise, they now differ. It is saddening to reflect upon the frequent evils that have attended these Orange demonstrations here and in Great Britain. We have with our own eyes witnessed scenes of the most brutish character created in the name of this order; in Scotland, England, and once here in these United States, Orangemen in processions, with the desecrated emblems of religion on their breasts, and maddened by drink and ignorant fanaticism, cudgelling suspected Catholics, and shooting them, like dogs, in cold blood, we have ourselves seen; stood by while cold blooded murder was being perpetrated in the name of Protestantism, and the fiends escape the punishment they merited. Armed as they were, and surrounded by their armed associates, the onlookers dared not interfere, or they too would die, while the police, of the same creed chiefly, and sympathisers with the ruffians, were conveniently on duty where their services were not wanted. Only the other day, in the important city of Newark, N. J., an Irish Orange Protestant procession from New York visited the place, and marched through the streets, every man bearing his "revolver," because that city is said to contain many of their countrymen who are Catholics, and as they paraded along with their display of mottoes, paintings and emblems, offensive to those of an opposite creed, the Mayor had to call out the local military, anticipating every moment an attack on some chapel or residence known to belong to those of the Romish faith. Nothing, however, occurred till the last, when a poor negress lost her life, as the members of the lodges fired off their pistols when leaving the city, and such was the unfortunate conclusion of that Orange display in the name of Orange Christianity. Certainly, therefore, it was wisdom on the part of the Prince, and his party, to rebuke these partisans in Canada, as he has done. Their display was out of place; suggested by the pride of creed, it was likely to lead to ill feeling among their fellow inhabitants; it was discourteous to their visitor, who came there not as a partisan, but as a Prince, and who, though a Protestant, will in the course of time be called on, in all human probability, to mete out the liberal laws of Great Britain to Catholic and Protestant, with the same equal hand. Good taste and common sense should have taught them that loyalty is the property of no one creed, while, on the other hand, a creed does not necessarily make us believer loyal. But, in spite of all creed interference, Canada has only shown that the true spirit of untrammelled loyalty fills her heart from centre to circumference.—*Scottish American, New York, Sept. 15.*

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

Sir;—The outrages on our common loyalty and love of law and order commenced and perpetuated by the Orange Lodges in and about the City of Kingston, C. W., during the hours that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales' Steamer lay off that port, are simply so characteristically disloyal and utterly unchristian, that I had fain not sully your pages by any reference to their occurrence but by way of drawing the attention of my fellow liberal minded Protestants in this Colony to the loathsome insults offered to their fellow-christians of the Roman Catholic Church by the Orangemen of this Island, or at least by the Charlottetown Lodge.

We read in the *Monitor* of this week that the Montreal *Witness* announces the *fact* that the Societies of St. George and St. Andrew are bona fide NATIONAL, whereas, that of St. Patrick, confining its admission list solely to professing members of the Church of Rome, cannot rightly be characterised as *National*. We never before heard that the Society of St. Patrick refuse admission to any native of Ireland on the score of his religious creed, any more than that the sister national Societies of St. George and St. Andrew refuse admission to any members of the Church of Rome who are respectively natives of England and Scotland. The three national Societies above mentioned are equally simply organised for charitable purposes, and ignore the recognition of any creed or class in the rolls of membership or objects of charity. In the other Colonial papers we read that the Orangemen of that indelibly disgraced City of Kingston included among others of their most hateful and stupidly bigotted printed shibboleths, the following inscriptions on arches erected in honor of the visit of their Queen's son,—"*Our God, Our Country, and Our Queen,*" and with burning bush depicted near it, "*Ever burning but never consumed.*" Now, Sir, some weeks since my attention was drawn to a flag or apron, I forget which, hung or suspended over the door of the Temperance Hall, in this City, on the occasion of a Bazaar being held there, in aid of the funds of the Free Kirk of Scotland, with the latter of these two highly sensible mottoes thereon inscribed in the Latin tongue; and on the 12th of July last, on a moderate sized Flag, hoisted over a room in DesBrisay's building, supposed to be used as an Orange Lodge, as its inscription, the former—the two first words, "Our God," being omitted. The omission of the words "Our God," I take to be strikingly happy, and to be a tacit admission on the part of the Orange Lodge here that "*their devil*" is the principal feature omitted in their properly abbreviated motto, as I firmly believe him to be the prime agent in their detested movement; and as a further improvement, suggest the strict and evident propriety of their erasing the last two words, "Our Queen," ere they next hoist their rag, since they, through the representatives of their *honored fraternity* in Kingston, have so willfully and wickedly insulted her Son. I simply take this opportunity, as I wrote above, of warning my anti-Orange fellow Protestant subjects against blindness to the insidious and cowardly insults offered to their fellow-subjects of the Roman Catholic persuasion by the Orange Lodge of Charlottetown, not deeming the subject matter of Orangeism fit for discussion in a public Journal.

Knowing well, Sir, I write to one who feels with me grateful to His Grace the Duke of Newcastle for his peremptory refusal to countenance the misguided but fatally mischievous fanaticism of the Kingston Orangemen, and most respectfully assuring His Grace that to the long and valued list of public services he has been the means of rendering to these Colonies, none are more fully appreciated, or deserve more entirely the sincerest offers of our warmest gratitude than the gloriously well-timed and public attestation he has made in His Gracious Mistress's name against one of the most disloyal acts ever perpetrated in Her Majesty's dominions.

I am, Sir, yours,
A PROTESTANT CITIZEN.

Charlottetown, Sept. 15, 1860.

P. S.—Allow me space, by the bye, to congratulate my anti-Orange fellow-Protestants on the possible dawning of a new era in store for them, myself and our Island home, surmising that as the insulting and too long tolerated self-arrogance of Orangeism has hitherto attributed to itself all the true Protestantism and loyalty of our body, and as we perceive in the erasure of two words in the Charlottetown Orange flag they withdraw their dependence and vaunted reliance on the King of Kings, and their worthy brother malcontents in Kingston grossly despise and insult the impersonation of their temporal Sovereign, that they may, with others like them, collectively, ere long, effacing the two last remaining words "*Our Country,*" from their detestable Flag, leave this Colony and Upper Canada for their respective countries' good, and this Island and that splendid province to the peaceful occupation of more decent Christians and loyal subjects.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

Mr. Editor,—Permit me to make a few remarks in reference to a rumour which has been in circulation this some time, to the effect that favour is shown by those clerical gentlemen of various denominations of Protestants who compose our Board of Education, to those Teachers belonging to their different sects, who have undergone re-examination recently under the provisions of the new Act, passed during the last Session of the Legislature; and that the Catholic Teachers, having no person on the Board to show them fair play in their contest with sectarianism, are overpowered by the injustice of their opponents, and compelled to quit the field, under the impression that the success of the battle of Board does not depend so much upon the individual strength or skill, as upon the number and influence of the friends of the contending parties.

With regard to this rumour, I am compelled to say, that I can scarcely give it credence. It *may* possibly be the case, that justice is so far sacrificed to party prejudice and sectarianism, as to render the above allegation true; but I entertain very grave doubts respecting it, for this reason: that the justness and amiableness almost invariably characteristic in individuals of the clerical calling ought to be blended with every action of those gentlemen in their present vocation, who, in consideration of these virtues, ought not to be warped in their judgment by the above motives. I can hardly be induced to believe that those who call themselves ministers of God, whose lives should be exemplary—whose characters should serve as models for their respective flocks to mould theirs by—whose judgment and actions should be characterized by justice and the strictest impartiality, would act so. I repeat, I can scarcely believe the report to be genuine which states that those gentlemen, wearing their white neckcloths as emblems of purity, would soil their ermine in exercising such unjustifiable partiality in the passing of Teachers, as is reported to be employed by them.

My residence being near the northern extremity of the Island, a considerable distance, as you are aware, Sir, from its little metropolis, the locality where our Teachers must repair to undergo examination, it is natural to suppose that the doings of the Board *might* be sadly misstated before reaching the ears of people of this ungenial clime, and consequently be misrepresented to us. While I most ardently hope that such is the case, I must say, in conclusion, that if it be really a fact that there is any favour shown to one party more than to another, these gentlemen are unworthy of their high calling, and forfeit that respect and honour unquestionably due to impartial and justice-loving gentlemen.

I remain, yours truly,
A NORWEGIAN.

North Cape, Kildare, Aug. 16, 1860.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

Sir,—Are you aware that in appointing Small Debt Commissioners for the Court at St. Peter's, the Government have taken a person from Queen's County for that purpose? Such is, indeed, the case, and the people here feel insulted, particularly as the Commissioner referred to is not the most competent person in the world. It seems that the few supporters of the Government in this quarter are so ashamed of their party for their general mismanagement of affairs, that not one of them could be induced to take the office. At all events, none of them will venture to say a word publicly in favour of the bungling Government, and its speedy downfall is confidently predicted on all sides.

Yours respectfully,
MAC.

St. Peter's, Sept. 14, 1860.

Public Meetings on the Land Question.

MEETING AT GRAND RIVER, LOT 56.

A public meeting of the inhabitants of Grand River, Lot 56, was held at the Cross Roads School House, on Wednesday Evening last, 19th instant,—W. Henry Williams, Esqr., in the Chair—for the purpose of making known to the Royal Commissioners the views entertained by the Tenantry on the Land Question, in that section. The meeting was numerously attended, there being present a very large majority of the Tenants on the Township, and the following Resolutions were unanimously agreed to:—

Proposed by John E. McDonald, Esqr., seconded by Mr. James McKenzie:

Whereas, this Meeting having been informed that Her Majesty's Royal Commissioners are invested with full powers to settle the various questions at issue between landlord and tenant, whether relating to the non performance of the conditions in the original grants—the arrears of Quit Rents due from the Proprietors to the Government—or the unjust occupation by the latter of the lands known as Fishery Reserves;—*Resolved*, That the people here assembled confidently hope that those questions will be settled to the satisfaction of the inhabitants of the Island generally—that the titles to Township lands will be investigated—that if the arrears of Quit Rents are legally due the payment of them shall be enforced—and that the interests of Her Majesty's subjects in the Fishery Reserves shall be secured to them, and that they shall no longer be compelled to pay rent for the same.

Proposed by J. C. Underhay, Esqr., seconded by Mr. Charles McDonald:

Resolved, That in the event of Her Majesty's Commissioners confirming proprietary titles under the original grants, this Meeting ardently hopes that a remission of all the old arrears of rent, whether secured by bonds notes or bills of sale—may be awarded by the Commissioners; and that in determining a scale of prices for the purchase of Township lands, the terms on which a purchase should be effected on behalf of the Tenantry should be as favourable as those that are likely to be secured to the settlers on the Selkirk estate. And it is also the opinion of this Meeting that such purchase of Township lands should be made through the agency and on the credit of the Government of this Island—strengthened by the active cooperation of Her Majesty's Imperial Government, which this Meeting considers should be freely given, in satisfaction for the injury inflicted on the Colony by the indiscriminate disposal of all the lands in the Island at and before the period of its first settlement.

Proposed by Mr. James McDonald, seconded by Mr. Donald McDonald:

Resolved, That the Hon. Edward Whelan and John Sutherland, Esquire, be Delegates to represent the views of this Meeting, as set forth in the foregoing resolutions, before Her Majesty's Royal Commissioners, now holding their Court in this Island.

Signed, on behalf of the Meeting,
H. W. Williams, Chairman.

MEETING AT ST. PETER'S BAY.

A public meeting of the inhabitants of St. Peter's, and adjoining settlements, was held at the house of John Sutherland, Esqr., Head of St. Peter's Bay, on Monday, the 17th instant, when the following resolutions, having reference to the Land Question, were unanimously passed:—

1st. Proposed by Mr. Angus McDonald, seconded by Mr. Neil Robertson:

Whereas, It is the opinion of this Meeting that the terms contained in the Land Purchase Bill were not justly carried out in the purchase by the Government of the Worrell Estate, inasmuch as that one clause of the Bill required that the titles of the Land should be investigated previous to purchase, and werein are the following words: "The Commissioner of Public Lands shall investigate, or cause to be investigated, the titles of such lands, and he shall make a report of the result of such examination and investigation to the Government." And the report of the Attorney General's investigation is in the following words:—"The conditions of settlements in all the grants, being the usual conditions, and being known to the Government, I have deemed it unnecessary to advert to them in the foregoing abstract." *Resolved therefore*, that this meeting, having entire confidence in her Majesty's Commission, appointed to settle the Land Question, earnestly request that the Commission will be pleased to take the purchase of the Worell Estate, without investigation of the title, into their honourable consideration, and extend whatever benefits may result to the tenantry generally from their decision to those who are settled on the lands purchased by the Government.

2d. Proposed by Mr. John McInnis, seconded by Mr. Donald Gillis:

Resolved, That in the event of Her Majesty's Commission not interfering with the titles of Land, this meeting would consider it a boon conferred upon them did the Commission reduce the price of land on the Worell Estate, which is ten shillings currency per acre, to a par with that of the Selkirk Estate, which this meeting understands to be three shillings and six pence per acre.

3d. Proposed by Mr. Anthony McCormack, seconded by Mr. John Ryan:

Resolved, That this meeting, being aware that three persons, viz: Charles Worell, Colonel Surrell, and Captain Stewart, were demanding and endeavouring to collect rents for the same land, at one and the same time, have therefore reason to doubt the existence of any valid title.

4th. Proposed by John McIntyre, Esqr., seconded by Mr. Donald McIntyre:

Resolved, That this meeting do appoint John Sutherland, Esqr., M. P. P., to represent the views of the people of the Worrell Estate to the Commission at Georgetown, on the 19th inst., and that he be respectfully requested to lay the foregoing resolutions before the Commission.

A PUBLIC MEETING

Was held at William Larkin's, Bay Fortune Road, Lot 56, on Wednesday, the 19th instant, at 2 o'clock, p.m, at which the following resolutions were unanimously agreed to:—

Proposed by Mr. William Larkin, seconded by Mr. Michael Flinn:—

Resolved, That the condition of the Tenantry of Lot 56 be represented to the Royal Commissioners by the members of this District, Honorable Edward Whelan and John Sutherland, Esquire, with the view of procuring for them terms as favourable as can be obtained for leaseholders in other parts of the Island.

Proposed by Mr. James Whelan, seconded by Mr. Michael Whitty:

Resolved, That it is the desire of the people on this Township to have an enquiry made into the original grant of the Township, in order ro test the validity of the title thereto; and that should the present holder be confirmed in his possession, it is the earnest desire of the settlers on Lot 56 that all the old arrears of rent should be forgiven, and that they should be enabled to purchase their farms at or about such rate as that at which the Selkirk estate has been sold to the Government.

Signed, on behalf of the meeting,
Richard Dwan, Chairman.

For the Examiner.

THE LAND COMMISSION.

An unusually large and respectable meeting of the Inhabitants of the Eastern portion of Lot 50—Fanning's Estate—was held in the Vernon River School-house, on Friday, the 14th inst., for the purpose of taking into consideration what means ought to be adopted in order that this Estate might be fairly represented before the Royal Commission, sitting in the Island. Malcolm Forbes, Esq., having been called to the Chair, and Mr. J. H. Fletcher appointed Secretary, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted:

1. Proposed by John McDougald, Esq., seconded by Mr. Samuel Sabine—

Resolved, That this meeting heartily concurs in the opinion expressed by certain resolutions passed at a meeting of the inhabitants of Princetown Royalty and Lot 18, held on the 27th ult., for the purpose of taking into consideration matters connected with the Land Question, and the Land Commission appointed thereon.

2. Proposed by J. H. Fletcher, seconded by Mr. Allan McDougald—

Resolved, That this meeting learns with much satisfaction that the Land Commission now sitting in this Island, so far as it has progressed in the several matters referred to it for its decision, gives every reasonable ground for hoping that great good will accrue from its labors to the Tenantry of this Island.

3. Proposed by Mr. Andrew O'Keiff, seconded by Mr. Charles Richards—

Resolved, That in view of the foregoing resolutions, this meeting deem it highly necessary and expedient to send three delegates to Charlottetown, to co-operate with the other delegates sent from the various sections of the Island, in bringing before the Commission the several grievances arising out of the Land tenures in this Island.

Messrs. Malcolm Forbes, John McMillan and Samuel Sabine were then chosen as Delegates to act in accordance with these resolutions. The meeting was then addressed by several influential gentlemen, when it was resolved that the proceedings be forwarded to the *Islander* and *Examiner* newspapers for publication.

By order,
Sept. 14, 1860. J. H. FLETCHER, Secretary.

PUBLIC MEETING AT LOT 48.

A meeting of the inhabitants of Lot 48 took place at the Cross Roads Schoolhouse, on Friday, September 21st, for the purpose of bringing before the Honorable Commissioners the claims and grievances of the Tenantry of said Township. On motion, Rev. Dr. Knox was chosen Chairman, and Mr. John Butler, Secretary. After the meeting had been ably addressed by the Rev. Doctor and other gentlemen, the following Resolutions were unanimously passed.

1st. *Resolved*, That this meeting has full confidence in the Honorable Commissioners appointed to settle the Land Question of this Island.

2nd. *Resolved*, That it is the firm conviction of this meeting that the prosperity and improvement of the Island are very much retarded in consequence of the leasehold system; and that there can be neither prosperity nor contentment in the Colony until the tenantry shall become freeholders.

3rd. *Resolved*, That the Rev. Mr. Knox and Mr. Robert Stewart be appointed Delegates to meet the Commissioners, and communicate such information on behalf of the Tenants as they may require.

4th. *Resolved*, That the proceedings of this meeting be published in the *Examiner* and *Islander* newspapers.

John Knox, Chairman.
John Butler, Secretary.

Probably no medicine of modern times has received such high and unvarying testimonials of approval as the Oxygenated Bitters prepared by Seth W. Fowle & Co., Boston, and advertised in this paper. The names appended to certificates in favor of this remedy are among the first in standing and respectability throughout the British Provinces and the United States, and ought to have weight with those who are afflicted with Dyspepsia or any of its attendant evils, such as Indigestion, Sour Stomach, Loss of Appetite, Headache, and Liver Complaint.

LAND COMMISSIONERS' COURT.

Monday, 10th September, 1860.

Mr. Abercrombee Willock's Memorial to Her Majesty the Queen, on the subject of Tenant Grievances; dated 18 .

The Honourable Commissioners having on Saturday, the 8th instant, agreed to hear Mr. Willock read his said memorial this morning, he accordingly appeared in Court, at the opening thereof, to do so; and, soon after their Honors had taken their seats, he commenced reading it, frequently stopping to comment upon the facts set forth in the memorial. The Honorable Commissioners, influenced, undoubtedly, by a wish to be put in possession of every and all information which could, or would, be at all likely to aid them in forming a just estimate of the Island agrarian grievances, as arising from the existing system of the land tenures, were evidently well disposed to accord to Mr. Willock and his memorial the most courteous consideration and attention. Finding, however, as Mr. Willock proceeded with his memorial, that it contained nothing but a recapitulation of statements contained in the Journals of the House of Assembly; and to which their attention had previously been duly called and directed by William Cooper, Esquire, M.P.P., Hon. Colonel Swabey, M. L.C., Hon. Mr. Coles, M. P. P., they were—in order that their time might not be unnecessarily occupied, and the hearing of other evidence, which, probably, would prove altogether new to them, be needlessly delayed, obliged to admonish him, more than once, of the propriety of dispensing with all digression, and of coming to the point.

Mr. Willock's memorial is of great length; and purports to set forth many deceptive, oppressive, and altogether indefensible proceedings on the part of deceased, and other proprietary claimants;—such as the imposing, by the Grantees, although they had most signally failed in the performance of the conditions of their Grants, the same terms on British subjects as they might have imposed upon Foreigners, had they been introduced and settled upon the lands by the Grantees, according to the terms of their Grants;—the gross deceptions, flattering and specious representations of the advantages possessed by this Island for immigration and settlement, made by the Grantees and their Agents in Britain, which were practised to induce people to leave their native country; and who were not made aware of the delusion which had been practised upon them, until they had arrived in the Island, and the administration of its government being chiefly, if not altogether, in the hands of those who had a direct interest in deluding them, they were deprived of the means of redress, or even information as to their actual situation; and their means having been consumed in transporting themselves and families to the country, such unfortunate persons had no alternative but to submit to the terms of the Grantees, or to become squatters; by far the greater number, impelled by fear of utter destitution, had to accept of leases of forest or wilderness lands, in many cases for the short period of forty years, at the end of which the said lands were to be delivered up, with all their improvements to their landlords; also that in the year 1803 an Act was passed by the Colonial Legislature for organizing a Court of Escheat; that the measure was hailed by the inhabitants as the harbinger of justice; that an official return was transmitted to Her Majesty's Ministers by the Lieut. Governor, setting forth the number of acres in the Island settled and unsettled at the period alluded to, and exhibiting a list of a number of Townships clearly liable to forfeiture for a breach of the covenant relating to settlement, even on the supposition that the indulgence dispensing with the conditions requiring the lands to be settled with Foreign Protestants had been then issued and sactioned by the law; that the lands were on the point of being revested in the Crown, was so much expected by the grantees themselves, that many of them disposed of their grants for a mere trifle—in numerous instances for less than one penny per acre! to land-jobbers, speculators, and anti-constitutionalists; when, at the same time, the tenants settled upon them were subject to an annual rent of from one to two shillings sterling per acre; thus, 26,000 acres it is stated, in the memorial, was purchased by the late Governor Fanning for £9.

[The reporter did not take notes of Mr. Willock's memorial, as he (Mr. W.) read it, for the purpose of making anything like a full report of it; and neither would the shuffling of feet and restlessness of individuals in the Court have permitted him to do so, had such been his purpose; but he listened to Mr. Willock with all possible attention; and, as far as he could possess himself of the statements it contained, he believes the foregoing to be—although to a limited extent it is true—a faithful epitome of its contents and just representation of their nature.]

Act of the Colonial Legislature, of 1803, for effectually revesting in His Majesty, His Heirs and Successors, all such Lands as are or may be liable to forfeiture within this Island.

W. H. Pope, Esquire, the Colonial Secretary, in pursuance of an injunction, laid upon him by the Honorable Court, on Thursday last, to produce the manuscript journals and records having reference to the said Act, produced, and laid before the Honorable Commissioners, a manuscript purporting to be a copy of the said Act, and to be endorsed as such by the late John Cambridge, Esquire.

In answer to a question put to him by the Hon. Mr. Hensley, Mr. Pope said he had procured it from the office of the representatives of the late Mr. Cambridge.

Certified Copies of Grants.

Hon. Mr. Hensley laid before the Court certified copies of the original grants of Lots 1 and 6. The learned gentleman said the conditions of those grants were such as were set forth generally in all the grants.

Leases.

Hon. Colonel Grey said it was desirable that a copy of a lease, such as the leases generally run, should be laid before the honorable Court.

Hon. Mr. Hensley engaged that this should be done.

Case of Joseph Wise, Lot 32.

Hon. Mr. Hensley read to the Court a memorial of Joseph Wise, of Lot 32. In this memorial, it is stated that the memorialist came to this Island in 1830; that he took a lease of 109 acres of land from the late Mr. Owen, the agent of the late Mr. Cambridge—term 999 years, rent to commence in 1833, at 3d. per acre, for the first year, 6d for the second year, 9d. for the third year, and 1s. for the fourth year, and for each succeeding year until the end of the term; that when he took the land he believed it to be Mr. Cambridge's; but that, in 1835, when, with a view to some new arrangement about his farm, he applied for terms to Messrs. Crake and ——— who had a mortgage on Mr. Cambridge's lands, they informed him that his farm being on that part of the Lot which had been assigned to Loyalists, they had nothing to do with it; he then discontinued payment of rent, but that when Mr. now Judge Peters became agent for Mr. now Sir Samuel Cunard, he, the memorialist, being unable for want of pecuniary means to contend at law, was obliged to submit to the demand made upon him for arrears of rent by Mr. Peters; and that, therefore, he was obliged to give Mr. Peters his Bond and Warrant for £45, which he has since paid; that, up to the present time, he has paid in all, on account of rent, £144 10s.; that he has never been disposed to resist a just demand for rent; that he is still willing to pay what he covenanted to pay; but wishes to know whether—as his farm is loyalist land—he ought to pay to the proprietor of the Township, or to the Government; and thinks that, if Mr. Cambridge had no right to lease the land to him, he, Mr. Wise, ought to be paid back all the money which he has paid as rent under his lease.

Hon. Mr. Hensley said the case was confined to the memorialist; and the question was whether it came within the scope of the Commission. Others similarly circumstanced were waiting to know the opinion of the Court on Mr. Wise's case.

M. Wise said that about three years ago, when, owing to a failure of his crops, he was two years in arrear of rent, Mr. Deblois, Sir Samuel Cunard's present agent, had issued a warrant of distraint against him; and that the seizure made under it had injured him very much. He was not aware of the step which had been taken against him by Mr. Deblois until he was told of it by Mr. Deblois's clerk, one market-day when he called at his office to pay £6 on account of his arrears. This sum the clerk told him he could not receive, as a bailiff had gone to distrain for his arrears. He was willing to pay rent to the owners.

On being further questioned by the Honourable Commissioners and the learned Counsel, he said he was not a loyalist or the son of a loyalist. His sons had left the Island because they had no prospect of succeeding here by farming. He did not sell because he could not; his lease was not a good one, because Mr. Cambridge who granted it had no right to grant it, as the land which it purposed to demise was a part of the loyalist assignment of the Township. None but himself and another pay or have paid rent for any part of the loyalist portion of the Township. All others settled on the loyalist portion sit rent free.

Hon. Commissioner Gray.—If the loyalists did not take the land, it seemed only right that it should revert to the proprietor. We do not wish to have particular or mere individual cases brought before us. We wish to ascertain what is the general working of the land-tenure system; and by our decision to afford every tenant an opportunity to purchase his farm at a fair price.

On the question's being asked—How the Loyalist Lands were laid off? the Hon. Mr. Coles replied, They were laid off by an Order in Council.

Hon. Commissioner Howe.—We cannot deal with particular cases—we can give heed to none but such as illustrate the general system.

Hon. Commissioner Gray.—This case no doubt shews the evils—the disadvantages—of the system; but we cannot expressly deal with it. If an individual has been induced, by fraudulent means, to take a lease which it is held is not valid, redress must be sought in the ordinary Courts of Law.

Mr. Wise examined by the Hon. Mr. Hensley.

Mr. Wise, in answer to the question, what would you think a fair price for your farm? said he had already paid more than the value of it. In 1842 he offered to purchase it, and Mr. Peters asked him £100 sterling for it—£150 Island currency. When asked, if he were allowed 15 years to pay the purchase money with interest at 6 per cent. how much would he be willing to pay for his farm, he said £60 or £70 with interest would be a fair price.

Hon. Commissioner Howe.—You mean nothing but the value of the land when you went upon it.

Mr. Wise.—It is my labor which has given the land its present value.

Questioned by S. Thomson, Esquire.

My sons have left the Island on account of the oppressive nature of the land-tenure system. I believe that if the lands were held in fee-simple by the occupants, their value would be doubled in ten years: if they continued to be held as at present the state of the country, instead of getting better, must get worse.

Examined by C. Palmer, Esquire.

Lives 9 miles from Town, on Lot 32. Are you aware that valuable estates have been sold on that Lot? There are no freeholders on the river. There may be some, but I am not aware that there are. Did or did not the proprietor offer to sell your farm to you? He did offer it to me for £150 Island Currency. Have any lands or farms on Lot 32 been sold lately, that is within the last two or three years? No, nor within the last ten years. Have no lands been sold lately on Winsloe's property? Yes, some lots of about 12 acres each, woodlands, which were bought by individuals who had no firewood on their farms. One individual, I believe, gave as much as £20 for 12 acres. I cannot say whether these lots were 12 acres or 24 acres each. You know all about the Winsloe property, do you not? No, I do not. Were you ever distrained upon? Yes, three years ago. I had no notice that the distraint was to be made—heard nothing about it. Heard of it when I offered to pay £6; but not before. How long before that had you paid rent? I had paid regularly, except that at that time, on account of the failure of my crops, two or three years back, I was two years in arrear.

Mr. Deblois.

Mr Deblois stepped forward and said, that, if any explanation concerning Mr. Wise's case were required of him, he was prepared to give it. The only question or dispute between him (Wise) and the proprietor, so far as he (Mr. Deblois) knew, was on the score of one year's rent,—Wise affirming that rent was reckoned against him one year earlier than it ought, by his agreement, to have commenced. However, believing Mr. Wise to be quite wrong on that head, he (Mr. Deblois) had determined to make him pay. As to what Mr. Wise had said about his having no previous notice of the distraint which he (Mr. D) had caused to be made upon him, he had, he believed two months notice of it; at least he was certain that such notice was sent out of his office.

Mr. Palmer to Mr. Wise. If you were about to sell your farm, what would you ask for it? Wise, I once asked a man if he would give me £100 for it, and he said he would not.

Evidence of the Delegates of the Tenantry on Lot 34—Messrs. James Robertson, John Scott McLeod, Isaac Thompson, ——— Douglas, and another.

The information afforded to the Honorable Court by these delegates and the opinions avowed by them, may be summed up as follows:—

When their grand-fathers or their fathers settled upon the lands now in their occupation, these lands, being covered with thick woods, were valueless as respected all immediate objects of cultivation; they had first to cut down heavy birch woods, which, when cut down, were not worth one farthing to them. People in the old country, paying at the rate of the £2 or £3 per acre for their farms, and quite ignorant of the wilderness state of this Island, thought, when they were informed that they might have it at 1s. an acre, that, could they obtain farms here at that rate, it would be quite easy for them to attain to almost immediate independence: but, when they came out, they soon found that to clear a single acre for cultivation would cost them no less than £4 or £5. Farms which have been in a course of cultivation and improvement for about 40 years may be worth 20 years' purchase. So said Mr. Robertson; but Mr Thomson said they were not worth more than 7s. or 7s 6d. per acre—not a copper more—allowing the landlord's title to be perfectly good. If the whole of the Montgomeries' property were to be sold to the tenants, 7s an acre would, in his opinion, be quite enough for it.

Hon Mr. Coles said it should be understood by the Court that Lot 32, the lot in question, was the best in the Island.

Hon. Commissioner Howe asked—If there were no other prospect than that the lands would for ever remain subject to their present rents, would it cause many of the young men on the lot to leave the Island? *Mr. Thomson.* He believed it would. *Mr. McLeod.* Young men had no chance to stay here. He had nine sons, some of them grown up. He could not take farms for them; but if land were at a fair price, he would try to buy lands for them. If he could not they would go off to foreign countries. We have never had bad agents, but many have had bad ones, by whom they had been pressed almost to death. From such agents the proprietors got little; but they (the agents) lived and fattened as long as they could upon their agencies, and, when they could retain their posts no longer, away they went! I hold 100 acres at a rent of £5 11s. 1d. per annum. Stumping has cost me £3 an acre. My farm is worth £300 or £400. I think the lease worth nothing. What I have done upon the land is worth £300. I would be willing to buy the fee-simple of my farm at from 7s. to 10s. per acre; but I am well aware that all the land under cultivation in the Island is not worth so much. We are near the market, and what we would be willing to pay is the highest figure.

Hon. Commissioner Gray asked Mr Robertson what he thought would be a fair purchase of the lands held under lease, whatever the rents might be—whether 6d., 9d., or 1s., per acre per annum. *Mr Robertson* replied—10 years' purchase, if the Proprietors' titles be good.

Fishery Reserves.

It appeared to be the opinion of these delegates, with respect to the Fishery Reserves, that it would be best for the tenants whose lands abut on these Reserves, that the Reserves should be included in their farms; and that, when any portions of them should be required for fishing purposes, they should be at liberty to let such portions to parties so requiring them, on whatever terms they could mutually agree upon. To the question, put by the Hon. Mr. Coles, Would they be willing to pay for the Fishery Reserves what they paid for the rest of their farms? Mr. McLeod said, No.

Case of Neil Darrach, of Township 65.

Theophilus Stewart, Esquire, appeared to call the particular attention of the Hon. Commissioners to this case, which the Hon. Mr. Coles had brought under their notice the day before.

After demurring as to whether or not the case had such relation to the general system of the land tenures as would warrant their allowing any time of the Court to be consumed in hearing it, the Hon. Commissioners courteously consented to hear Mr. Stewart's statement of it. Mr Stewart then went through the case with much clearness and succinct particularity. Whereupon the Hon. Court at once decided that to deal with it did not come within the scope of their Commission.

The whole case is contained in the Report of a Special Committee of the House of Assembly, 9th April, 1853.

To be continued.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, P.E.I., September 25, 1860.

LATE AND IMPORTANT NEWS.

The Cunard Steamship *Melita* arrived at Halifax on the evening of the 13th instant, in ten days from Liverpool, with dates to the 5th instant. The news of most importance by this arrival relate to the affairs of Italy; and if the accounts of Garibaldi's progress are to be depended upon, there is every likelihood that the Neapolitan Kingdom will soon pass out of the hands of the Bourbons. The following extracts give the principal features of the news:—

The correspondent of the *Daily News*, at Turin, who has access to official quarters, announces the military arrangements made by Count Cavour's Cabinet, in anticipation of the immediate fall of the Bourbon dynasty. The object is to prevent Naples becoming a prey to anarchy. The Neapolitan army is either conquered or broken up. The people are proclaiming Victor Emmanuel. Delay might cause the shipwreck of the monarchial principle, or a French Prince might turn the interregnum to his own profit. There will, however, be no delay.

The Piedmontese berseglieri are to land at Naples forthwith from the Sardinian ships. Gen. La Marmora is to arrive as speedily as possible afterwards with 30,000 men. If the rapid conveyance of so large a force should be impossible, the Pope will be asked to allow a passage through his dominions. The Pope has twice before conceded this passage—once to the Austrians, and once to the Neapolitans. The Sardinian Government is hiring every transport it can find, and the Pope's assent may dot be required; but time is precious. The question is, what Lamoriciere will do in case a Piedmontese force passes through the Pope's territory. Other questions besides the Neapolitan may be hastening a solution. The Sardinians say that Austria will not be touched, but she must cease making Ancona her military fort.

Francis II. is ready and anxious to be off to Gaeta, as the last stage on Neapolitan soil on his route to Vienna or Madrid.

The last despatches from Naples come down to Monday last, at which date "there was nothing new." The troops