

had culture—full of poetry and enthusiasm. Do you blame me?"

"Not a whit," I said; "but for Margaret?" "Ah, Margaret!" said Westwood, with a sigh. "But, you see, I had given her up. And when one love is lost, there sink such awful chasms into the soul, that, though they cannot be filled, we must at least bridge them over with a new affection. The number of marriages built in this way, upon false foundations of hollowness and despair, is incalculable. We talk of jilted lovers and disappointed girls, hurrying 'out of spite.' No doubt, such petty feelings hurried forward many premature matches. But it is the heart, left shaken, unsupported, wretchedly sinking, which reaches out its feelers for sympathy, catches at the first available point, and clings like a helpless vine to the sun-dried wall of the nearest consolation. If you wish to marry a girl and can't, and are weak enough to desire her still, this is what you should do; get some capable man to jilt her. Then seize your chance. All the affections which have gone out to him, cannot, ready to droop, quivering with the painful hungry instinct to grasp some object, may possibly be held of you. Let the world sneer; but God pity such natures, which lack the faith and fortitude to live and die true to their best love.

(To be continued.)

The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., SEPTEMBER 13, 1858.

GENERAL MEETING OF THE INHABITANTS OF QUEEN'S COUNTY.

AT CHARLOTTETOWN, WEDNESDAY, 25th AUGUST, 1858.

WILLIAM MCGILL, Esquire, High Sheriff, in the Chair.

(Continued from our last.)

Hon. COLONIAL SECRETARY then came forward and was received with loud and hearty cheers. The hon. gentleman spoke nearly as follows:—

Gentlemen,—I have been summoned to meet you here as a culprit to receive sentence at your hands. And why is this? Why am I so called upon to appear before you? Only gentlemen, because in the high position which, through your favor, I occupy, I am supposed to have had the chief hand in inflicting deserved disgrace upon a refractory and insubordinate Government official; and because a lately defeated faction hope that, by the most disingenuous statements, or rather by the most positive falsehoods, which they have most industriously and zealously disseminated throughout the community, concerning the expulsion from his office of that contumacious official, they have been able to make impressions upon the public mind unfavorable to the Government of which I have the honor to be recognized as the Leader, and that such impression has been more especially made in Queen's County, wherein they falsely claim to have polled a majority of the electors at the late Elections; and that, consequently, they may possibly obtain from this meeting a verdict condemnatory of me and the Government; elicited from the sympathy which they think they have awakened, or may, on this occasion, be able to awake in your bosoms for that discarded official and his previously discarded Assistant. The chief object of the Requisitionists, as at once stated by themselves, was to take into consideration what, in their own language is thus expressed:—"the high-handed and tyrannical measures of the Governor and Council, in their dismissals of Thomas Owen and Peter Desbrisay, Esquires, our highly respected Postmaster-General and his equally respected Assistant, gentlemen in whom, we believe, the whole County have the most perfect confidence, and whose services, extending over a period of many years, have given universal satisfaction." Weak-minded and most easily deceived indeed should you be did you believe that the agitation which has given rise to this meeting had its origin in sympathy for the discarded officials, Messrs. Owen and Desbrisay; but that you do not. The unanimity with which you have adopted the Resolution which has just been submitted to you, is a convincing proof that you clearly perceive the real design and animus of the leading agitators in this movement. They no more disinterestedly or in reality sympathize with the discarded officials, on account of the loss sustained by them, than do they who are quite ignorant of the existence of Messrs. Owen and Desbrisay; and, besides, I really believe that many of those whom these obstructives declare to have the most perfect confidence in these gentlemen neither know them personally nor by name, nor yet even by reputation. Having failed, as your Resolution expresses it, to obtain a constitutional triumph over the Government at the late General Election, on which—knowing how deeply, extensively and secretly religious prejudices had been excited, and fomented on their behalf—they had placed implicit dependence for their resurrection from the grave of political nothingness, and their reinstatement in the place of power and emolument which they so eagerly coveted; their sore disappointment threw them into a state of almost perfect demoralization; and, in their insane fury, they seized upon the constitutional dismissals of two insubordinate officials—for whose real interests, apart from those of the lowest outcasts of society—as little as they do for those of the lowest outcasts of society—and determined to magnify and impose them upon the country as veritable public grievances, or at least as instances of individual wrongs of a free and generous people, such as it is well known they of this Island are, to express themselves in tones and language of the highest indignation. But this base-born scheme of a few raving and insanely ambitious men, with respect to which nothing is more surprising than that, into the devising and concocting of it a number of otherwise really rational and sound-thinking men should have allowed themselves to be seduced by its insane original projectors—this project, as less unprincipled than absurd, by which, through the expected awakening of party and sectarian hostility the people of this County, divided into two most determinedly antagonistic parties, might have encountered one another in most deadly strife, but from all apprehension of which your calm and peaceable demeanor, and above all your disregard of and contempt for the wanton provocation which was lately given you, have relieved the minds of your friends, and put it beyond a doubt that, unless a most unprovoked and outrageous assault should be made upon you, you are not the men to jeopardize, by insensate riot, the Government are, at this moment, you and your friends in the Government are, at this moment, in the very act of achieving; or to give fulfillment, by any willful breach of the laws, to the domineering wishes of your enemies, to which they have delightedly given expression in their bloody prophecies. [Much cheering.] This project which, although originally conceived in fatuity, was, with great labour and some skill, fashioned into something like an effective organic structure, whence it was expected the chief engineers of the party might, with certain aim and deadly effect, launch their chosen missiles to the complete overthrow of the Government and the extirpation of the liberties and sovereignty of the people—this project which, in the estimation of its projectors and its friends, was so mighty in power, and which, we were told, would prove so mighty and overwhelming in its effects, as at once to sweep the Government as it were from the face of the earth, has, at the very moment when its awful power was to be exhibited by the utter annihilation of "the powers that be," proved the most weak invention that has ever yet been devised by the enemies of the people and of self-government? A far greater failure has attended it than resulted to them from their cunning device for the converting of fanaticism into a political engine for their undeserved restoration to power, although all the evils which will finally proceed from that piece of Satanic craft, as its natural fruit, and fall upon their own heads, cannot as yet be either rightly estimated or foreseen. In fact this monster meeting, this mighty demonstration of theirs has already, by its opening appearance, so unfavorable to their views, deprived them of all heart or desire for its further development, and, hastily fleeing from its dreaded results, the leaders of our enemies, without having struck a single blow, have left us, the accused, whom they haughtily challenged to the contest, masters of the field, encompassed by thousands of our highly delighted friends and supporters. [Much cheering.] How could our triumph be more complete or our defeat more signal! [Cheers.] The most important and lasting consequences, whether to either or to both parties, which will result from

this meeting, must for some time yet remain in the womb of time; but they will be brought forth in due season, and I venture, without any misgivings to predict, that the Obstructives, at no distant day, will be convinced to their sorrow that—in consequence of the peculiar enlightenment and designs mind and the unravelling of their secret machinery and designs which will have proceeded from this meeting—they have lost far more ground than they gained by the law, mean, dishonest arts and false pretences by which they had recourse at the late General Election, and by the statements contrary to facts which they have since made in aid of their seditious and place-hunting policy; and that at the meeting of the Legislature they will find themselves at quite as discouraging and hopeless a distance from power, place, and emolument as they were four years ago, notwithstanding all the desperate efforts which they have of late made to attain them. Some of your fellow colonists they have deceived on one point; but few, very few if any have they deceived as to the real selfishness of their designs; although they have certainly contrived, by means of misstatements, made with the most barefaced effrontery, to deceive many ignorant and single-minded people throughout the country; and to this end they have been most wickedly aided by men whose mission is not to govern their fellow men, but to teach the truth, not to interfere in political contests, but to make men wiser and better, not only by their teaching, but by the simplicity, the humility, and the parity of their lives and conversation! [Hear! Hear! Hear!] But their policy is really as silly as it is unmanly and immoral; and many of those who, at a time of religious or fanatical excitement, pronounced in their favor and swelled their ranks, will as they regain possession of their sober senses, flee from them and return to their old associates and true friends, the Liberals. Be not discouraged nor enraged because, at such a time, deceived by the false statements, and led astray by the bigoted counsels of those whom it was natural for them to reverence as their spiritual pastors, many whom you had long reckoned as good men and true among yourselves went over to the enemy's camp. Be neither uneasy nor angry on that account; for they will, they must return to you. They will soon find that those to whom they have gone over have no sympathies in common with them. They can never amalgamate with them, so long as they are, in any sense or degree, true to themselves. Many of those, therefore, who are your declared enemies to-day may be your best friends to-morrow. Many of these deluded men who are now insanely clinging the very individuals upon the chains of bondage, may awake to-morrow from their delusion, and bitterly and sincerely repent of the part in the drama of this day which they are now playing with so much enthusiasm. They have certainly endeavored to incense you to-day; but you have nobly repressed your indignation at their unprovoked aggression; and should they repeat it, you will, I doubt not— pitying their delusion, and remembering that, although opposed to you to-day, they may very possibly be with you to-morrow,—bear with their folly and preserve the peace as you have hitherto done. The object for which this meeting has been called very naturally involves a discussion of the principles of Responsible Government; but our opponents, the very provokers of such discussion, have fled from the field as if truly ashamed of their ignorance of those principles, and thoroughly conscious that they could not for one moment sustain their position in the presence of those who fully understand them and have successfully established their practical operation in this Colony; and we are left to expand it by ourselves. [Hear! Hear! Hear!]

"The high-handed and tyrannical measures," as the petty faction in this city has presumed to style the dismissals from their offices of Messrs. Desbrisay and Owen, have already been proved, by the Hon. Colonel Swabey, to be in perfect accordance with the principles of Responsible Government, and to have been nothing more than a necessary and reasonable practical illustration of those principles. And easy would it be for me to show that more true honor to my colleagues in the Legislature and the Government, and to myself, and more real benefit to the people, have emanated from the seven years' duration of our power than proceeded from thirty years or more of irresponsible rule, when all, as respected the people, which particularly distinguished the course of those who were in power, was their determined and painful opposition to the wishes of the people. [Cheers.] Yes, the course invariably pursued by the detested Obstructives, whilst they were in power, directly tended to the repression of the people's natural aspirations for an expansion of their rights and liberties and their advancement in the social and political scale; and such would it be at this very day, were they still in power, and such will they endeavor again to make it, should they, most unfortunately for the weal of this Colony, ever again have the chief direction of its affairs. [Hear! Hear! Hear!] On account of our having constitutionally removed a couple of subordinate officials who presumed they could oppose the Government with impunity, and deny the right of any power in this Colony to interfere with them in their respective offices, the petty Charlottetown faction have accused us of tyranny, and their blinded and besotted adherents have echoed the accusation. How deservedly, on account of their many and notorious misdeeds, they were first cast down from their high estate, I need scarcely now remind you, by the quoting of any particular instances of their usurpation, tyranny, and oppression; for from the memories of their assumption and abuse of power, and from the knowledge of their assumption and abuse of power—and but few can there be among you who have not had some such knowledge of them—the records of them cannot yet have been, and never will I should think, be effaced. Merely then glancing at their little haughty ignorance, enshrined in which, in their term of interrupted power they could see no worth, no deserving, no right, or title to any privileges or advantages in any but their own persons, or in the persons of the high and strong barriers which they erected and defended for the exclusion of all save themselves, their families, and their family connections, from every path or avenue which led to honor or emolument—and considering for a instant their past endeavors to persuade you to regard despotism—for such was their rule, and such is the rule which they long to establish as amongst the natural rights of man; let us more closely view their reckless and liberal conduct, during the few short months for which they, not long ago, squatted themselves in the Government; but when, alas for their blind ambition! all their hopes perished, even as it were at the very moment of their realization, beneath the weight of their own absurd and outrageous counsels. Then the very men who now seek to criminate my colleagues in the Government and myself for the dismissals of Messrs. Desbrisay and Owen, at once deprived of his appointment every liberal who held an office under the Government, even down to poor Mr. Gilligan—a Waterloo soldier, and who, I believe, had previously fought in twenty pitched battles, whom, because he had voted for the late Government, they deprived of his office of Clerk of the Meat Market, with a salary of some £10 or £15 a year! [Hear! Hear! Hear!] And now, because we have dismissed two refractory subordinates, who bearded us in our very seats of authority, by daring and defying us to dismiss them, these arbitrary men presume to accuse us of tyranny, and actually summon us to surrender our power into their hands! What folly! what presumption, what arrogance can exceed those of these men! If sane, surely they would have seen the propriety of waiting till—in parliament they could make a constitutional trial of the strength with that of the Government, by proposing a vote of want of confidence in us, which, if carried, would at once abate us and elevate them in our stead. They accuse us of ruling with a rod of iron; but the fact of our appearing here this day to answer to their accusation, completely disproves it. Instead of our having at any time sought to repress or even in any way to limit popular power, every day proves that under our rule it is regularly increasing in strength and extending its sphere. Can there be a more convincing proof of the growing power of the people and of its recognition by those who are placed in authority over them, than our appearing here this day at the Call of the High Sheriff of the County, in the face of the Colonial Building, to answer to any charges of maladministration which our enemies have the utmost scope and licence to prefer against us? Was there ever greater freedom than this! [Much cheering.] For my own part, I have never since my entrance into political life been afraid to meet my enemies on any stage, and I never will. [Cheers.] Now let us see what is said in the Canadian papers concerning these dismissals about which the Obstructives have made so tremendous a rout among us. The hon. gentleman then read as follows, from the Quebec Chronicle of the 13th inst.

"In Prince Edward Island several persons holding official situations chose to vote and to use their influence against the Government; and they were accordingly dismissed. Our neighbours, we fear, do not entertain fair or practical views concerning Responsible Government. It is only reasonable that persons holding public situations should not use their

influence against the powers that exist. If they cannot conscientiously vote for them on the occurrence of some particular crisis, they should forbear from voting, or should be ready to resign their situations. The observance of this rule is requisite in limited monarchies, and it is absolutely insisted upon in democratic republics."

What was Mr. Owen as Postmaster General in this Colony? Was he not responsible to us the Government? Was he not our servant; and as such was he not bound to obey our lawful commands? If, however, he refused to obey our lawful commands, was it not according to our place, was it not our duty, to dismiss him? Most of you are farmers. Well, if any one of you had a farm servant who, in total disregard of your positive and lawful commands, with respect to his labour, would only plough, harrow or sow, or do anything else, just where, when, and how he pleased, would you not dismiss that refractory servant from your employ? [Yes! To be sure! Certainly!] The obstructives and their organs direct all their accusations and objections more particularly against me than against the Government collectively. They say who is George Coles that he presumes to do this or that he dares to do that? In answer, I am bold to tell them that George Coles is a man who, through the confidence reposed in him by the people, has been made the chief manager or director of public affairs in this Colony; that as such he is held responsible to the people for all subordinate appointments, and is himself, in his position of Leader of the Government, liable to be arraigned before the public for every dereliction of duty, defalcation or minor offence which may be committed by any subordinate government official, or occur in his office. Is it not then reasonable—nay, is it not then positively necessary, that George Coles, occupying this position in the Government, should be invested with such powers of control as will enable him to give the fullest effect to his supervision? How else could he be held responsible? [Much cheering.] Now, having told these indignant obstructives how it happens that George Coles exercises so much authority, and on what grounds he exercises it, I will again return to a consideration of the propriety of the late dismissals. No government officer in the United States or in Great Britain ever exercises his franchise, in opposition to the Government at an election, presuming that he may do so and retain his office; for all well knowing that such an act of insubordination would be immediately followed by the dismissal of the offender. Nay, in the United States, so fully established and recognized is the principle whence such dismissals proceed, that, on a change of administration, all the officials who held appointments under the retiring administration, prepare themselves for a removal from office. Such opponents of the Government as were lately some of its officials, have proved themselves to be most lamentably deficient in integrity and manliness of character; and like the ungrateful serpent on the hearth of the compassionate peasant, lay basking in our favor till they thought the time was come when they might sting us in safety. The season chosen by them for the manifestation of their malignity was not, however, so favorable to them as they had calculated it would prove; and serious loss and punishment to themselves are all that hitherto have resulted from it. From the public offices, nearly as such ungrateful recipients of government favors have at length been removed; a few yet remain, but in time they will all go. The hon. gentleman then went through a review of the dealings of the Liberal Government with Messrs. Owen and Desbrisay, for the purpose of shewing, as the Hon. Colonel Swabey had previously done, how very much consideration, indulgence and kindness had been extended to them, whilst they were in the Post Office, by the Government; thereby proving although without any comments to that effect, how ungratefully they had acted towards the Government: concluding this part of his address by saying: "We have throughout treated them with much respect and kindness; and setting aside all consideration of gratitude due from them to us for the favors we had bestowed upon them, their dismissals are a punishment which they justly merit for their ignorance of the principles of Responsible Government. You all know that Canada is the first of the British Colonies to which the Responsible System of Government was extended; and that consequently they ought to be the best informed concerning the mode of carrying it out. I will, therefore read to you what is there said about those who, like the petty Charlottetown faction with which we came hither to contend this day, talk nonsense upon that subject. The hon. gentleman then read a passage from an editorial in the Quebec Chronicle to the same import as that which he had formerly read; and, having done so, continued thus: "Now, gentlemen, these are the opinions which prevail concerning Self or Responsible Government in that Province which has had the longest experience of it, and whose sentiments concerning it are, therefore, the most entitled to our respect. The Government is not to be bullied into mean or unconstitutional compliances by any demonstrations of physical force. We have evident and fixed constitutional principles for our guidance; and in accordance with them only will we act. If we should find that in the Post Office Mr. Davies was not fully and strictly discharging the duties of his appointment, we would at once and without any hesitation, remove him from it, and apply his place by some other gentleman whom we should have reason to think would efficiently acquit himself of those duties. And so would we act, in the event of neglect or delinquency, on the part of any of the officials in the Colonial Building; the offender would receive a prompt dismissal. With respect to ourselves, the Government, if the individuals who are the most directly opposed to us and who have been elected to the new House of Assembly, fancy that a majority of this Assembly will support their views, let them patiently hide their time, and when the new House shall be met in legislative session, let them move a vote of want of confidence in us, and if they carry it, we must immediately retire from power and give place to them; but if not, we shall retain our power and they their discontent. And if, under the influence of such fancied superiority of numbers, they find it quite impossible to restrain their impatience for the attainment of power, place and emoluments, let them, if there is any amount of rationality left among them, give some evidence of it by adopting a course which shall not, like demonstrations of mere physical force, be directly at variance with the most cherished principles of the constitution under which we have the happiness to live. By physical demonstrations, phrensied though they are, they very well know they cannot possibly achieve their object.

Why then, if they think they will have a parliamentary majority, not adopt the only peaceable and constitutional course which is open to them, that of petitioning His Excellency to call the Legislature immediately together, that it may speedily be proved which party has really the strongest hold upon the confidence of the people? Yes, they would do so readily enough, if they really believed themselves to have a majority of the members of the new Assembly on their side. But they know they have not, and therefore they are not prepared to make any such appeal; but would rather wickedly trust to the possibility of some events arising out of sectarian collisions brought about by such meetings as the present, which might give them a temporary advantage—with their principles, a lasting one they can never obtain. Your noble determination to preserve the peace, in spite of almost any degree of provocation, and your unanimous adoption of a Resolution which, whilst it is a full justification of the Government, is, at the same time, as strong and full a condemnation of the attempts of the Obstructives to intimidate or prevent the Executive from exercising their constitutional right in conducting the public affairs in accordance with the principles of Responsible Government, have, however, already convinced them that you are too wise, too cautious, and—for the sake of your constitutional rights and privileges which it is their aim to abridge—too patient to be hurried or driven into any such collisions for their probable satisfaction or benefit. They may still a few about the incompatibility of political honesty with office-holding on the part of your representatives in parliament; but the majority of the people justly recognise a guarantee therein for their fidelity and adherence to the popular cause; and I, the Leader of the Government and the Colonial Secretary, in appearing before you, as I do on this occasion, afford you a most convincing proof that such is really the case, and that the Government and the office-holders in the Legislature are the very last men who will ever consent that one inch of the vantage ground which has been given to you, in the concession of Self or Responsible Government, shall ever be swept from beneath your feet. But the security which the obstructive faction would require for their retention of power, should they obtain it, could be found only in wholly depriving you of it. We, the Government, and the officers of the Government, have had our power and our places conferred upon us by the people; we hold them directly from the people, and none but the people can deprive us of them. We are

directly responsible to them; and not to the Secretary for the Colonies at Home. [Much cheering.] His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor, as the Representative of Her Majesty, is the head of our local Government; but of himself he can effect nothing; for his hands are constitutionally bound, as are indeed those of the sovereign of the empire also. His Executive Council must be composed of individuals possessing the confidence of a majority of the legislative representatives of the people; and by their counsels in all that immediately concerns our local affairs, he must be swayed, exactly as Her Majesty is by those of her Cabinet. The gentleman who now, as Lieutenant Governor, represents Her Majesty in this Colony, has, by his whole conduct, both public and private, proved himself to be most truly deserving of that great honour, and the loyalty, as well as the homely, of the men among us, by whom one who so worthily represents Her Majesty in this Colony as Sir Dominick Daly does, is barely and causelessly assailed, must be at a very low ebb indeed. Sir Dominick is bound to govern constitutionally. He has done so in a truly independent manner, and has, at the same time, fully upheld the dignity of our Sovereign Lady whom he represents. Had he swerved from the path of constitutional duty, or compromised the dignity with which he is invested, by allowing himself, in his administrative capacity, to be acted upon by back-stairs influence, those base and cowardly inventives of which he has been the object would never have been directed against him. The injustice with which they have been visited would indeed have been most surprising were not the characters of his calumniators so well known amongst us as they are; yet it is certainly most surprising that whilst representing him as an agent of the proprietors, and vilifying him on that account, they should, all at once, turn round and abuse him for having given his assent to the Tenants' Compensation Bill, a measure adverse to proprietary interests. But consistency they have none. They will say one thing to-day, and another to-morrow. And what shall we say of the ingratitude and stupidity of the men who marched up to the Court House a short time ago, men who petitioned for the Bill which was intended to afford them relief, and who nevertheless are now cheering for the proprietors and their agents who have always been opposed to it? Can we do otherwise than pity their delusion, whilst we denounce their deceivers as a set of as purely selfish and wicked agitators as have ever been a curse to a peaceful country? [Much cheering.] But, gentlemen, whilst regarding them with the mingled feelings of abhorrence and contempt, I am delighted to find that you possess all the truly ennobling sentiments of freemen, and that, with the generous spirit which can burn only in the bosoms of freemen, you have come forward to support, and manifest your gratitude to the Government which has done so much to advance, and secure to you the full enjoyment of, all your civil, political and religious rights and privileges. The quiet and order observed by this numerous assemblage, the forbearing and peaceable dispositions which you have manifested, the unanimity of sentiment which pervades the whole, and the manner in which you have given expression to it, fully repay me for many a day and night of anxiety for the common weal of our Island. [Loud cheers.] There is another Resolution to be proposed; and I believe there are gentlemen upon the platform waiting to move and support it. [At the close of this address the hon. gentleman was greeted with most hearty and long continued cheers.]

(To be continued.)

NOTWITHSTANDING the mortifying failure which the Obstructives experienced in their attempt to get up an indignation meeting, the affair has been a god-send to the Opposition Press, secular and religious; for it was evidently getting short of political capital until the lucky idea of the meeting was conceived. The *Islander* and *Monitor* have spun sundry long yarns on the subject already, and will no doubt continue to manufacture much of the same flimsy stuff for several weeks to come. The *Monitor* is exceedingly angry with the Liberals for not allowing the Obstructives to leave the conduct of the meeting entirely in their own hands. Last week the numerous assemblage that surrounded the Sheriff's platform were described by our irate contemporary as a mere handful of miscreants and ruffians. This complimentary style is still continued; and now we are told that those Liberals who stood upon the platform were a bad and "sinister-looking" set of fellows, who, of course, ought not to have been allowed to be there. We have no doubt that the *Monitor* would readily publish a high-flying panegyric on the great respectability of those "miscreants and ruffians," if they had only gone over to the hole-and-corner meeting to listen to the platitudes of the Obstructive leaders; and when the time for another election shall arrive, we are confident those same Obstructive leaders will offer to shake hands with the "miscreants and ruffians"—pat them familiarly on the shoulders, and enquire tenderly and feelingly after the health of their wives and children; while the flankism of the *Monitor* man will be conspicuous in conveying through his hired print the compliments of his masters to the present objects of his mercenary hate—provided he shall not by that time have repeated his patriotic act of leaving his country for his country's good, nor have succeeded in any further attempt to smuggle himself into holy orders, to become such another babe of grace as those who shed light upon the *Protector*. But the members of Government who stood upon the Sheriff's platform had a "sinister look." Does Mr. J. B. Cooper understand the meaning of the term "sinister"? Almost any Dictionary will tell him that it implies, amongst other things, dishonesty. Now, we are quite sure that none of the gentlemen referred to ever distinguished themselves by cheating their parents, or pocketing public money under false pretences; but if our contemporary means that the members of Government did not appear to be open-countenanced, good-looking men, we must only lament that the broad face of the Coopers has not been more generously encouraged, and that Providence has not intended us all to be such examples of comeliness and beauty as the Narcissus of the *Monitor*, who, we trust, will not suffer an intense contemplation of his own personal attractions to shorten the period of his existence.

The editor of the *Islander*—knowing that he too must do work of some kind to earn his wages—writes his account of the meeting from such materials as a gossiping letter or two from Charlottetown could supply, scribbled probably by his publisher while he was cultivating his *divan cum dignitate*, or digging his other *tatties* in the New London bush. Why he was not prevailed upon to take a leading part in the proceedings, we cannot understand. Had he been bodily present, who knows but he would have given a different turn to the whole affair? That the meeting did not come up to his expectations, he frankly admits; but perhaps his motive for disparaging the performance arises from the fact, that he was not allowed to enter the green room, and take part with the players. "We lament to say"—(thus writes our dissatisfied contemporary)—"that the proceedings of the proper meeting, though supported by assembled thousands, at a platform erected at the usual place, was a complete failure, which will greatly disappoint the expectations of the country." Thankful for such an admission, we are not disposed to quarrel with our brother editor about the defective grammar of the sentence we have just quoted. That the Obstructive meeting—style it "proper" or improper if you please—was a wretched failure, every one of its promoters would readily admit, if they had as much honesty as Mr. McLean; and if it had not been such a failure they would ere this have pursued their original intention of calling other meetings in the other Counties;