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SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1855.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

JUNE 12.

IMPEACHMENT OF LORD MELVILLE.

(Concluded.)

Mr. Trotter had been asked the question by the Committee, whether any particular conversation had taken place on it, and he had answered, No. He was also asked, whether there was any other person that could give any further account of it? To this he also answered, No. Mr. Spottswode, who drew it up, had been dead these six months, and of course they were deprived of his evidence; but they have that of his son, and his partner; and if there had been any thing remaining as to this deed, they must have known of it. They neither of them did; and this I think is the strongest negative evidence, that can be given in such a matter of business. It had been said to be astonishing that there should not be some draft of it. But the very supposition was absurd on the very face of it, that because there was no draft, he and some other person had been concerned in foul transactions, which they wished to conceal. Could not the parties, if there had been any such, have easily and readily destroyed the vouchers and other documents that might lead to detection, without having any actual release, by which they put a deed into the hands of a variety of persons, who might afterwards discover what had been done. Besides, such a deed, to be effectual, must be recorded in some of the Supreme Courts, and thus the deed itself would prove the strongest evidence against the parties.

There is, Sir, another supposition, that this took place immediately on the appointment of the Naval Commissioners, which is equally absurd; for at the time that took place, I was at so great a distance, as I before mentioned, that I knew nothing of it; and if any such intentions had been in contemplation, or any apprehensions entertained on account of any discoveries that might ensue, such a deed as this would certainly have been resorted to in some antecedent period, and not deferred so long. Some persons have expressed considerable surprise, that such a clause should be contained in such a deed of release, as that for the destroying of vouchers or memoranda, but I believe, they are not uncommon as to loose papers, and there is nothing in it that relates to books of accounts. I have dwelt longer on this point, Sir, than I otherwise should have done, on account of the number of reports and acrimonious observations which have gone abroad concerning it. It is not, however, my intention to intrude on the time and patience of the House much further, as I am conscious I have no reason to be afraid that I shall not be able to convince the whole world of the rectitude of my conduct and intentions. I certainly do not mean to say that I have not experienced, or do not feel at present, the utmost anxiety on these various accounts, and at what has been for some time passing in this House relative to myself. I should think, and freely confess, that I must be possessed of extraordinary apathy indeed, could I be insensible to the proceedings so highly interesting on a subject of such magnitude and importance. I have felt, Sir, most keenly the many severe comments and observations which have been made on transactions that have been said to attach to me, but which I deny to be the fact. I have, Sir, however, felt them like a man; and if there are persons who think thereby to break down the spirit with which I ought to defend myself, they will find themselves mistaken. I own, Sir, that every mode has been resorted to, which could have a tendency to that point, and I have been lacerated, not only in my own feelings, but from the reflection that, in the wounds I have received, the smart was doubled on the recollection of some of the hands that were obliged to inflict the probe. I am, Sir, notwithstanding, ready to meet the attack with that fortitude and patience which ever attend on a mind conscious of the rectitude and purity of its actions and intentions. A time, however, may come, and I hope it is not far distant, when those who now pursue my conduct with such unexampled rigour will perceive their error, and become conscious of the injustice that has been done me, through misconception and misrepresentation. This is, however, not the time to enter upon that theme; but I feel the consciousness of my own innocence deeply implanted in my own mind and I shall descend to my grave, with the pleasing and heartfelt satisfaction, that, however the shafts of severity and cruelty may be levelled against me, at the present moment, the future impartial historian will be able to hand down my name in the list of those who have strenuously, and I hope not ineffectually, exerted, during a long life of public service, their unremitting endeavors to promote the welfare, and the dearest and most essential interests of their country. I am, Sir, ready to detain the House so long, but I cannot leave it without requesting to be

heard a few words on the subject, immediately fixed to occupy their attention and consideration. If the Motion intended to be brought forward this day, or any like it should take place, I shall be placed in such a situation as no subject of this earth was ever placed before. It is very well known to the house that the person who now addresses them has been employed in high official situations, that he is a person of high rank, and has been a Minister of State, and, as such, I should suppose, he would be thought to deserve, at least, equal consideration with those who move in the inferior orders. I should have thought he might have expected to have been treated with at least an equal degree of candour and lenity, and that some considerable degree of criminality would have been actually proved against him, before this House, or any other tribunal, would have consented and decreed, that he should be actually punished in the severest manner.

It may perhaps, be thought by some, and I have no doubt but it is confidently asserted by many, that I have received no actual punishment; but I would ask the house, and the world at large, is it no punishment to be stigmatised, as being unworthy the confidence of my sovereign? Is it no punishment to be dismissed from a high official situation, and to be branded with the odious charge of being unworthy to continue in his majesty's councils? If this be not punishment, and of the severest kind, I know not what the word implies—I will, sir, put the case, that an impeachment had actually been voted, when this subject was first brought before the house—I will often go further, and suppose, by way of argument, that the impeachment had succeeded, and that the charges alleged against me had been fully proved. The punishment I have a right to suppose, might not have been more than what has already been inflicted, without my having had any opportunity of being heard in my own defence, and upon evidence which, I have before said, and which I now repeat, has been misconceived and mistaken. I will not say, sir, that your proceedings are deserving the character of harshness and oppression; but certainly the operation and effects they have produced must be allowed to be tantamount as to myself. It is not perhaps of equal importance in the eye and estimation of the world at large, that such a punishment as this should have fallen to the lot of a man at my time of life, who cannot be supposed, according to the common course of things, to have held these honors many years longer; but, supposing this to be so, let me ask what it would have been had such a proceeding taken place with a man in a younger period of life, whose ambition was still alive, who wished not only to arrive at the highest offices of the state, but to continue in the enjoyment of them? It cannot surely be denied that it would have been the highest and most severe punishment that could well be conceived, to stigmatise him thus in his own person, and with such opprobrious terms and marks of disgrace as would not fail to convey the most melancholy and cruel effects to his unfortunate, though innocent posterity? I would further ask—is it no punishment that the attorney general should be ordered to commence a prosecution against a man for the recovery of a sum of money equal perhaps to the amount of his whole fortune, because it is alleged only to have been unfairly attained? Is it no punishment that in the close of life, that interesting period, in which repose, retirement and tranquillity are most peculiarly requisite for its sustenance and comfort, he should be harassed by the institution of a process which is to make him liable for what he has not received, and which may, perhaps, eventually reduce him to absolute poverty? If placing any person in such circumstances as these, be not severe punishment, I know not what can deserve the name. Besides, sir, if I am to be impeached, I should be glad to know by whom I am to be tried? The house will do well to consider that what has already passed in their proceedings has produced the effect of stimulating a great number of peers to stand forward in various parts of the country, and to promulgate opinions on the subject of his conduct in terms which shew forcibly and clearly they have already prejudged my cause, and cannot therefore think of sitting as my judges. These noble lords could certainly never have dreamed of the word impeachment as applicable to my case, or they would never have taken the parts that many of them had done. I beg leave to remind the house of the proceedings that took place some few years ago at Maidstone. At that time a man of the name of Raikes who was one of the jury, had uttered intemperate words against some or all of the parties to be tried. On this being represented to the judge, he was not allowed to act in the capacity of a jurymen, but his name was struck out of the panel; so careful and jealous is the law of this country of suffering any man to sit in judgment on another whose cause he has in his own mind determined before hand. The same disadvantage will attend me in the case of an impeachment in reference to my accusers. A certain number would be appointed by this house to manage the proceedings, and to conduct the trial with fairness and impartiality. Among these, in all likelihood, will be found Gentlemen who have been braving the multitude, and inflaming their minds against me in Palace-yard and various other places in London, and through every part of the country, so that if those be not idle re-

ports, there is no fair chance of my meeting an impartial jury, before whatever tribunal I may be tried.

I have another observation, Sir, which applies to what has been said, as to accounting under another charge. The attorney general has, I understand been ordered to institute a civil action against me for the money which it is alleged and supposed I have obtained from the public. Is it just that I shall have two different prosecutions against me at the same time, & that the attorney general should have it in his power to bring the evidence adduced in the civil action before the criminal tribunal, *vice versa*? I think this a kind of procedure that it is impossible justice can allow; it is such a mixture of one thing with another as no words can describe. It will be such a proceeding, as, if allowed, there can be no security for any person of rank who acts in official situations; they will always be liable to this double mode of proceeding, and to be harassed continually, whilst the lower orders will be free from any such disadvantage. This is a rigorous jealousy of the aristocracy, which I do not think it deserves; but which, after having troubled the house so long, I will not dwell upon any further. Viscount Melville then made the usual salutations to the house, and withdrew.

From the CHARLESTON TIMES.

The principal facts, stated in the following extract from my journal, in the brig Orange, have accompanied by proper vouchers, been forwarded for the inspection of our government; but conceiving it my duty to make them as public as possible, I must request you to give it a place in your paper.

Saturday, April 13, 1855, arrived in the harbour of Port Royal, Jamaica; was immediately boarded by a boat from one of his majesty's armed vessels, the officer and crew of which made an examination of the sailors of the brig, but not finding any one so unfortunate as to be a native of Great Britain, they laid their hands upon the cook (a Spaniard) and immediately departed, taking him with them.

Sunday, April 14, Kingston—Early in the morning a boat from the same ship which had taken the Spaniard cook, appeared along side; two officers, with several men, came on board, made another enquiry into the protections of the crew and demanded the Spaniard's pay and clothes. In reply, I informed them, that an application would be made to the admiral for his release, who I was confident would not retain him; at the same time represented the inhumanity of forcing him into a service where he must fight opposed to his countrymen, possibly with and against his brothers, and taken to a certain degree of a gibbet. To all this I received no other answer than a torrent of abuse, which I listened to, they, much to my satisfaction, left me; they however soon returned, and demanded the Spaniard had entered, and a man demanded his wages; to this I said, that I had not brought sufficient money with me, and being Sunday, could not be supplied by the merchant who managed my business. On this they ordered their men to unbend and carry away one of the brig's sails; this I interpreted in the most serious manner, declaring that if they attempted so entire a violation of my rights, that it should cost them more than they had any idea of. Another torrent of abuse then ensued, which, like the former, being violent, was soon spent; they then departed, taking with them a Russian sailor, duly protected by certificates from his government.

Monday, April 15—On application to admiral Daeres, procured an immediate order for the release of the Russian, which I carried on board the Diligence, where he was confined; was received by captain Gordon, the commanding officer, with that civility which might be expected from a gentleman, who feels power, but at the same time does not forget right; from this time the visits of these press boats were very frequent and vexatious, examining and re-examining the protections of the crew, until Wednesday morning, May 1st, when, I being on shore, an officer, with several men, from the Theseus 74, came on board, and as usual made search, when finding, lying sick in his berth, an American seaman, named William Mathews, whose certificate of protection they had several times before examined and compared, ordered him to turn out immediately; swore he was only drunk, or shamming Abraham; but the poor fellow, too ill to attend to their threats, made no reply; they then attempted to haul him out, but finding he could not be roused, they quit him, and taking with them an American seaman & an apprentice boy, departed. At this moment I came on board; was informed by Mr. Moore (the mate) of the procedure; I immediately went below, found the unhappy man lying on his breast, his head and one hand hanging over the head of his berth, and apparently in the agonies of death. I immediately called for assistance to lay him in a more easy posture, which was just accomplished, when he expired.

On the foregoing I shall make no comment—and only express my regret in not being able to hand you the names of the authors of these repeated outrages; for confident I am, that a large proportion of the officers of the British navy would feel for them that indignation and contempt which I find it impossible to express.
CHARLES PELLIAM.

BOSTON, August 5.

THE FLEETS.—From an error of the longitude, as published in our last, in which Lord Nelson's fleet was last spoken with, we were led to make some observations, which on a review of the subject, we find to have been incorrect. The exact longitude, in which captain T. Cochrane spoke this fleet, on the 2d July, was 35, 44; and that of the combined French and Spanish, on the 29th June, 43; both steering an east, and east-south-easterly course. From this intelligence, which is undoubtedly correct, it appears, that the English fleet have fairly got ahead of their enemy; and on their arrival in Europe, may be enabled to ascertain the fact; and so dispose of the British force in those seas, as completely to intercept their return to any port in France or Spain.

Admiral Collingwood with six sail of the line, and 2 frigates, was off Cadix, on the 24th June.—This intelligence was brought by captain Waddle, who returned on Saturday last from Cadix, and who was boarded by one of the squadron, 7 leagues W. by S. of that place, and parted politely. The fleet was composed of the Dreadnought, 98 guns, Vice-admiral Collingwood, Tonant 84, Mars 74, Colossus 74, Bellophon 74, L'Achille 74, Endymone and Hydra frigates.

Captain Jenkins arrived here yesterday in 33 days from Cadix, informing, that he understood at that place, that the United States gun boat, No. 3, was cut out of Gibraltar, by the Spaniards, on the supposition of her being an English vessel; but on discovering their mistake, was immediately given up.

Captain Jenkins heard nothing of any rupture between this country and Mexico.

ALEXANDRIA, August 8.

Fatal Duel.—It is with regret we announce the sacrifice of a victim at the shrine of the sanguinary practice of duelling. Yesterday morning, at 6 o'clock, a duel was fought between Mr. *Enoch M. Lyles*, of this town, and Mr. *John E. Boyle*, of Piscataway, Maryland, at Johnson's spring, about six miles from this town, on the Virginia side of the Potomac. They exchanged shots at fifteen feet distance; when unfortunately, Mr. L. received his antagonist's ball a little below the right breast, the ball passed through his liver, and he expired a few minutes past eleven o'clock yesterday.

John A. Burford, the person apprehended on suspicion of wounding and robbing Mr. Peter, on Tuesday underwent his final examination before the magistrates, and was committed for trial at the next court, which commences on the 4th Monday of November next.

American.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10, 1855.

Dissolution of Co-partnership.

THE CO-PARTNERSHIP heretofore existing under the firm of *PECHIN and FRAILLEY*, was dissolved on Thursday, the 6th instant, by mutual consent.—All those who have demands against the said firm, are requested to present them for payment, and those indebted, are also requested to make payment, to *William Pechin*, who is duly authorized to settle the affairs of the concern.

WILLIAM PECHIN,
LEONARD FRAILLEY.

August 10

Gratitude for the favors of an indulgent public, so liberally bestowed on the American since William Pechin has been engaged in its publication, impels him with honest warmth to render to his numerous friends, that tribute of thanks which is so justly due. Since the editor has been a proprietor of this establishment, he presumes, he has ever evinced a desire, to render it as generally useful, as it has been generally patronised. And, in the defence of those sacred principles he has ever uniformly advocated, he fondly hopes, that an increase of zeal, will, in some measure, supply the place of that aid which he has lost, in his separation from his late much esteemed partner, Mr. Frailey. The dissolving of a connexion with such a man—with whom the Editor had been so long united in the "bonds of peace" and friendship—must necessarily cause regret, which is alone alleviated by the consideration, that we have both been actuated by mutual views of reciprocal interests—the fair basis of all honest negotiations. In conclusion, the editor seems, irresistibly impelled to add, that in Mr. Frailey he has realized the assemblage of every natural and most of the acquired characteristics which can constitute the dignity of man. His candor, honor and sincerity stands unimpeached—and his integrity and truth are equally unassailed. We hope, with fervency, that an auspicious fate may ever attend him.

The Gazette of last evening gave another splendid display of its depravity and worse than savage malignity, in the manner in which it anticipated the notice to the public, of the foregoing dissolution. With *feul* and, in the opinion of the edi-

tor, *villainous* intent, it declares that W. P.'s affairs with his partner, Mr. Frailey, were "disjointed"; and insinuates, that Mr. F. dissolved his connexion with the present editor, through displeasure, at the mode in which this paper has been conducted. A misrepresentation of such stamp, we pronounce, cannot be exceeded in *object meanness* by any thing but by Matthew Brown himself. So far from any thing having occurred unpleasant or difficult in the arrangement of our dissolution, that on the contrary all was *harmony and friendship*, without a semblance of any thing like *animosity, quarrel, dispute, or even dissatisfaction* of the most trivial kind. Indeed, the editor can assert, that a concern of equal magnitude, was never settled more amicably, with more expedition, or with more ease. Mr. Frailey found his health impaired by his attention to the mechanical branch of the business, and moreover, he had two objects in view, the embracing of either of which, will be infinitely less laborious than the situation he just relinquished. One object we include, is in *reading*, the residence of his parents, from whence he returned a few days since, and wither he is now gone.—The other is in this city, but not in the printing line. To prove that nothing was "disjointed" as to settlement—the editor has it in his power to declare, that full payment was made, and the terms complied with, so as to form a final settlement on the day of dissolution. In a word, Mr. Frailey, (in the editor's opinion, unlike Mr. Brown) is a gentleman and a man of honor—and with people of such cast he is not in the habit of combating.

And now, the editor would ask, whether a wreath thus shamefully committing himself, does not deserve the odium and reprobaton of every virtuous man in society—particularly when his views appear so *conspicuously* sinister and *obviously* wicked! The venom of jealousy and envy, with the malicious gail of the season, *poison* his naturally corrupt heart.—He views with haggard frenzy the respectable standing of the American—he sees it, rapidly rising superior to the Gazette, in the extension of its patronage, and in *consortance* with his disposition, he would with *vain* fury, hurl it from its eminence. But we dread not the force of his *Latin* hand, when wielded by so nerveless an arm. W. Pechin, in point of character; and the credit of the American, are invulnerable as adamant, to M. Brown; who has become too despicable to injure by his raving; and who, if he continues in his present course of *folly*, will, ere long, render himself

"A fixed figure for the hand of scorn
To point its slow unmoving finger at"

Query.—If it should so happen, perchance, that *common* gentlemen, such as little *Shylock*, can gratify their views of gain and ambition, by stockholder suffrage; as it is unsafe, would it not, therefore, be very unnecessary and inexpedient, for such kind of gentlemen, to resort to pistols or crowbars?—Surely! and for this reason; the former mode of *handing* money, for *active* purposes, would be the most *gentled*!

The *infamous* *standards*, and *unusually* *base* assertions of Matthew Brown, the *vile* *columnist* for the Gazette, shall be noticed on Monday, in such a manner as "shall wring his heart, if it be made of penetrable stuff"—and

"If *damned* custom has not brazed it so,
That it is proof and bulwark against shame."

The time of the editor was so engaged last evening as to prevent scourging the grovelling miscreant in question.

At a late hour last evening, the editor received, by the brig Mercury, in 9 days from Nassau, (N. P.) from his attentive correspondent, his regular file of the Royal Gazette to the 26th ult. and two letters, from which he extracted the following information, dated

NASSAU, July 27, 1855.

"The scho. Dart has been fitted out, and sailed some days since, to cruise with the sloop of war Stork as a tender."
July 28, 1855.

"I have barely time to inform you before the brig gets under way of the arrival of a sloop belonging to Baltimore, owned by a Mr. Davis. She was 20 days out, when detained and sent in by the privateer Mayflower.—She has pitch, tar, turpentine, cordage, &c. and was cleared out for New Orleans.—but the captain of the privateer supposing her bound to the Havana, sent her in here."

Early on Thursday morning last, the horizon was considerably darkened by clouds from S. S. W. from which had