

"Escape of Theller and Dodge from Quebec," on the outside.

CANADA MATTERS.—We occupy our columns to-day almost exclusively with items of News relating to the Canadas. The escape of Theller from Quebec, the outbreak at Prescott, U. C., and the Letter of E. E. Rodier, a rebel turned Loyalist, are all matters of interest to American readers. It will require further proof than that of the doubled-Traitor Rodier, to make the Public believe his story about Gen. Wool. It is not probable, judging by the movements of troops from Montreal toward Upper Canada, that the insurgent force there will long be able to maintain itself. It looks like a very desperate movement, and one threatening to involve the whole frontier in trouble. The rumors of an outbreak at Malden, (U. C.) need confirmation, but such an outbreak is now expected.

GEN. WOOL AND THE PATRIOTS.—It will be recollected that Gen. Wool was charged, last winter, with having offered to take the command of the Rebel forces in Canada. The story is again revived in the following letter to the Editor of the Montreal Herald, who affects to believe the whole of it.

To the Editor of the Montreal Herald. Sir.—Some time since, and while I was yet an exile in the United States, I read an article in your paper, in which I was made to say that General Wool had in my presence offered Dr. Nelson to take the command of the forces at the disposal of that gentleman, and in which I was also made to ascribe to the American General the following language: "My dear Rodier, show me that you have sufficient means, and I will embark in your enterprise," &c.

I did not then think proper to reply to assertions which are an incorrect version of a conversation with the person who gave you your information. But since my return to my native country, several friends have suggested to me the propriety of explaining myself on this subject, inasmuch as with reference to it certain New York papers had taken occasion to speak of me rather unceremoniously.

The following brief narrative, Sir, contains the truth on this matter, and more or less than the truth I could not have said to any persons whomsoever.

I have heard it stated by many citizens of St. Albans, that it was true that General Wool had made proposals to Dr. Nelson to take the command of the invading army; that those proposals had been refused; that Judge Brown and Colonel Tarleton could prove that fact, and that they would prove so soon as the trial of Dr. Nelson would come on. I am almost certain, that Colonel Tarleton has himself assured me of this in Burlington.

So much in reply to the first assertion of your informant.

With regard to the second, here is what passed between General Wool and I in the presence of a third party. A short time before the affair of Alburg, General Wool paid me a visit at Burlington, and on entering my apartment abruptly introduced the subject. He told me that he had come to the North to oppose all attempts at invasion, and that he would stop them: he repeated several times "my feelings are with the patriots," and then addressing himself to me, he exclaimed, "Mr. Rodier, show me that you have sufficient forces and I will shut my eyes." He then spoke to us concerning all that was necessary to succeed in an invasion, and endeavored to convince us that the means of the patriots were insufficient.

After the usual salutations he withdrew.

I affirm the truth of the above narrative, and I can scarcely imagine that General Wool, under his own hand, will venture to contradict it.

As for the offensive assertions of a portion of the American press, they cannot reach me where my character is known.

Your most obedient, EDWARD E. RODIER.

Montreal, November 13, 1838.

De l'Ami du Peuple, du 24 Nov. 1838.

O temps! O moeurs!

Notus nous sommes fait un vrai plaisir de publier la lettre de M. E. E. Rodier que nos lecteurs trouveront dans cette feuille. Cette lettre porte le cachet de la franchise que nous nous sommes toujours plu à reconnaître dans cet adversaire politique. Nous recommandons vivement la lecture de cette lettre à ceux qui ont marché dans la même voie que M. Rodier. La fin est la même pour tous, et probablement elle sera pour beaucoup pire encore que pour lui. Nous sommes flattés de voir un homme de talents et du caractère de M. R. revenir à des principes plus calmes. Nous regrettons que la calomnie vienne le troubler dans sa retraite, mais nous pensons avec lui que le temps éclaircira tout et qu'avant longtemps ses compatriotes reconnaitront la différence qui existe entre un paisible citoyen qui se rend utile à sa patrie, et un bou-te-feu qui sème partout les brandons de la discorde.

Les rebelles dont M. Rodier abandonne les drapeaux, peuvent le poursuivre de leurs injures et de leurs calomnies, mais en eux mêmes ils ne peuvent qu'approuver sa conduite et s'avouer qu'il est plus sage qu'eux.

M. L'ÉDITEUR.

L'ignorance et la malveillance se sont donné le main soit pour censurer injustement ou interpréter avec excès mon séjour paisible en Canada. Ce n'était pas assez de m'être constamment occupé d'affaires publiques depuis l'âge de 17 ans, d'avoir en 1832 abandonné une des plus brillantes carrières pour me lancer dans le tourbillon politique, ce n'était pas assez d'avoir plusieurs fois joué ma vie pour des disputes politiques et d'avoir (ô fatalisme!) provoqué en duel et tiré sur mon bienfaiteur et mon meilleur ami, ce n'était pas assez d'avoir souffert une année d'exil, et d'avoir vécu et m'être couvert des aumônes de quelques parents et amis, ce n'était pas assez d'être complètement ruiné, il fallait encore, pour être patriote, choisir entre une mort inutile par un boulet ou par... ma plume n'écrira jamais le mot. Je n'ai point voulu prendre aucune de ces alternatives. Eh bien! le croirait-on? quelques bouches d'enfer a insinué contre moi des soupçons de délation et j'apprends que cette accusation circule avec la rapidité de toutes les calomnies.

Je ne devrais peut-être pas descendre jusqu'à me justifier. Sans rappeler les sacrifices que je viens de mentionner, je pourrais interroger les nombreux amis que j'ai eus dans ma vie et tous répondraient que la sincérité et la fidélité furent les traits les plus saillants de mon caractère. Je pourrais me mé-

interroger ceux qui parini eux n'ont trahi et ils répondraient que je n'ai jamais usé de représailles. Je pourrais encore interroger mes ennemis et ils diraient que jamais je ne les attaquaï dans l'ombre, que je leur exprimai toujours mes sentiments franchement et ouvertement, soit à eux personnellement, soit dans les journaux sous ma propre signature.

Cependant, comme j'ai toujours été prêt de rendre compte au public de tous les actes de ma vie publique, je vais le faire en cette occasion une fois pour toutes, car je m'en suis retiré pour toujours.

Quand je quittai les Etats-Unis, je n'avais aucun emploi ni commandement dans l'expédition projetée. J'arrivai à Montréal, n'y restai que peu de temps, n'y fis aucune visite, ne vis aucune des autorités ni aucune personne attachée aux autorités et je partis avec ma famille pour l'Assomption, avec la résolution de m'y fixer et d'y exercer paisiblement ma profession. Je n'y avais été que quelques jours, quand je fus informé par un M. Scott, marchand de grains, que le bruit courait à Montréal qu'il y avait un warrant contre moi. Je partis le soir pour Lavaltrie où je restai caché pendant deux nuits et un jour et revins à l'Assomption. Avant mon départ, craignant que ma conduite passée aurait pu donner de l'ombrage au gouvernement, j'écrivis à Montréal, offrant de donner des cautions pour ma conduite paisible. Avant de recevoir une réponse, une autre alarme me fut donnée de l'émanation d'un warrant et je partis alors pour St. Roch où je me tins également caché. Mon frère vint m'y trouver avec une réponse. Son Excellence, à qui ma position avait été représentée avait bien voulu agréer mes offres, ce dont je lui serai ainsi que ma posterité éternel enent reconnaissant.

Je me rendis aussitôt en ville où je donnai un cautionnement de £3,000 pour quatre ans et je retournai, sans visiter personne, le lendemain, à l'Assomption, chez un parent qui veut bien m'avancer ma pension, jusqu'à ce que je sois en état de le payer.

Après ce récit qui est exact dans tous ses détails, "je proclame devant Dieu et devant les hommes que jamais je n'ai fait, soit directement ou indirectement d'aveu, délation ou dénonciation quelconque contre qui que ce soit, que jamais j'en fus capable et que jamais on n'en a exigé ou demandé de moi."

Quelqu'humiliant que soit une explication que mes antécédents auraient dû m'épargner, néanmoins j'ai cru devoir la donner pour ceux qui ne me connaissent pas. Pour ceux qui me connaissent, je suis et serai toujours à l'abri de tout soupçon. Et quant à cette autre portion du peuple qui ne se nourrit que de scandale, l'avenir la ramènera elle-même de son erreur et si elle y persiste, peu m'importe.

En résumé, j'ai une olive de m'avance, jus-

qu'au bord de l'abîme: je me suis alors arrêté pour en mesurer la profondeur et j'ai reculé devant le précipice: voilà tout ce que j'ai fait. Et ce sont mes propres compatriotes qui m'en font un crime, comme s'il n'y avait pas assez de victimes, comme si ma vie eut pu être de quelque poids dans la balance des partis!

O faveurs populaires, tu ressembles à celles d'une courtisane. O peuple, veau d'or que j'ai tant idolâtré, peuple, nom magique qui embrasait toute ma science, toutes mes pensées, tous mes desirs, toutes mes espérances, toutes mes anxiétés si j'avais su quel devait être la récompense de mes sacrifices, il y a long-temps que je serais rentré dans la vie privée et je ne serais pas aujourd'hui à implorer la bienveillance de personne! Le temps qui éclairait tout, viendra t'ouvrir les yeux: tu reconnaitras ton injustice et ton ingratitude: mais alors tu auras fait tout le mal que tu pouvais me faire!

J'ai toujours pris pour règle de conduite, M. l'Éditeur, d'opposer le silence à la calomnie. Mais je ne puis souffrir une calomnie aussi atroce que celle à laquelle je suis actuellement en butte. J'avais l'espérance, avec une réputation intègre, de me relever par mon travail honorablement de ma pauvreté: c'était la dernière ressource qui me restait après tous mes malheurs: on cherche à me la ravir: je ne le souffrirai pas.

Je déclare donc que celui qui répètera cette infâme calomnie et dont je découvrirai le nom, ira prouver devant les autorités la vérité de ses assertions. Mon honneur et ce que je dois à ma famille me forceront à cette démarche quelque désagréable qu'elle puisse être.

J'ai dit, M. l'Éditeur, que je me retirais de la vie publique: qu'on comprenne bien que je n'évite pas une pour en commencer une autre: je déclare que je n'appartiendrai plus à aucun parti, à aucune caste politique de quelque dénomination que ce soit et que je veux dévouer le reste de mes jours à l'exercice de ma profession et aux intérêts de ma famille. "Je termine ma carrière politique sans regrets, et sans remords. Si elle fut sans gloire, du moins elle fut sans opprobre."

J'ai l'honneur d'être, M. l'Éditeur, Votre très humble, etc. etc. EDWARD E. RODIER.

L'Assomption, 19 Nov. 1838. P. S. Je saisis cette occasion pour vous annoncer que les paroisses de l'Assomption, St. Sulpice, Lavaltrie, Repentigny, St. Jacques et St. Roch sont et ont été aussi paisibles que l'hiver dernier. L'insurrection n'a pas même créé de sensation dans ces endroits.

Dr. O'CALLAGHAN.—This gentleman, one of the exiled patriots of Canada, has taken up his residence at No 70 North Pearl street in this city.—Dr. O'Callaghan has the reputation of being a man of sound learning and science, especially as these are connected with his profession. As a virtuous man, and an exile in the noblest of causes, we hope this gentleman may meet with ample encouragement in Albany. The Albany physicians, we take pleasure in believing, have too much magnanimity to be envious of a stranger of merit, though some of them may be opposed to him in politics. We barely add, that every man who loves liberty, and respects its honest advocates, has now an opportunity to extend the hand of fellowship to a worthy compatriot. We know of no character on earth more honorable or more deserving the respect and gratitude of mankind, than any man, we care not who he is, whether high or low, who has from pure motives as we believe Dr. O'Callaghan has, risked his life in the halloved, the glorious, though hitherto unsuccessful attempt to give freedom to Canada, and expel the last vestige of Monarchy from the soil and clime of North America. Dr. O'Callaghan wisely retires from politics, and devotes himself entirely to his profession.—[Southwick's Family Newspaper.



RICHMOND.

THURSDAY MORNING, MARCH 14 1839

THE SYMPATHY MEETING.

We attended the "sympathy meeting," called by two of the Canadian Exiles in our paper of Tuesday, on the evening of that day, at the Capitol.—There were from two to three hundred present.

The first person on the tapis was Mr Robinson, formerly an Editor and subsequently Post Master in Winchester, and now transferred to the Post Office Department at Washington, who apologized for the speakers in advance, on the score of the difficulty they labored under in expressing themselves fully and explicitly in English; being Canadian Frenchmen.

Next came forward Doctor Duchesnois, who entered into a history of the outrages, oppressions and cruelties, as he styled them, practised by the Home Government upon the Provinces, which led to the rebellion. He spoke very imperfectly, and was frequently embarrassed for want of the proper word in English to convey his meaning. He was a man of middle stature, a little corpulent and of a countenance dark, and rather easy and good natured looking for one who engaged in wild and hazardous rebellion. He showed himself a sensible man in his remarks, notwithstanding his extreme embarrassment in delivering himself.

Doctor Gauvin (the rebellion seemed to have enlisted all the Doctors in Canada) followed, and recounted the particulars of the scenes in which he was an actor, with reference to the rebellion. He did not show as much good sense as his predecessor. He gave a pretty full mixture of the sublime and the ridiculous. He appeared a little humorous, and in all his vicissitudes, made himself, to use an expression of Mr Servant's, "Charley on the spot." The boys, who seemed smitten with his peculiar sort of pluck, (for he seemed the true game) gave him a round of applause with sticks and clubs at the conclusion of almost every sentence. He was one of those banished to Bermuda by the ordinance of Lord Durham. He gave a bad account of the treatment he and his comrades received while in prison, and handled his Lordship in a very rough manner.

When Dr. G. had gotten through with his remarks, he stated the object of his friend and himself in travelling and haranguing through "the States;" which was to ask contributions in aid of those refugees who had lost every thing they had, in the rebellions, and were now suffering. They did not ask arms nor men, he said, to make war again; but merely for "bread and water;" for his fellow sufferers. They had met with great liberality in New York, Philadelphia and the District and he hoped to meet the same spirit in old Virginia. This last we doubt of his realizing.

Dr. Duchesnois then laid a subscription book on the table, and requested those who had any thing to give to come forward and set down their names. They would be thankful for any thing, if it were even the "widow's mite."

The Doctors waited with much patience. At last one gentleman walked hastily to the table, threw down a note and bled out. Another "pause for a reply" ensued. Dr. G. then rose and repeated the request of Dr. D., his voice being clearer and his English better, and remarked that it frequently happened that gentlemen did not have money about them, but that if such would put down their names they (the Drs.) would call with punctuality. Two others came forward, one with a note and one with two bits of silver. Another long pause ensued; and we getting tired retired with others who were dropping out slowly; the curiosity to see how much sympathy had been excited holding the audience together very patiently. We suppose the sympathy, estimated by dollars and cents, did not amount to much.

We have devoted this much space to the matter, because the announcement that the Speakers would hold forth in the Capitol of Virginia would have its weight.

Far be it from us to indulge an undue levity with regard to the sufferings of any people; but of the merits of the outbreak in Canada we have our doubts, and however meritorious may have been the rebel spirit, it has come too late. Twice had the Canadians the opportunity of leaguings with this confederacy, and twice did they refuse. In 1812 they were as loyal as the subjects of any Eastern potentate, and presented their loyal arms to stop the march of our volunteers. When our bold troops repeatedly entered their territory, they were loyal; it is too late for sympathy between them and our citizens now. Loafers on the border may join them and be treacherously betrayed, as they were; but in Virginia, for one of the States, not even a glow-worm scintillation of sympathy has been struck from public sentiment for the Canadas.

The Patriot leaders showed themselves too craven for deeds of noble daring—and having been first treacherous to their sovereign, then acted perfidiously to the very men they induced to take up arms. The mass of the malcontents, in the second outbreak atoned for their rebellion in the first, by turning their arms upon those blind enthusiasts who enlisted in their cause. Von Schoultz, at the head of his few American frontier loafers, fought a more sanguine and gallant battle for them than they

ever fought for themselves. He ascended the scaffold, while the traitors who inveigled him were in the enjoyment of safety and plenty. These men we are asked to succor! And these are they who aimed to establish the independence of Canada!

We doubted the propriety, at this peculiar time, while a question of the most delicate nature is involved in the relations between this country and Great Britain, of granting the Capitol to the "Exiles." A report in England that the Canadian Refugees had made an appeal for "sympathy" in the Capitol of Virginia, among the most prominent States of the Republic, might have its influence with the jealousies of the British; and such would be the more to be regretted, because no sympathy does exist here, and the jealousy would have a mere apparent foundation.

We do not object to any body's asking alms, and all have a right to do so who do not come under the vagrant act; but we would avert any countenance whatever being shown from the State to the Canada malcontents. The refugees, (vainly, we think,) in their aims begging take care to infuse all the sympathy possible, and we learn are endeavoring to establish "lodges," wherever they can, in the hope of co-operation and concert at some future day, in a struggle to cut off Canada from the British Dominion. We think, therefore, they should receive no countenance from any State or State officers in the Union. Our relations with Great Britain forbid it.



RICHMOND.

SATURDAY MORNING, MARCH 16.

[COMMUNICATED.]

An article in Thursday's Compiler is calculated, we fear, to do some injury to the cause of the distressed Canadian Refugees, in whose behalf the undersigned are now soliciting contributions. We allude to the remarks of that paper in relation to the meeting which was held in the Capitol in this place on Tuesday evening last. Passing over the criticism in which the editors indulge on the persons and manners of the speakers, we think it was hardly to be expected that a cause which is assuredly one of humanity, would, in this good Old Dominion, find a single individual in so responsible a situation as that of editor, who could treat with such nonchalance the misfortunes of the helpless and distressed. But it affords us pleasure to say, that so far as we are capable of judging of the feeling which prevails here, the conductors of that paper stand alone in this matter, for to the praise of the liberality of the citizens of Richmond be it said, in no place which we have visited have the contributions to this cause been as liberal for the opportunity afforded, maugre the editors' opinion, that not a "glow-worm scintillation of sympathy has been struck from the public sentiment in favor of the Canadas."

But that the friends who have taken occasion to exhibit their "sympathy" both by words and actions, as well as that those who were not present at the meeting, may not, by the burlesque suggestions of the Compiler, be led to the belief that "sympathy" in this behalf is misdirected, it may be proper for the undersigned to remark, that this is the first public meeting which either of them ever attempted to address in English, and that the course was rather forced upon them than sought by them, aware of the difficulty under which they would labor from their imperfect knowledge of the language, a difficulty which induced them to ask that an apology should be made in advance in their behalf by a gentleman with whom they had become acquainted, and who happened to be present.

Upon one other subject, too, we must be allowed to make, by way of explanation, a single remark. It is in reference to the idea which the Compiler seems desirous to impress, that one of the speakers, at least, was quite as much pleased with the opportunity of presenting himself prominently, as of rendering service to his suffering countrymen. If the editors had known that the individual whom they criticize was confined in prison seven months, and then sent into exile, in both which situations he was left without the means of detailed information, as to the events which were transpiring, we are sure they would have pardoned him for confining himself mainly to a statement of the circumstances which came under his own observation, and of which he knew his account would be authentic. Had he departed to any extent from this course, and been unfortunate enough to have stated as a fact any thing which was not literally true, the editors can perhaps best tell whether they would have considered that circumstance, as affording an opportunity for exercising their clemency, or their wit!

But we have already, perhaps, trespassed too long upon the patience of the readers; our object is not to engage in controversy, but to procure assistance for the distressed, and we should not have so far stepped aside from our purpose, as to have noticed the remarks of the Compiler, but that we have thought at least this much due to the very benevolent citizens of Richmond, who have most liberally come forward with their means, and discharged an obligation of good feeling, which all our information had taught us to expect they never disregarded.

E. V. DUCHESNOIS, H. A. GAUVIN.

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