AMERICAN AFFAIRS.

FROM THE ARMY OF THE POTOMAC. FURTHER DETAILS OF THE LATE ADVANCE.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF POTOMAC, Oct. 29. —The late movements of the army have resulted in extending our line as far as Hatcher's Run, on the Dunican road, being an advance of about three miles beyond our former position on the left, and in the discovery of the exact position of the enemy's lines and the works erected for their defence, as well as a more complete knowledge of the country between us and the Southside railroad. It was not believed that the enemy had any very strong works in this direction, and that by taking them by surprise they could be easily driven into their inner lines of Petersburg: but to the surprise of all, not only were the enemy entrenched on both sides of the Boynton plank road, but they had strong works on both sides of the Run extending several miles.

The 2d corps, in their charge on the plank road, drove the rebels from their works on the south side of the Run and across a bridge, of which they held possession until ordered to withdraw. On the advance of the 5th corps they moved on the south side of the Run, and the road being very crooked in this vicinity, by keeping close to it, there was a gap between its left and the right of the 2nd corps. The enemy took advantage of this, and massing in the woods under cover, made a most determined assault on the right of the 2d division of the 2d corps, evidently with the intention of capturing the entire force. On the right their charge for a very short time was successful, but our men rallied and charged in turn, and driving the rebels back, cut off the greater part of Anderson's Brigade of Hill's corps. The number of prisoners thus taken here was 400, including many officers.

In the mean time the 5th corps had reached the enemy's works on their front, and become wholly engaged. The loss here was not so heavy as in the 2d corps.

Darkness approaching, and it being deemed unsafe to occupy so extended a line with strong works in front, and exposed to flank attacks of cavalry, orders were issued to withdraw about two miles, which was done without loss.

During the engagement the enemy drove our men from two guns, but before they could be removed our men charged and retook them. The loss of the enemy cannot be stated, but it is thought to be about as heavy as our own in killed and wounded, while their loss in prisoners is much larger than ours. We took about 500 altogether during the day.

Gen. Grant and staff were present during the entire day, and in company with Gen. Meade, witnessed various movements.

During Thursday night the rebels made an assault on our works south of where the mine was sprung, but were driven back with considerable loss. Near the same place, a party from the 1st division of the 2d corps made a dash on a rebel fort and captured it, taking a Colonel, Major, Captain and Lieutenant, with 20 men, prisoners, and bringing off two guns. Our picket line here was advanced some distance, and our men still hold their new ground.

(Signed) WM. D. MCGREGOR.

CONFEDERATE ATTACK IN FRONT OF PETERSBURG.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC, Oct 30.—The utmost quiet has prevailed all along the lines to-day, even picket firing seems to have been stopped by unanimous consent.—Since the army returned from the last movement against the Southside Railroad, the regimental and brigade commanders have been holding inspections, and the commands are being put in as effective a condition as before they started.

October 31.—The rebels attempted to play a sharp trick on our lines last night at 9.30 o'clock, which was partially successful. The main object of the attack, however, was defeated at a considerable loss to the rebels. At the point of connection between the 2d corps and the 5th corps pickets they made an entrance, and passing from one point to another they penetrated our line some distance, taking all the men prisoners. They sent forward a heavy force to charge the line of breastworks, in the hope of piercing our centre, but one of the pickets escaped to the main line, and gave warning in time for the men to be put on their guard behind the works, and when the rebels advanced they received such a fire as to drive them back in confusion and with heavy loss. Repeated attempts were made to take the works, but resulted in a like manner, and although firing was kept up nearly all night, the rebels gained no further advantage.

Our loss is put down at 387 men captured. The casualties in killed and wounded are unknown, but are very few. The loss of the rebels must have been heavy, as they advanced to within range of our batteries and infantry lines. It was somewhat dark, however, and the firing was not, of course, so effective as it would have been had our men a good view of the enemy. At the present time all is quiet.

FROM THE SHENANDOAH.

EARLY'S ARMY REPORTED REORGANIZING—UNSUCCESSFUL ASSAULT BY MOSBY

NEW YORK, Nov. 6.—Letters of the 31st ult. from Sheridan's army report that a small rebel cavalry force crossed the north fork of the Shenandoah on the 30th, and proceeded in the direction of the Murray Court House.

A despatch of the 4th inst. from the 19th army corps states that Early's army is reorganizing at Newmarket, and that reinforcements of conscripts have been sent to Early in considerable numbers

A Martinsburg despatch of the 2nd states that Mosby assaulted our pickets on the 1st inst., with the intention of stampeding our animals, but was unsuccessful.

FROM SOUTHERN PAPERS.

EVACUATION OF PLYMOUTH, N. C., BY THE CONFEDERATES.

The Richmond *Enquirer* of the 1st instant has a despatch dated "Near Plymouth, N. C., Oct. 31," which says:

"After three days hard fighting the enemy passed up Middle River and down Roanoke River. Gen. Baker fought until the enemy's gunboats passed our forts and dismounted all our guns in the harbour. An evacuation was then ordered, which was accomplished under some shelling."

By the above, it appears that the Union forces went up a channel which took them above Plymouth, and enabled them to come down another channel commanding the rear of that place.

The Wilmington Journal displays considerable anxiety about the anticipated attack on that place.

The Richmond Whig of the 3rd instant gives the number of Union forces in East Tennessee, and says Morristown, where the Confederate General Vaughan is said to have suffered a reverse, is 37 miles east of Knoxville, and the East Tennessee railroad runs by it. Vaughan is reported to be at Bristol.

Hood's army left Jacksonville, Ala., on the 23d, and by the 25th had crossed the Tennessee, securing 8000 beeves. The track from Dalton was torn up by Hood to within 300 yards of Resaca. Beauregard left Jacksonville soon after the army to take the field in person.

The Confederates at Alexandria are suffering for want of food, and a southern letter predicts starvation before the winter.

The authorities at Mobile have ordered the enrollment of negroes.

The Richmond Examiner says the Northern cities are swarming with refugees from the South, their principal rendezvous being New York, where Butler and Knox, who robbed the rebel treasury of about a million dollars, are now located.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

HORRIBLE MATRICIDE IN LONDON, C. W.

An "extra" of the London *Free Press* brings the following particulars of a horrible tragedy which was committed at Clarke's coffee house, Market Square, London, on Saturday night last:—A man named Charles Heybourn, while in a state of insanity, murdered his mother by cutting her throat with a razor. It seems, from the evidence adduced at the inquest, that the unhappy man had previously been afflicted with insanity, and had, some time since, attempted the life of his wife. The old lady, who was 76 years of age, was quietly sleeping in her bed, when her son stole in, without a light, felt for her throat, and, with a razor, inflicted a frightful wound thereon, so large, indeed, that a person's hand could be placed in the gash. The wretched son then slunk to his bed, his hands covered with blood, and when arrested, at once admitted, and in some sense, justified the act. The deed caused an intense excitement in the neighbourhood, and indeed throughout the city. The murderer has borne a good character, was kind to his mother and other relatives, and but for the failing of his brain, would never, in all probability, have committed such a crime. On Sunday morning Dr. Moore, the coronor, held an inquest at Mr. Clarke's House, where the murder was committed.

The son of the deceased, Charles Heybourne, being present, was asked his name, when he replied, "I am what I am;" on being asked if he had anything he wished to say, it being explained to him that he was accused of murdering Mrs. Ann Maria Heybourn, he replied, "I wish to make no plea, if you find that I have done anything wrong. If I am worthy of death I am ready to die; I am willing to say how I caused the death of deceased, it was with a razor. I acknowledge that I caused her death. I was not in bed, I was undressed. I had no light. It was my intention to destroy deceased; I entertained the idea about two days since. I had only a reason on my mind that I promised I would fulfil; I promised it unto a far Greater than we. I had no quarrel with my mother; she was very kind indeed to me. I had no further intention of doing harm to myself, or any other person. I have been in a lunatic asylum; I left it in December last. I was put there because I had very great heaviness of mind concerning my wife. I intended killing her, but God kept me from it. I did not speak to my mother when I went into the room. She called 'Charles!' I then used the razor on her; I cut her throat; I cannot say what the position of the bedclothes was on her. I heard her cry after that. I stood still in the room, and gave myself up to Mr. Clarke. I now regret having done it. I feel my mind different this morning to what it was yesterday. I had drank three glasses of whiskey yesterday. Liquor does not affect me generally; I seldom take any. I wish to say that I am free of this blood guilt. I know nothing of it whatever."

After a brief consultation the jury on hearing the evidence returned the following verdict:—"That the prisoner, Charles Heybourn, destroyed his mother, Mrs. Ann Maria Heybourn, by cutting her throat with a razor on the night of Saturday, the 22nd of October, 1864, he being at the time in a state of insanity."

It is probable, says the *Free Press*, that the prisoner will be formally tried for the murder at the approaching assizes, and committed to the Provincial Lunatic Asylum during his life.

AN OUTRAGE ON THE POINT ROAD. — The Halifax *Morning Journal* learns that on Friday afternoon, the 4th instant, as two women belonging to Prospect were proceeding in the direction of Point Pleasant, for the purpose of crossing the North-west farm, they were attacked by a soldier near Steele's Pond, who took from one of them five dollars in money and a brooch, and was about to proceed to further violence, when some other women coming in sight, and giving the alarm, the rascal fled into the woods.

FATAL CASUALTY.—The Yarmouth *Tribune* says that on the afternoon of Sunday, Oct. 20th, a young man named Burns, residing in the vicinity of Digby, was thrown from his horse, and sustained such severe injuries that, though medical aid was procured, he expired on the following morning.

We learn from the Halifax *Reporter* of the 1st instant, that a young man named James Wilson was accidentally drowned in the Dartmouth Cove on Sunday night last. His remains were recovered on the following morning.

At St. Petersburg, Russia, lately, a Catholic Church tumbled to the ground when it was crowded with worshippers, and as many as seven thousand persons were buried beneath the ruins. Not one was saved alive. In many cases there were no relatives present to claim the bodies that were recovered, as the whole family had been killed.

A patriotic Southern lady has been collecting subscriptions in Halifax for the relief of soldiers wounded at Richmond, and has already obtained about $800.

LIGHT HOUSE AT SEA COW HEAD, P. E. ISLAND.—The new Light House erected at the above place, during the past summer, has just been completed, and the light was lit up for the first time on Monday last. The light is a bright fixed light, and is at an elevation of from about seventy to eighty feet from the level of the sea. The building is of an octagional form, and is painted white; the Lantern is an iron frame covered with copper; and we understand the structure is a very substantial one.—*Isl.*

A collision between the Bark *Undine*, the Brig *Prairie Gem*, and the Brigantine *Helen Davies*, all outward bound, took place in this Port Thursday afternoon, while working their way down the harbor the wind being directly ahead at the time. All sustained more or less damage. The Bark carried away her jib-boom, the Brig her backstays, and the Brigantine's stern was damaged. Some one will have damages to pay.—*Isl.*

BRITISH COLUMBIA AND VANCOUVER'S ISLAND.

The Vancouver Island Parliament was opened on the 19th by a speech from the Governor. Union with British Columbia was the first subject touched upon, a question which occupies the earnest attention of the House. The Victoria *Chronicle* thinks the Union will be prejudicial to the interests of Vancouver's Island and reduce it to a mere dependency of British Columbia, as the capital of the United Colonies would probably be removed to New Westminster. The only remedy suggested to avoid this is equal representation. His Excellency also alludes to the subject of Education, and the necessity of establishing Training Schools for the poorer classes. The Indian difficulties are deplored, and future difficulties are anticipated from this cause. In reference thereto the *Chronicle* remarks:

"The gross injustice with which the Indians have been treated lies at the bottom of all the trouble that has arisen. Driven back step by step at the advance of the white man, they are beginning to realize the extreme misery and hopelessness of their condition. Induced to leave their hunting grounds by promises of being paid for what they ceded, they have at length discovered the deception that has been practised upon them, and the utter hopelessness of ever receiving their promised remuneration. What wonder is it then that they have come to regard the whites as their enemies, and take every opportunity of visiting on their heads the feelings of revenge which their undeniable wrongs have stirred up in their breasts. They take the only remedy which presents itself to a savage mind. There is a way of reconciling them and getting them once more to smoke the calumet of peace, but it is not by shelling their villages, and thus barbarously and indescriminately slaying the innocent and the guilty, not by telling them that they are amenable to the laws, that the courts are open to them, and they must seek redress for their wrongs in that way. They do not understand it, and if they could, and were willing to adopt such a method, the enormous costs attendant upon the simplest legal proceeding, interpose a most effectual and insuperable barrier.

What we want is what has been found indispensable in the government of other countries, where there were Indian tribes to be dealt with—a department devoted to the management and treatment of Indians, and the supervision of their affair; a go-between in fact, who will be the referee and adviser of the Indians in all their difficulties, and the suggester of the Government of what should be done for them.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

At latest advices, from the North east of Newfoundland and Labrador, there were but few vessels remaining. The herring had struck in at the former place, and several cargoes had been secured; but there was no improvements in the prospects of either traders or inhabitants at the latter locality. Parties returned from Labrador, represent the people as being already destitute, and it is expected that unparalleled misery, if not actual starvation, awaits those residing there during the ensuing winter. The action of the Newfoundland government in collecting taxes on the coast is loudly condemned, and a petition was in course of signature, praying the authorities at St. Johns to forward supplies to the suffering people, before the final setting in of winter. It is much to be feared that the non-success of the Nova Scotia traders and fishermen, on the Labrador coast this season, will be seriously felt in Halifax for some time to come.

A Catholic Bazaar was a few days since held at St. John's, at which the sum of £1,596 was realized. This does not look much like poverty. As the *Times* says: "Talk of the want of money in the community after this!"

A rumor was afloat that a vessel had been lost, with all on board, on her passage from the Labrador to an outport.

LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.

ARRIVAL OF STEAMSHIP *AFRICA* AT HALIFAX.

GREAT BRITAIN.

THE English Mail, per R. M Steamship *Africa*, reached Halifax on Wednesday last, 9th instant, with English dates to the 29th. The Mail for this Island, by same vessel, reached here on Friday morning. The following summary seems to comprise all the British and Foreign news of any interest:

Confederate ship *Southern Rights*, from Rangoon, arrived at London with valuable cargo. She passed in sight of Federal steamers *Niagara* and *Sacramento* off Deal, under English colors.

Trial of Muller extended over 27th and 28th, and it was doubtful whether verdict would be arrived at on the 29th. When *Africa* left Liverpool evidence for prosecution had concluded, and Council for Defence had spoken. He contended there was no evidence to convict prisoner, but did not attempt to prove alibi. Affair causes greatest excitement.

Morning Post says so far from rumors of dissolution of Parliament being true, Ministers are desirous of postponing dissolution to extremest limits for which members were elected.

Distinguished Russian General Todleben had visited Woolwich, where he was received with military honors. He witnessed testing of 600-pounder Blakeley gun, intended for Russian Government.

FRANCE.

Emperors of France and Russia had long interviews at Nice on 27th and 28th.

DANISH QUESTION.

There were again rumors of further delay in concluding peace. Intelligence unfavorable to peace is said to have reached Copenhagen on the 26th ultimo, and Council of State was suddenly summoned.

Prussian Commander in Jutland was ruling with high hand—had forbidden all exports and imports by sea.

Orders to Danish military tend to confirm unfavorable rumors.

AUSTRIA.

Resignation of Count Rechberg, and appointment of Count Mensdorff as his successor, has been confirmed.

ITALY.

The armour-clad frigate Re Di Portugalla, recently built at New York for Italian Government, had arrived at Naples.

Contradictory reports current as to insurgents in Venetia. Private letters assert numerous bands exist, while other accounts say insurgents are reduced to small numbers, not having found followers among people.

The *Diritto* of Turin has been again seized for publishing proclamation by Sig. Cairoli calling on people to support insurrection in Venetia.

Committee of Italian Chamber has declared the power of Convention and transfer of capital to Florence.

AUSTRALIA.

Great Britain reached Liverpool with 32,000 ounces gold and Melbourne dates to August 27th.—News unimportant.

COMMERCIAL.

The much improved aspect of monetary affairs caused business to open on the "flags" this morning with considerable animation, which was further increased when it became known that the Manchester market for goods and yarns was materially better, the demand for goods for India being the principal and most favorable feature—favorable inasmuch as it indicates that there is more disposition to rely upon an improved state of things taking place in the India markets before very long, although the immediate future may disclose nothing satisfactory—very likely the reverse. The business done in cotton has again been of a very healthy character, for the trade have taken 10,000 bales out of the 20,000 sold.—Prices have advanced ½d to 1d on yesterday's rates, and business left off with a very firm appearance.

The Liverpool advices describe a further tendency to a renewal of confidence, several large capitalists having become buyers of sugars, cotton, and other produce at the low rates. As an example of the way in which speculation has lately been carried on, it is stated that a house whose failure was announced about a fortnight ago, and which commenced business only in July last, exhibits less than £1000 to meet debts for nearly £70,000.

There is a better feeling in all departments of business. In the colonial produce markets sugar continues to improve. On the stock exchange a steady tone prevails. The new banks are improving. The Mercantile and Exchange and the Alliance have both advanced in price.

LATEST FROM THE STATES.

BY TELEGRAPH.

NEW YORK, Nov. 7.

Three regiments of regulars have arrived in this city.

Information of an intended raid from Toronto and Hamilton upon Buffalo has caused great excitement along the Niagara River.

Troops are moving, citizens arming, and preparations making for the intended visit.

The rebel advance is said to be at Fort Erie or Suspension Bridge

A despatch from Chicago says large numbers of arrests have been made of persons implicated in the plot to burn cities and to inaugurate a rebellion in the Northern States. Immense quantities of arms, ammunition, &c., were found in the houses where the arrests were made.

Gold 535.

BOSTON, Nov. 8.

The U. S. Steamer *Kearsage* arrived, bringing a portion of the officers and crew of the rebel pirate *Florida*. The *Florida* was captured Oct. 7th, in the Bay of San Saboador, Brazil, by U. S. gunboat *Wachusett*. No lives lost, the capture being a complete success.

Steamship *City of Baltimore* arrived at New York, and *North American* passed Farther Point last night. No political news, and no reportable change in markets.

Defeat of Price and his retreat into Arkansas is confirmed.

Major-Gen. Peck has proceeded to Buffalo and Niagara to look after rebel raiders from Canada.

Gold Board not in session to-day.

BOSTON, Nov. 8, p. m.

Reports from various quarters represent the election as proceeding quietly. A large vote is being polled.

Rebel papers publish particulars of the blowing up of the ram *Albemarle*, wich mainly agree with Federal accounts.

The rebels, under Forest, have disabled and captured three gunboats and eight transports by shore batteries on the Tennessee River; a large amount of Government stores were also captured.

By the capture of the Florida, the bonds of several vessels overhauled by her, also, chronometers, money, and important papers were secured.

RE-ELECTION OF LINCOLN AS PRESIDENT BY A LARGE MAJORITY—NO WAR NEWS—GOLD UPWARDS.

NEW YORK, Nov. 9.

The elections yesterday, so far as heard from, passed off quietly, Mr. Lincoln being reelected. He carries all the New England States—also Pennsylvania, and probably all the Western States. New York State is claimed by both parties. New York City gives McLellan nearly 38,000 majority.

Enough is known to ensure Lincoln 140 of 234 electoral votes, with 51 more probably for him.

The Republican party claim every State for Lincoln except Kentucky. Maryland gives a heavy majority for Lincoln.

Despatch from Toronto, C. W., states that developements in regard to treasonable designs of the Fenian Brotherhood, have been made in that city, and that the leaders have been arrested.

Gold 249!

NEW YORK, Nov. 9, p. m.

The papers are generally filled with election returns and comments on the results. The *Tribune* to-day, noon, claims New York for Lincoln by three thousand majority. As the vote is close in the State, final result may not be known for some days. The election of Lincoln and Johnson is fully contested by the Democratic Press, but some of them call it a sham election. No Presidential election ever passed with more order and quiet than was manifested yesterday. General Ewell has succeeded Early in command of the Confederate forces in the Shenandoah. Rumoured that Sherman has burnt Atlanta, and is now marching direct for Charleston, S. C. He leaves two corps to look after Hood and Beaureguard.

Gold 250.

NEW YORK, 11th.

Returns of Presidential Election show Lincoln carried all States, except New Jersey, Deleware and Kentucky. Republicans will have one hundred and forty members next Congress to forty-three Democrats, which will secure two-third vote to alter constitution abolishing slavery. ....Sherman has abandoned the pursuit of Hood. Reported he has burned Atlanta, —is marching with bulk of his force towards Charleston. Government withholds information respecting his movements..... Confederate Congress assembled on the 7th..... President Davis opposes a general army of blacks while so many white men are out of the army. Says Congress must find a remedy for depreciated currency. Says there is no hope of foreign recognition..... Gold yesterday fell to 243; to-day 237.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, November 14, 1864.

THE BASIS OF COLONIAL UNION.

THE Inter-Colonial Convention closed their labours at Quebec on Thursday, the 27th ult. For about ten days previous to the close, they continued their sittings late into each night, in order to dispose of the many important questions pressing upon them, and to meet the engagements entered into on their behalf with the Cities of Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto. On the afternoon and evening of Thursday all the Maritime Delegates left Quebec for Montreal, in Special Trains provided for their use by the obliging and gentlemanly Managing Director of the Grand Trunk Railway, C. J. Brydges, Esqr. The Delegates were accompanied by the ladies of their party, and by the Attorney General of Upper Canada, (Hon. Mr. McDonald), Leader of the Government, and by the Finance Minister, (Hon. Mr. Galt). Several other members of the Canadian Government, Hon. Mr. Cartier, Atty. General Canada East, Hon. Mr. Langevin, Solicitor General Canada East, Hon. Mr. Cockburn, Solicitor General Canada West, came by steamer from Quebec to Montreal. The Hon. Mr. McGee had been in the latter city two or three days previously, aiding in the preparations for the reception of the Delegates. The whole party were assembled at the St. Lawrence Hall, in Montreal, on an early hour on Friday. That day was exceedingly wet, and the review of the military and volunteers, which was ordered for the occasion, was consequently postponed. The day was occupied, though wet, in visiting some of the public institutions, the Geological Survey, under the management of Sir William Logan, claiming especial attention. This establishment contains the largest collection of Geological specimens, minerals, fossils, woods, and specimens of all the wild denizens of the earth, the air, and the sea—that can be found in any similar institution in Canada, perhaps in America. The evening of Friday was devoted to a great Ball in the St. Lawrence. It was, like preceding entertainments in which the Delegates had participated, quite a brilliant affair. The party was, however, far more numerous than those at Quebec. It was believed there were about 1000 persons present, and there would have many more could they have obtained tickets. Sir R. Graves McDonnell, Lieut. Governor of Nova Scotia, and his Lady, graced the Ball Room. We cannot find space for a description of the Ball,—let the reader, however, who may be curious on the subject, refer to the accounts of the Quebec affairs of the same kind, and magnify them at least three fold, and he will have some idea of the Montreal display. Richness of apparel, brilliancy and costliness of jewels, female beauty (with which the great Province of Canada seems to be overstocked), were all reproduced at the St. Lawrence Hall on a grand scale. But some how or other, the Quebec Balls seemed the most *recherche*, and they certainly have an abiding place in our memory.

On Saturday morning, the Delegates held an informal meeting — Hon. Mr. Cartier presiding — for the purpose of revising the minutes of the Conference. These minutes had come to Montreal from Quebec in printed slips. They were corrected at the informal meeting above referred to; and, with the exception of a few verbal but unimportant alterations, they are substantially as they appear below. The minutes here given contain most of the alterations made at Montreal.

Lest it should be supposed that there is a breach of confidence on the part of the editor of this paper in thus giving undisguised publicity to the proceedings of the Convention, we deem it our duty to state that Mr. Whelan took the advice of the Canadian Ministers on this subject. Mr. Galt, the Finance Minister, was clearly of opinion that the earliest publicity should be given to the result of the deliberations. Mr. Cartier, Attorney General of Canada East, in his admirable speech at Montreal, disclosed as many of the so-called secrets of the Convention as he could think of; and Mr. Brown, President of the Council of Canada, "let the cat "more thoroughly " out of the bag" in his speech at the Toronto dinner. The New Brunswick Delegates are just on the eve of doing the same before public meetings of their own constituencies; and, in short, from the publicity which has been given to the proceedings of the Convention, in a hundred different forms, it is now absurd to talk about "secrecy." Indeed, the less secrecy that is practised, the more likelihood there is of gaining public opinion in favour of the great Confederation scheme. We, therefore, give, without hesitation, the rough draught of the report of the Conference which is to be submitted to the several local Legislatures. A corrected copy of this report has, ere this, been placed in the hands of the Governor General for transmission to the Queen. Each member of the Conference will also be furnished with a lithographed copy, containing the latest corrections, and signatures of *all* the Delegates as soon as the work can be prepared and sent from Canada. This extended publicity, both present and proximate, puts an end to all secrecy; and the readers of the EXAMINER may rely upon getting the most full and correct information touching every detail of the Convention. We shall now give our readers the Report of the Conference as corrected at Montreal:—

REPORT OF THE QUEBEC CONFERENCE ON THE QUESTION OF COLONIAL UNION.

The best interests and present and future prosperity of British North America will be promoted by a Federal Union under the Crown of Great Britain, provided such Union can be effected on principles just to the several Provinces.

In the Federation of the British North American Provinces the System of Government best adapted under existing circumstances to protect the diversified interests of the several Provinces and secure efficiency, harmony and permanency in the working of the Union,—would be a general Government charged with matters of common interest to the whole Country, and Local Governments for each of the Canadas and for the Provinces of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, charged with the control of local matters in their respective sections — provision being made for the admission into the Union on equitable terms of Newfoundland, the North-West Territory, British Columbia and Vancouver.

In framing a Constitution for the General Government, the Conference, with a view to the perpetuation of our connection with the Mother Country, and to the promotion of the best interests of the people of these Provinces, desire to follow the model of the British Constitution, so far as our circumstances will permit.

The Executive Authority or Government shall be vested in the Sovereign of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and be administered according to the well understood principles of the British Constitution by the Sovereign personally or by the Representative of the Sovereign duly authorized.

The Sovereign or representative of the Sovereign shall be Commander-in-Chief of the Land and Naval and Militia Forces.

There shall be a General Legislature for the Federated Provinces, composed of a Legislative Council and a House of Commons.

For the purpose of forming the Legislative Council, the Federated Provinces shall be considered consisting of three divisions, 1st. Upper Canada; 2nd. Lower Canada; 3rd, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, each division with an equal Representation in the Legislative Council.

Upper Canada to be represented in the Legislative Council by 24 Members, Lower Canada by 24 Members, and the three Maratime Provinces by 24 Members, of which Nova Scotia shall have Ten, New Brunswick Ten, and Prince Edward Island, Four Members.

The Colony of Newfoundland shall be entitled to enter the proposed Union, with a representation in the Legislative Council of four Members.

The North West Territory, British Columbia and Vancouver shall be admitted into the Union on such terms and conditions as the Parliament of the Federal Provinces shall deem equitable, and as shall receive the assent of her Majesty; and in the case of the Province of British Columbia or Vancouver, as shall be agreed to by the Legislature of such Province.

The Members of the Legislative Council shall be appointed by the Crown under the Great Seal of the General Government, and shall hold Office during life. If any Legislative Councillor shall, for two consecutive sessions of the Legislature, fail to give his attendance in the said Council, his seat shall thereby become vacant.

The Members of the Legislative Council shall be British Subjects by Birth or Naturalization, of the full age of Thirty years: shall possess a continuous real property qualification of four thousand dollars over and above all incumberances, and shall be and continue worth that sum over and above their debts and liabilities; but in the case of Newfoundland, the property may be either real or personal.

If any question shall arise as to the qualification of a Legislative Councillor, the same shall be determined by the Council.

The first selection of the members of the Legislative Council shall be made from the Legislative Councils of the various Provinces, with the exception of Prince Edward Island, so far as a sufficient number be found qualified and willing to serve; such Members shall be appointed by the Crown at the recommendation of the General Executive Government, upon the nomination of the respective Local Governments, and that in such nomination due regard shall be had to the claims of the Members of the Legislative Council of the Opposition in each Province, so that all political parties may as nearly as possible be fairly represented.

The Speaker of the Legislative Council (until otherwise provided by the said Parliament) shall be appointed by the Crown from among the Members of the Legislative Council, and shall hold Office during pleasure, and shall only be entitled to a casting vote on an equality of votes.

Each of the twenty-four Legislative Councillors representing Lower Canada in the Legislative Council of the General Legislature, shall be appointed to represent one of the twenty-four Electorial Divisions mentioned in Schedule A of Chapter first of the Consolidated Statutes of Canada, and such Councillor shall reside or possess his qualification in the Division he is appointed to represent.

The basis of Representation in the House of Commons shall be Population, as determined by the Official Census every ten years; and that the number of Members at first shall be 194, distributed as follows:

Upper Canada	82
Lower Canada	65
Nova Scotia	19
New Brunswick	15
Newfoundland	8
Prince Edward Island	5

Until the Official Census of 1871 has been made up, there shall be no change in the number of Representatives from the several sections.

Immediately after the completion of the Census of 1871, and immediately after every Decennial Census thereafter, the Representation from each section in the House of Commons shall be re-adjusted on the basis of Population.

For the purpose of such re-adjustments, Lower Canada shall always be assigned sixty-five members, and each of the other sections shall at each such re-adjustment receive, for the ten years then next succeeding, the number of members to which it will be entitled on the same ratio of representation to population as Lower Canada will enjoy according to the Census then just taken by having sixty-five members.

No reduction shall be made in the number of Members returned by any section, unless its population shall have decreased relatively to the whole population of the whole Union, to the extent of five per centum or over.

In computing at each decennial period the number of Members to which each section is entitled, no fractional parts shall be considered, unless when exceeding one half the number entitling to a Member, in which case a Member shall be given for each such fractional part.

The Legislature of each Province shall, prior to the Union, divide such Province into the proper number of constituencies, and define the boundaries of each of them.

The number of Members may at any time be increased by the General Parliament—regard being had to the proportionate rights then existing.

The Local Legislature of each Province may afterwards, from time to time, alter the Electoral Districts for the purposes of Representation in the House of Commons, and distribute the representatives to which the Province is entitled in any manner such Legislature may think fit.

Until provisions are made by the General Parliament, all the Laws which, at the date of the Proclamation constituting the Union, are in force in the Provinces respectively, relating to the qualification and disqualification of any person to be elected or to sit or vote as a member of the Assembly in the said Provinces respectively—and relating to the qualification or disqualification of voters, and to the oaths to be taken by voters, and to Returning Officers and their powers and duties,—and relating to the proceedings at Elections,—and to the period during which such Elections may be continued, and relating to the Trial of Controverted Elections, and the proceedings incident thereto, and to the vacating of seats of Members, and to the issuing and execution of new Writs in case of any seat being vacated otherwise than by a dissolution,—shall respectively apply to Elections of Members to serve in the House of Commons, for places situate in those Provinces respectively.

Every House of Commons shall continue for five years from the day of the return of the writs choosing the same, and no longer; subject, nevertheless, to be sooner prorouged or dissolved by the Governor.

There shall be a Session of the General Parliament once at least in every year, so that a period of twelve calendar months shall not intervene between the last sitting of the General Parliament in one Session and the first sitting of the General Parliament in the next Session.

The General Government shall have power to make Laws for the peace, welfare and good Government of the Federated Provinces (saving the Sovereignty of England), and especially Laws respecting the following subjects:—1. The Public Debt and Property; 2. The Regulation of Trade and Commerce; 3. The imposition or regulation of Duties of Customs on Imports and Exports, except on Exports of Timber, Logs, Masts, Spars, Deals, and Sawn Lumber and of Coal and other Minerals; 4. The imposition or regulation of Excise Duties; 5. The raising of money by all or any other modes or systems of Taxation; 6. The Borrowing of Money on the Public Credit; 7. Postal Service; 8. Lines of Steam or other Ships, Railways, Canals and other works, connecting any two or more of the Provinces together, or extending beyond the limits of any Province; 9. Lines of Steamships between the Federated Provinces and other countries; 10. Telegraphic Communication and the incorporation of Telegraph Companies; 11. All such works as shall, although lying wholly within any Province, be specially declared by the Acts authorizing them to be for the general advantage; 12. The Census; 13. Militia—Military and Naval Service and Defence; 14. Beacons, Buoys and Light Houses; 15. Navigation and Shipping; 16. Quarantine; 17. Sea Coast and Inland Fisheries; 18. Ferries between any Province and a Foreign Country, or between any two Provinces; 19. Currency and Coinage; 20. Banking and the issue of paper money; 21. Savings Banks; 22. Weights and Measures; 23. Bills of Exchange and Promissory Notes; 24. Interest; 25. Legal Tender; 26. Bankruptcy and Insolvency; 27. Patents of Invention and Discovery; 28. Copy Rights; 29. Indians and Lands reserved for the Indians; 30. Naturalization and Aliens; 31. Marriage and Divorce; 32. The Criminal Law, excepting the Constitution of Courts of Criminal Jurisdiction, but including the procedure on Criminal matters; 33. Rendering uniform all or any of the laws relative to property and civil rights in Upper Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland, and for rendering uniform the procedure of all or any of the Courts in these Provinces; but any Statute for this purpose shall have no force or authority in any Province until sanctioned by the Legislature thereof; 34. The Establishment of a General Court of Appeal for the Federated Provinces; 35. Immigration; 36. Agriculture; 37. And generally respecting all matters of a general character, not especially and exclusively reserved for the Local Governments and Legislatures.

The General Government and Parliament shall have all powers necessary or proper for peforming the obligations of the Province as part of the British Empire to Foreign Countries, arising under Treaties between Great Britain and such Countries.

The General Parliament may also, from time to time, establish additional Courts, and the Government may thereupon appoint other Judges and Officers, when the same shall appear necessary or for the public advantage, in order to the due execution of the laws of Parliament.

All Courts, Judges and Officers of the several Provinces shall aid, assist and obey the General Government in the exercise of its rights and powers, and for such purposes shall be held to be Courts, Judges and Officers of the General Government.

The General Government shall appoint and pay the Judges of the Superior Courts in each Province, and of the County Courts of Upper Canada, and Parliament shall fix their salaries.

Until the consolidation of the Laws of Upper Canada, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island, the Judges of these Provinces, appointed by the General Government, shall be selected from their respective Bars.

The Judges of the Courts of Admiralty now receiving salaries shall be paid by the General Government.

The Judges of the Superior Courts shall hold their offices during good behaviour, and shall be removeable only on the address of both Houses of Parliament.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

For each of the Provinces there shall be an Executive Officer, styled the Lieutenant Governor, who shall be appointed by the Governor General in Council, under the Great Seal of the Federated Provinces, during pleasure: such pleasure not to be exercised before the expiration of the first five years, except for cause; such cause to be communicated in writing to the Lieutenant Governor immediately after the exercise of the pleasure as aforesaid, and also by message to both Houses of Parliament within the first week of the first session afterwards.

The Lieutenant Governor of each Province shall be paid by the General Legislature.

In undertaking to pay the salaries of the Lieutenant Governors, the Conference does not desire to prejudice the claim of Prince Edward Island upon the Imperial Government for the amount now paid for the salary of the Lieutenant Governor thereof.

The Local Government and Legislature of each Province shall be constructed in such manner as the existing Legislature of such Province shall provide in the Act consenting to the Union.

After the Union the Local Legislatures shall have power to alter or amend their constitution from time to time.

The Local Legislatures shall have power to make Laws respecting the following subjects:—Direct Taxation and the imposition of Duties on the Export of Timber, Logs, Masts, Spars, Deals and Sawn Lumber and Coals and other Minerals; borrowing Money on the credit of the Province; the establishment and tenure of local Offices, and the appointment and payment of local Officers; Agriculture; Immigration; Education—saving the rights and privileges which the Protestant or Catholic minority in both Canadas may possess as to their Denominational Schools, at the time when the Union goes into operation; the sale and management of Public Lands, excepting lands belonging to the General Government; Sea Coast and Inland Fisheries; the establishment, maintenance and management of Penitentiaries, and of Public and Reformatory Prisons; the establishment, maintenance and management of Hospitals, Asylums, Charities and Eleemosynary Institutions; Municipal Institutions; Shops, Saloon, Tavern, Auctioneer and other licenses; Local Works; the incorporation of private or local companies, except such as relate to matters assigned to the Federal Legislature; property and civil rights, excepting those portions thereof assigned to the General Legislature; inflicting punishment by fine, penalties, imprisonment or otherwise for the breach of laws passed in relation to any subject within their jurisdiction; the administration of justice, including the constitution, maintenance and organization of the Courts—both of Civil and Criminal Jurisdiction, and including also the procedure in civil matters; and generally all matters of a private or local nature.

The power of respiting, reprieving, commuting and pardoning prisoners convicted of crimes, and of remitting of sentences in whole or in part, which belongs of right to the Crown, shall be administered by the Lieutenant Governor of each Province in Council, subject to any instructions he may from time to time receive from the General Government, and subject to any provisions that may be made in this behalf by Parliament.

MISCELLANEOUS.

In regard to all subjects over which jurisdiction belongs to both the General and Local Legislatures, the laws of the General Parliament shall *control* and *supersede those* made by the Local Legislature, and the latter shall be void so far as they are repugnant to or inconsistent with the former.

Both the English and French languages may be employed in the General Legislature and in its proceedings, and also in the Local Legislature of Lower Canada, and in the Federal and Local Courts of Lower Canada.

No lands or property belonging to the General or Local Government shall be liable to taxation.

All Bills for appropriating any part of the Public Revenue, or for imposing any new Tax or Impost, shall originate in the House of Commons or the Local Assembly, as the case may be.

The House of Commons or Legislative Assembly shall not originate or pass any Vote, Resolution, Address or Bill for the appropriation of any part of the Public Revenue, or of any Tax or Impost to any purpose, not first recommended to the House of Assembly by Message of the Governor General, or the Lieutenant Governor, as the case may be, during the Session in which such Vote, Resolution, Address or Bill is passed.

Any Bill of the General Legislature may be reserved in the usual manner for Her Majesty's Assent, and any Bill of the Local Legislatures may in like manner be reserved for the consideration of the Governor General.

Any Bill passed by the General Legislature shall be subject to disallowance by Her Majesty within two years, as in the case of Bills passed by the Legislatures of the said Provinces hitherto, and in like manner any Bill passed by a Local Legislature shall be subject to disallowance by the Governor General within one year after the passing thereof.

The Seat of Government of the Federated Provinces shall be Ottawa, subject to the Royal Prerogative.

Subject to any future action of the respective Local Governments in respect thereof, the Seat of the Local Government in Upper Canada shall be Toronto; of Lower Canada, Quebec; and the Seats of the Local Governments in the other Provinces shall be as at present.

PROPERTY AND LIABILITIES.

All Cash, Bankers' Balances and other Cash Securities of each Province, at the time of the Union, shall belong to the General Government.

The following Public Works and Property of each Province, shall belong to the General Government—to wit:—Canals; Public Harbours; Light Houses and Piers; Steamboats, Dredges and Public Vessels; River and Lake Improvements; Railway and Railway Stocks, Mortgages and other Debts due by Railway Companies; Military Roads; Custom Houses, Post Offices and other Public Buildings, except such as may be set aside by the General Government for the use of the Local Legislatures and Governments; Property transferred by the Imperial Government and known as Ordnance Property; Armories, Drill Sheds, Military Clothing and Munitions of War; and Land set apart for Public purposes.

All lands, mines, minerals and royalties vested in Her Majesty in the Provinces of Upper Canada, Lower Canada, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island, for the use of such Provinces, shall belong to the Local Government of the territory in which the same are so situate; subject to any trusts that may exist in respect to any of such lands, or to any interest of other persons in respect of the same.

All sums due from purchasers or lessees of such lands, mines or minerals at the time of the Union, shall also belong to the Local Governments.

The several Provinces shall remain vested with all other Public Property therein, subject to the right of the Confederation to assume any Lands or Public Property required for Fortifications or the Defence of the Country.

The General Government shall assume all the Debts and Liabilities of each Province.

The Debt of Canada not specially assumed by Upper and Lower Canada respectively, shall not exceed at the time of the Union, ... $62,500,000.

Nova Scotia shall enter into the Confederation with a debt not exceeding, ... $8,000,000.

And New Brunswick, with a debt not exceeding, ... $7,000,000.

But it shall be expressly provided that in case Nova Scotia or New Brunswick do not incur liabilities beyond those for which their Governments are now bound, and which shall make their respective debts at the date of Union less than $8,000,000 and $7,000,000 respectively, they shall then be entitled to benefit by the interest at 5 per cent. on the amount not so incurred, in like manner as is hereinafter provided for Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island; the foregoing resolution being in no respect intended to limit the powers now given to the respective Governments of those Provinces by Legislative authority, but only to limit the maximum amount of charge to be brought by them against the General Government. Provided always that the powers so conferred by the respective Legislatures shall be exercised within five years from this date, or the same shall then lapse.

Newfoundland and Prince Edward Island, not having incurred Debts equal to those of the other Provinces, shall be entitled to receive by half-yearly payments in advance from the General Government, the Interest at five per cent. on the difference between the actual amount of their respective Debts at the time of the Union, and the average amount of indebtedness per head of the Population of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick.

In consideration of the transfer to the General Legislature of the powers of Taxation, an annual grant in aid of each Province shall be made, equal to an amount of 80 cents per head of the Population, as established by the Census of 1861. The population of Newfoundland being estimated at 130,000. Such aid shall be in full settlement of all future demands upon the General Government for local purposes, and shall be paid half-yearly in advance to each Province.

The position of New Brunswick being such as to entail large immediate charges upon her local revenues, it is agreed that for the period of ten years from the time when the Union takes effect, an additional allowance of $63,000 per annum shall be made to that Province. But that so long as the liability of that Province remains under $7,000,000, a deduction equal to the interest on such deficiency shall be made from the $63,000.

In consideration of the surrender to the General Government by Newfoundland of all its rights in Mines and Minerals, and of all the ungranted and unoccupied Lands of the Crown, it is agreed that the sum of $150,000 shall each year be paid to that Province, by semi-annual payments. Provided that that Colony shall retain the right of opening, constructing, and controlling Roads and Bridges through any of the said Lands, subject to any Laws which the General Parliament may pass in respect of the same.

All engagements that may, before the Union, be entered into with the Imperial Government for the Defence of the Country, shall be assumed by the General Government.

The General Government shall secure, without delay, the completion of the Intercolonial Railway from Riviere-du-Loup through New Brunswick to Truro in Nova Scotia.

The communications with the North-Western Territory, and the improvements required for the developement of the Trade of the Great West with the Seaboard, are regarded by this Conference as subjects of the highest importance to the Federated Provinces, and shall be prosecuted at the earliest possible period that the state of the Finances will permit the Parliament to do so.

The sanction of the Imperial and Local Parliaments shall be sought for the Union of the Provinces, on the principles adopted by the Conference.

The proceedings of the Conference, when finally revised, shall be signed by the Delegates, and submitted by each Deputation to its own Government, and the Chairman is authorized to submit a copy to the Governor General for transmission to the Secretary of State for the Colonies.

THE UNION QUESTION MISREPRESENTED.

WE take the following paragraph from *Ross's Weekly*, of Thursdayy last:—

"The town talk amongst the upper class *continues to exclaim against the action of the Delegates* in relation to connecting this Island in a Union with the other Colonies. The talk says it will have a depressing tendency against all classes—that it will nearly double the ad valorem duty when equalized with that of Canada, and in addition, a direct tax will be made on land for internal improvements, to the tune of from $16 to $18 per hundred acres, and that although the Government may draw a sum of money on the guarantee of the Federal Government sufficient to enable them to purchase up the proprietary lands, nevertheless it will leave the people in the same if not a worse position, inasmuch as they will have to contribute a sum equal to the rent in the shape of additional taxes, and that not only the tenant but the freeholder will also be made to contribute equally towards it. The talk continues to say the project will not be agreed to if tested by a general election, and that Mr. Beer's view of the question is sound, and Mr. Whelan let the cat out of the bag sooner than the Delegates intended."

We are well aware that the Union scheme is not, at present, a popular one, because the people do not understand it in all its bearings. This, we hope, will not be long the case; but the above paragraph from the *Weekly* is calculated to lead to greater misunderstanding and error on the subject than has yet prevailed. Mr. Ross must surely know that the nonsensical "town-talk," as he calls it, has not a particle of truth in it. If the "upper class," as he says, exclaim against the Delegates for "connecting this Island in a union with the other Colonies," they are greater fools than we supposed them to be. The Delegates had no such power, and attempted nothing of the kind attributed to them. The connection, if ever made, must be made through the several local Legislatures, with the concurrence of the people represented in each, and confirmed by an Act of the Imperial Parliament. It will then be seen that the people in the several Colonies cannot be taken by surprise; nor can their institutions be changed without their consent. When Mr. Ross again hears the very silly "talk" which he has recorded in his paper, will he do some service to the cause of truth by replying as follows: The Union on the basis proposed, *will not* have a "depressing tendency" against all classes or any class,—*it will not* double our ad valorem duty, or any thing like it,—*it will not* cause a direct tax of "$16 to $18 per hundred acres" to be levied for internal improvements.—*it will not* be the means of effecting a purchase of the Township lands on such undesirable terms as would leave tenants and freeholders to pay in the shape of taxes sums equal to the present rents. The union, we confidently believe, will bring no such evils and follies on the country. There will be ample time hereafter to consider all the benefits it would confer, if consummated. When less prejudice, less passion, and we may add, less local jealousy and envy arising out of the appointment of Delegates, cloud the minds of some of our politicians and public writers, we may explain and review all the advantages to be derived from a union of the Colonies on the principles proposed at the Quebec Conference. We see not the slightest necessity for the least public alarm on the question. It remains for the people's representatives in Parliament assembled to ratify or annul the report of the Conference. We believe that the House of Assembly now existing in this Island will not approve of that Report—not because we think they will be wise in rejecting it,—we believe, moreover, that the Assemblies of the other Maritime Provinces will not approve of it,—and the result will no doubt be, an appeal from the hustings to the people throughout the several Provinces. Before such an appeal can be made the question will be thoroughly understood: and if the people in all the Provinces are left to the exercise of their calm and dispassionate judgment, we believe the Union question will be favorably entertained by them. Like all great measures it will be stoutly opposed, but the opposition will give value and vitality to it in the eyes of those who sincerely think it is worth contending for. One thing must be borne in mind—the question of Union is one that can be discussed without reference to Party ties and predilections; the Leaders of the Liberal and Conservative Parties in all the Provinces are alike committed to it, on broad principles; and if those leaders are all wrong, it will be the duty of the people to select others in their place. The "Third Party," so often vauntingly spoken of as existing in this Island, has now a fair chance of a start in political life.

UNION QUESTION.

IT must be admitted that a jealous mood is, at all times, one of the best bulwarks of a nation's liberties. We cannot, therefore, at the present moment — when our best public interests may be said to be wavering in the balance — be too watchful of those to whose guardianship they are committed, and upon whose patriotism and honesty, and fidelity in the discharge of the great and momentous duties, the fulfilment of which has been devolved upon them, our future, as a people, mainly, if not wholly depends. With respect to those to whom, at any time, the management of public interests, and the direction of public affairs, may be entrusted, we have always declared—

To watch them well, is all the art we know,
To make them honest, and to keep them so."

Some shallow thinkers and merely superficial observers may be ready to exclaim against this doctrine, as narrow-minded and illiberal; but all who are conversant with history, or who have closely observed the career of public men, entrusted with the management and direction of affairs of state, must be thoroughly convinced of its wisdom. Such alarmists as the Hon. George Beer—notwithstanding the *enormous* absurdity of their *figured* anticipations — such, for instance, as that which that hon. gentleman has set forth in his last *Epistolary Financial Essay*, in which he very confidently tells us, that if we enter into the projected Union, "we shall be losers to the tune of £50,000 a year"—may, therefore, at the present crisis, render us essential service, even by the very shocks which they give to our common sense. They may arouse us from that apathy into which, [illegible] to public interests, we are too [illegible] ourselves to