(*From the Pictou Eastern Chronicle, January 17.*)

DISASTROUS FIRE IN HALIFAX.

ONE MAN KILLED—SEVERAL INJURED.

FIFTY-NINE PLACES OF BUSINESS DESTROYED, INCLUDING SIX PRINTING OFFICES.

On Saturday night last the city of Halifax was visited by another serious conflagration, which resulted in the loss of one life, serious injury to a number of others, and the destruction of nearly *half a million of dollars* worth of property. Among the sufferers we regret to observe the names of six of our contemporaries, including the *Royal Gazette* Office, and also of one or two firms who were heavy losers by the fire in Granville Street a year ago. Most of the buildings destroyed were occupied either as shops or offices, and contained only two dwelling houses; otherwise the fire might have been productive even of more suffering than it has. An extra edition of the Halifax *Sun*, containing the following particulars of this calamity, was issued early on Monday morning. It is the only one of the city papers which contains any notice of it.

"It is our painful duty to record, this morning, another disastrous fire in our city, accompanied with the loss of one life, and serious injury to several other persons.

On Saturday night, about 10 minutes past 10 o'clock, we heard the cry of fire, and almost immediately after, heard the sound of one of the fire bells.

On proceeding to the south side of Market Square we observed the smoke issuing from the grocery store occupied by Mr. J. Garvie, in Hare's Building. The store was then closed, one of Mr. Garvie's sons having shut up for the night about half an hour previously.

The door was at once broken open, when an immense volume of smoke and flame issued out.

The night was bitterly cold, and the roads pretty heavy for the engines.

Considerable time elapsed before the first hose was laid from a plug to the fire, and when the water was let on portions of the hose were so defective that the streams from the bursts were greater than that from the branch. The time lost in endeavoring to remedy this defect gave the fire time to make headway through the building. The flames were soon seen issuing through the upper portion of the south point, and made such rapid progress that the goods and materials in the third stories could not, in most parts of this building, be got at.

In a short time the fire extended to the shops on either side, and also through the building to the northern store occupied by Lordly & Stimpson, Mr. W. Wilson and others, —and then it ran east and west, until the whole pile was in flames.

When the fire broke out the night was calm, but the wind rose with the flames, and blew quite a breeze from the northwest, carrying a large quantity of burning cinders over the lower centre of the city.

By the exertions of the firemen, and other citizens, the buildings on the northern side of George s reet were saved. On the southern side of the Market square the buildings were less fortunate. The wind tending in that direction, carried such a vast body of flame with it that it was impossible for the firemen, or others, for any length of time to contend with the heat. The front of Mr. Hamilton's building, lately occupied by E. G. Fuller, soon caught, and the fire very rapidly extended east, west and south, destroying that entire block, and a number of buildings on the block to the southward.

By the falling of a chimney in Bedford Row, one young man named Harvey, was killed, and another, named Major, was dreadfully bruised. A number of other persons received injuries. It was difficult in the confusion to get at full particulars, Mr. F. J. Albro, Mr. J. Rolis, and Mr. Carey, had each a leg broken, the latter has since had the broken limb amputated. P. Coleman, J. McNeill, and P. Power, were considerably bruised.

The fire was not got fully under until about 4 o'clock.

Fortunately for the city, the roofs of the houses were mostly covered with snow, which greatly checked the fire where it raged, and prevented it igniting dwellings in the vicinity.

About half-past four o'clock the interior of Avery, Brown & Co's building was discovered to be on fire: this being seen in time, was promptly put out by the exertions of Mr. J. Longard, and a few persons who assisted him.

While sympathizing with those who have suffered by this catastrophe, among whom are six of our contemporaries, some of whom suffer very severely, we feel thankful that Providence has again spared us from the ravages of the devastating element.

The following is a list of the persons burnt out:—

HOLLIS STREET.

James Donohee, Stationer; J. W. Farquharson, Clothing Store; Morton & Cogswell, Drug Store; J. B. Strong, Stationer—Store and Dwelling; W. & J. Campbell, Merchant Tailors; A. F. Pilsbury, American Consul; Mr. Margeson, Photographist; Bauld & Macdonald, Dry Goods; N. Silver, Dry Goods; Wetmore, Vaux & McCulloch, Dry Goods; A. Harshaw, Fur Store and Dwelling; E. G. Fuller, Book Store; Alexander Forsyth, Druggist; George Alexander, Dry Goods; W. M. Harrington & Co., Grocery Store.

GEORGE STREET.

Express Printing Office and Bindery; Lordly & Stimpson, Grocery Store; William Wilson, Hat Store; Casket Printing Office; William Cunnabell, Printer; D. Thom, Liquor Dealer.

CHEAPSIDE.

John Garvie, Grocery Store; Journal Printing Office; John Bowers, Book Binder; Henry Brown, Watchmaker; Thomas Martin, Hair Dresser; Unoccupied Store, owned by W. B. Hamilton.

PRINCE STREET.

Chronicle Printing Office; George Whidden, Insurance Agency; J. H. Liddell's Office; Mr. Elliot, Architect; Royal Gazette Office; William Howe, Lawyer; Colonist Printing Office; Stewart's Saloon; Pavilion Saloon; S. L. Shannon; J. W. Johnston & Sons; Charles Twinning & Son; J. D. Smith, Photographist; John Pugh, Grocery Store; Irish Volunteers Orderly Room; Halifax Library; J. W. Ritchie, Lawyer.

BEDFORD ROW.

H. H. Fuller, Hardware Store; D. Walsh, Clothing Store; Black, Brothers & Co., Hardware Store; Halifax Fire Insurance Office; Union Marine Insurance Office; the Sheriff's Office; Alexander Primrose, Lawyer; M. H. Richey, Lawyer; R. G. Halliburton, Lawyer; Apartment occupied by Excise Waiters; Odd Fellows' Hall; Nova Scotia Marine Insurance Office and Dwelling House above; John Lithgow, Grocery Store; Exchange Reading Room; John M. Geldert, Grocery Store and Dwelling House above; William Townsend's Office.

We do not wish to be severe on any particular portion of the Fire Department,—but we must say there was evidently a great want shown on Saturday night of some better system for managing fires than we have at present.

One thing we always observed at fires in this city not very creditable. Thousands congregate, but a very small proportion work. The Military do good service at fires, but it is scarcely fair to expect them to work steadily while so many idle citizens gather round.

Another thing we were pained to see at the late fire, which was, a vast amount of drunkenness. We never remember, here or elsewhere, to have seen anything like it, and trust we never shall again.

FURTHER PARTICULARS.

The most disgraceful feature, painfully evident throughout the progress of the fire, was the prevailing drunkenness. Liquor was easily procured from the stores of the various groceries. Not only low individuals, but also those who should have had more respect for themselves, partook freely of what intoxicating liquors they could find, until many of them became beastly drunk. For those who were hard worked, and almost prostrated by the intense cold, there was some need, perhaps, of stimulant, and we would have less reason to express our disapprobation. But when men went round and sought liquor for the mere pleasure of drinking, it is but proper that some notice should be taken. The prevalent drunkenness was a spectacle for which no respectable citizen can find an apology. We hope never to see similar despicable qualities evidenced in this city on a like occasion, if it should ever be the misfortune of this city to witness another such sad calamity.

Many persons including soldiers, were found prostrated on the ground under the influence of liquor; and some were thus severely frost bitten.

Whilst the fire was progressing several fights took place, and several respectable persons were attacked by individuals excited by drink. The City Marshal, we regret to say, was severely injured by some of these ruffians.

From private and other sources we gather the following information, which may be considered reliable. The total loss is variously estimated of from £80,000 to £100,000. John Lithgow is probably the heaviest sufferer. His stock, worth from £6000 to £8000 was uninsured.—Black and Bros. lose largely—probably £8000 or £10,000 having little insured on either buildings or stock. Silver, burnt out without insurance at the previous fire, was insured previously, but his policy expired at 12 o'clock on Saturday, and was not renewed. The losses are principally borne by the American and old Halifax offices—the former in the aggregate about £70,000 to £80,000—the latter £7 to £8000.

The drunkenness, plundering and disorderly conduct on the streets appears to have been thoroughly disgraceful. Some of the firewards were assaulted in the discharge of their duties, and the city Marshal had two of his ribs broken, and was so severely beaten in endeavoring to arrest some plunderer, that he will be confined to his house for several days. A gentleman who was present writes as follows—"The stock in Harrington's and Lithgow's Grocery and Liquor establishments were among the first to *be saved*, and the consequences you can imagine. Brandy, old Jamaica, Port, Sherry, fine old Madeira in wood and bottles, Champagne and light wines, were freely distributed, the latter being as a general thing preferred. In fact a regular business of looting was carried on and in the course of a few hours I saw more drunkenness than I have witnessed for years. A large amount of property has been saved, mostly deposited in the Province Building, where it lies to-day in glorious confusion; medicines and muslins, hats and hardware, silks, stationery, &c.

We are informed by private advices that Mr. Carey, who had his leg broken, and afterwards amputated, died on Monday last.

A correspondent says,—"The streets in the vicinity of the burnt district presented a most melancholy appearance on Sunday morning. Goods, all more or less damaged, of every imaginable variety, were piled up in every direction, and the Province Building, which, from its being built of stone, and its distance from the street, afforded some protection against the destroying element, was almost full."

CAPTURE OF A SLAVER BY HER MAJESTY'S SHIP "BRISK."

Her Majesty's Ship *Brisk* has recently captured a slaver, the *Sunny South* in the Mozumbique Channel. A correspondent on board the *Brisk* supplies us with the following particulars of the chase and capture of the *Sunny South*:—

At 11 30 a. m. on the 10th August last, as her Majesty's Ship *Brisk*, Captain De Horsey, bearing the flag of Rear-Admiral the Hon. Sir Henry Keppel, K. C. B., was running to the northward in the Mozumbique Channel, a sail was reported as seen from the masthead. Steam was got up without delay, and sail made in chase. It being hazy, the stranger was shortly afterwards lost sight of. When the weather had partially cleared, the stranger was reported four points on our starboard bow, and the ship's course was altered in that direct on. We were now going eleven knots and a half an hour, and the Captain, feeling convinced that it must be something out of the common that could alter bearings at that distance in so short a time, proceeded himself, with his glass, to the fore-topmast-head, officers mounting the rigging.

That a general excitement prevailed was evident from the manner in which sails were trimmed, taken in, and set again. Hottentots and bandsmen, who on other occasions only looked at ropes, now laid hold of them with a will. The Captain's order from the masthead to keep away two points, showed that he had observed something suspicious—in fact, he had noticed a sudden alteration in the course of the chase, and pronounced her to be a long, rakish-looking ship, too large for a slaver, but that there was something very suspicious in the sudden alteration of her course, the crowd of sail, and the unusual number of staysails.

At about 3 p. m., we could see her hull from the deck, and, carrying with us a fresh breeze, while she was in the doldrums, we closed her rapidly. When within half a mile we hoisted our colours, when every glass was pointed towards her peak, and all sort of conjectures were made as to what colours she would show. No one could imagine that so large a vessel could be a slaver.

On closing under her lee, and within a cable's length, a white package was thrown from her into the sea; and the experienced then exclaimed, "A slaver, and there go her papers!" A few minutes more, and we sheered up along side to leeward of as beautiful model of a ship as ever was seen. Some forty dejected individuals, apparently a mixture of all nations, stood on her deck; still no colours, nor did she appear inclined to shorten sail or heave to. The Captain then determined to run ahead and lower the quarter boats to drop down and board; and as this manœuvre was being carried out a blank gun caused her to square the mainyard, which she did with studding-sails hanging to the yards, and luffed up into the wind.

It was an anxious five minutes to those on board while the boats were away. A small white ensign run up at her peak showed that she was a prize, and then a voice hailed us "850 slaves on board!"

She proved to be the *Sunny South*, of 702 tons, built at New York in 1851, and sold at the Havannah in 1859, valued at 20,000 dollars, and considered the fastest vessel in that port. She sailed from the Havannah, on the 5th of March, under the Chilian flag and name of *Manuela*, having cleared for Hong-Kong. Her slave deck is seven feet high, and although there were 846 slaves on board, she was not at all crowded in comparison with other vessels so employed. In addition, she carried a crew of 40 in all, including a captain, mates, pilots and a doctor. Her dimensions are—length, 154 feet 8 inches; breadth, 34 feet 4 inches; depth, 16 feet 6 inches. She was intended originally as a New York and Rio packet.—*London Ill. News.*

Correspondence.

ENGLISH MISRULE IN IRELAND.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR—I now come to those extracts from the 'Outlines of History,' relating to Ireland. The writer in the *Monitor* says:—'At page 215 we are assured that 'the heinous oppression and injustice of the British Government towards the people of Ireland continued without restraint up to the period of the American Revolution.' At page 217 the Rebellion of 1798 is characterized as a 'gallant but ineffectual effort to obtain independence.' 'It was speedily crushed by the British bayonets, and two years afterwards, 1800, through the influence of fraud, bribery, corruption and intimidation, the infamous Act of Union passed the Irish Parliament; at once annihilating the independent nationality of Ireland—reducing her to the degrading position of a province; and exposing the noblest rights of her people to the arbitrary control of a foreign government, and an unfeeling and despotic ministry.' At page 217 will be found the following language:—'The cry for justice, which, from the impoverished and starving millions of Ireland has continually risen to the British throne, has been constantly disregarded; and famine and pestilence, with all their attendant horrors, which have stalked through the devoted land—the terrible fruits of British cruelty and injustice—have failed to soften the stony heart, or awaken a feeling of sympathy in the bosom of that remorseless Government."

Every one, except a very ignorant person like the writer in the *Monitor*, knows full well that the Act of Union was an 'infamous' one, and that it was passed by 'fraud, bribery, corruption and intimidation.' That such was the case I can prove by many writers of the highest authority; for the present I will give only a few extracts.

Charles James Fox, in 1806, says: "The union was ATROCIOUS in its principle, and ABOMINABLE in its means. It was a measure the *most disgraceful to the government of the country* that was ever carried or proposed." Lord Chief Justice Bushe, no Young Irelander I presume, says: —'*The basest corruption and artifice were exerted to promote the Union. All the worst passions of the human heart were enlisted in the service; and all the most depraved ingenuity of the human intellect tortured to devise new contrivances for fraud.*' Lord Castlereagh, who was not one of the 'faithful,' in reference to the corruption which might become necessary to carry the Union, said:—'Half a million, or more, were expended some years since to break an opposition—the same, or a greater sum, may be necessary now;' and Grattan says: 'The threat was proceeded in—the peerage sold—the caitiffs of corruption were every where, in the lobby, in the streets, on the steps, and at the door of every parliamentary leader, offering titles to some, office to others, corruption to all.'

Lord Chancellor Plunket, no mean authority, says:—'I accuse the government of fomenting the embers of a lingering rebellion—of hallooing the Protestant against the Catholic, and the Catholic against the Protestant—of artfully keeping alive domestic dissensions for the purposes of subjugation.' 'I will be bold to say that licentious and impious France, in all the unrestrained excesses to which anarchy and atheism have given birth, has not committed a more insidious act against her enemy than is now attempted by the professed champion of the cause of civilized Europe against a friend and ally in the hour of her calamity and distress—at a moment when our country is filled with British troops, when the loyal men of Ireland are fatigued and exhausted by their efforts to subdue the rebellion—efforts in which they had succeeded before those troops arrived—whilst the *Habeas Corpus* Act was suspended—whilst trials by court martial are carrying on in many parts of the kingdom—whilst the people are taught to think they have no right to meet or to deliberate; and whilst the great body of them are so palsied by their fears, or worn down by their exertions, that even the vital question is scarcely able to rouse them from their lethargy at a moment when we are distracted by domestic dissensions—dissensions artfully kept alive as the pretext of our present subjugation and the instrument of our future thraldom.' These are all great authorities; and I am not aware that they were 'disloyal,' that they had the cross floating over them, or that they received 'a gold medal' from the Pope.

'A Normal School Student' harps on the expression, 'foreign government.' 'Foreign,' according to Webster, means, 'not of the country in which one resides.' It must be remembered that before the Union Ireland had her own Parliament and Government, and hence, that the British Government, made up of British Statesmen, who were 'not of the country in which' the Irish resided, was foreign to the inhabitants of Ireland. I cannot understand how it is treason for an Irishman to say that Englishmen are not inhabitants of Ireland. Small minds like the writer in the *Monitor* are always apt to distort facts which do not agree with their own prejudiced notions, and their mental vision becomes so disordered that they cannot understand the true meaning of things. The British Government has always treated the Irish as foreigners—it has not even extended the Volunteer movement to Ireland, because it views the Irish as foreigners; it would, therefore, be no great wonder were the Irish to reciprocate, and regard the English Government as a 'foreign' government.

I have neither time nor space to enter into minute details regarding the inhuman cruelty and tyranny exercised against Ireland by Elizabeth, Cromwell, and other tyrants; I will not give particulars regarding the military armaments, persecuting laws, confiscations and new systems of religion by which this country has been oppressed, nor regarding the blood-stained penal laws which disgraced the British statute book for centuries; but I shall give, from the most anti-Catholic and anti-Irish source, a faint idea of the unspeakably barbarous and infamous manner in which the much maligned Irish have been maltreated and crushed by Landlords and by the British Government. "A Normal School Student" may say, "my own humble opinion is, that the 'famine' arises in a great measure from the indolence and improvidence of the Irish themselves, and that the 'pestilence' is the merited punishment of their national sins;" but if he were not the veriest ignoramus, or the most debased wretch, bereft of every feeling of sympathy and christian sentiment, surely he would not have expressed himself in this most inhuman and unfeeling manner.

It is said by a clever German authoress, "A stone may have a history, but only a creature with consciousness a destiny." Every acre of the land of Ireland has a history, in its triple confiscation; and what has been the sad destiny of its people through the repeated misconduct of *the* English Government? Look to the manner in which English governments have dealt with the *the land*—displacing the natives to make room for the foreigner—refusing to recognize the right of natives to live on what had been their own lands; and when planting Englishmen on lands in Ireland, not binding them by the laws of England. Even the *penal* laws were *land* laws; and so were the Whiteboy Acts, Insurrection Acts, and Coercion Bills. If the conduct of the Landlords in Ireland be the constant theme of execration in every English journal—if their name has become a by-word of scorn and a term of reproach in every civilized state—let it be remembered that *the* English government, and the laws which that government proposed or sanctioned, have rendered them 'the wretches' which they are now declared to be, by inducing them to believe that their acts were to be without responsibility, and their crimes without punishment. What, then, is the cause of the state of Ireland? Let us listen to EARL FITZWILLIAM.

"He asked why was the rural population of Ireland what it was? He asked wealthy London—he asked wealthy England—why Ireland was poor? Who had been the cause of the poverty of Ireland? He said that ENGLAND HAD BEEN THE CAUSE—THE ORIGINAL TYRANNY OF ENGLAND." (Debate in the House of Lords, Jan'y. 25th, 1847—*Morning Herald* report.)

The *Times* of Feb. 25th, 1847, has the following:—"The Irish ulcer is exhausting the resources of the empire. It was expected that it would come to this. *The people of England have most culpably and foolishly connived at a national iniquity.* Not to go farther back than the Union, for now at least half a century England has had a collateral voice in Irish affairs. It has been notorious all that time that Ireland was the victim of unexampled crimes. Besides lesser evils, there existed no public provision for the poor. *Property ruled with savage and tyrannical sway. It exercised its rigths with a hand of iron and renounced its duties with a front of brass.* Aye, infirmity, disease, and every form of weakness and bereavement were cast out to perish. The 'fat of the land,' the 'flour of its wheat,' its 'milk and its honey,' flowed from its shores, in tribute to the *ruthless absentee*, or his guilty cousin, the usurious lender. It was all drain and no return. But if strength and industry fared but ill in a land where capital was in a perpetual flux and decay, how much more poverty and weakness? *In an integral part of the British empire, on soil trodden by a British Sovereign, the land-owner was allowed to sweep away the produce of the earth, without leaving even a gleaning for them that were ready to perish. And they did perish year by year continually, from their destitution.* The whole Irish people were debased by the spectacle and contact of licensed mendicancy and *recognized starvation.* ENGLAND STUPIDLY WINKED AT THIS TYRANNY. Ready enough to vindicate political rights, *it did not avenge the poor.* It is now paying for that connivance. The dreadful consequences of the crime have recoiled both on the immediate agents and on the consenting bystanders. We are now beginning to wipe off the score of a long neglect. Such is the usual law of retribution. If it is asked why we have now to support half the population of Ireland, the question answers itself—BECAUSE WITH OUR EYES OPEN WE HAVE DELIBERATELY ALLOWED THEM TO BE CRUSHED INTO A NATION OF BEGGARS."

These passages will, I presume, dispel a little of the 'simplicity and ignorance' of the writer in the *Monitor*, and make him understand that England is responsible for the wretchedness which has existed in Ireland, because she neither ruled her as a province, cared for her as a colony, nor respected her as a naton.

Mr. Lester, and intelligent Protestant gentleman, in his "Condition and fate of England," vol. 2, p. 75, shews:—

"By a rapid survey of the past history of Ireland, that she is an invaded and plundered nation—that her degradation and her servitude are directly chargeable on England—that British cupidity and British pride have been the *alpha* and *omega* of Irish suffering."

Dr. Smiles, an English Protestant, in the preface of his History of Ireland, says:—"The records of religious persecutions in all countries have nothing more hideous to offer to our notice than the Protestant persecutions of the Irish Catholics. On them all the devices of cruelty were exhausted. Ingenuity was taxed to devise new plans of persecution, till the machinery of penal iniquity might almost be pronounced perfect."

(*To be continued.*)

A TEACHER.

Jan. 16, 1861.

"When evil strives the worst have greatest names."

OPENING OF THE PRINCELY COLLEGE! THE INAUGURAL ADDRESS—OUR EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR,—Shortly after the provisions of the Bill for the establishment of the "Prince of Wales College" becoming public, I gave through the columns of your journal certain views concerning it, which appeared to be incontrovertible, and which I had the satisfaction to find, on conversing with not a few of the friends of the Government, were concurred in by them. It was then shown that the new College was uncalled for by the people—that only a few over zealous persons projected it, in order to subserve their own petty interests, and to gratify their own prejudices, which had been previously adverted to by the late Editor of the *Islander*, Mr. Duncan McLean. It was further proven that the Central Academy could be made to answer the present requirements of the Colony at one-half the expense attending the College. Though the Government have in their employ a corrupt party of dependents, whose tongues are ever loosed, and whose pens are ever pointed to abuse any argument, and defame any person who may question the acts or the conduct of the Government, yet so indefensible has been the establishment of the New College, and the folly attending it, that the scribes have deemed it more prudent to remain silent. As

"Truth can never be confirm'd enough
Though doubts did ever sleep;"

and, moreover, as Professor Inglis has been led into some mistakes in his inaugural address, the present is not an unsuitable time to offer a few reflections upon the opening of the new College, and the evils existing in our system of education.

It is eight months since the Bill for the purpose of transforming the Academy into a College became law. Eight hundred pounds was to be the Alladin's lamp which could change the residence of the "bovine species" into a princely institution, where the sons of our soil—or, more correctly, the proprietors' soil—are to dwell for a season, and walk out gentlemen. Surely the tale of the lowing cattle is but a libel on the College which is to bear the title of the heir apparent to the British throne. It matters not; imperial Rome rose from a few rude huts. The Government have had sufficient time—eight months—consequently the hammer of the artisan has resounded on the building, and the brush of the artist has covered its walls with fresco work. It is now capable of making the youthful students feel "animated by the glowing instincts of the mind, characteristic of those whose vision is just expanded to behold the distant tops of lofty thoughts and the golden tints of burning aspirations." There they will be "cheered by the prospect of drinking at the fountain heads of knowledge;" and can "scale the heights of fame and honorable distinction." Nay more, can "revel in the sunny dreams of a fervid imagination, and picture in vivid colours the schemes which *fancy* loves to pourtray." They are to "bid adieu to the more menial and plodding walks of life." In a word, "they have only to vow and deeper vow, to be renowned, and each like another Cæsar, shall attain, if not the blood-stained tiara of the conqueror, the perennial laurel that encircles the brow of honor nobly won." These are the anticipations set forth in the inaugural address. After these words from a sober canny Scotsman, it would be permitted an imaginative son of Erin to say, that the mortals who shall have the felicity to enter the Princely College are to be fed with nectar—to be ravished with delicious music, wafted on the wings of murmuring genii, and after a brief probation, they will be allowed to walk the earth, endowed with all the gifts and dignities of the gods!

Let us descend from the fanciful to the practical. The Prince of Wales College is a spacious building—its rooms are warm and clean. The students, in addition to a good education, will have comfortable beds and wholesome fare—and will, therefore, be constantly under the eye of their teachers. It is to be lamented that there has been such delay in opening it; but then workmen were scarce and wages accordingly extremely high. It would not answer the present Government to be extravagant, and thereby involve the Colony in debt, after the promises which were made last General Election. What a lesson in economy the public accounts will teach the "Great Liberals" when they are submitted next session of the House of Assembly! Some one may remark on the £100 paid to the new professor for doing nothing; and the money given to Mr. Donald Currie while he was being transformed from Second Master into Clerk of the Executive Council, as the caterpillar into the butterfly; but then what are these trifling amounts when the coffers of the treasury are overflowing with rolls of bank notes, heaps of shining silver, and piles of glistening gold! A little inconvenience aside, here at last we have an institution which is an honour to the Colony. In a respectable building, the sons of our merchants, farmers, and mechanics can receive a suitable education, fitting them for their respective avocations in life. The College contains an extensive library, numerous maps, and necessary philosophical apparatus, not to speak of proper class books, and this, too, at a mere nominal charge. All this is not too much to expect from a Government which, twelve months since, vowed to perfect our system of education; besides, these things are realised in St. Dunstan's College, which does not receive a farthing from the public funds; whereas the Prince of Wales College, for the first year, is to have nearly one thousand pounds. Alas! the vanity of human expectations! The above is only imagination. Sober truth obliges us to state that, in appearance, the Prince of Wales College is in the same dirty, dreary, dilapidated condition as it was in when Professor Arbuckle is said to have made it the place of resort for his animals of the useful, if not ornamental, "bovine species." Not to incur the risk of being considered dull in our description, it must suffice to say, that on the opening of the College on the 7th instant, the only repairs done to the Academy to be seen were some half dozen steps to the front door; while, on the inside, any quantity of red flags had to be used to hide the cobwebs! The rest is the direct opposite of what a College should be. Not a library, not a map, not even a proper class book have the Government provided; and for this winter, at least, the Prince of Wales College is but another name for a district school. But what remains to complete the picture caps the climax—the Collegiate fee is to be £10 per annum!

Thus much for the College. The course of studies proposed to be taught are somewhat obscurely defined by Professor Inglis. He gives the first place to classical learning. Indeed, his over estimate of the classics has led him into an important error. As Professor Inglis will, for some time at least, have considerable influence from his position on our system of education, we shall submit a few observations in contradistinction to those in reference to the classics, set forth in his inaugural address. If he be proved wrong, no one in this community, it is presumed, will undertake to shew that classical education should be the first object to be sought for by the young men of P. E. Island. When Hector was dragged round the walls of Troy, the doom of Troy was sealed.

Some epigrammatist assures us that long speeches are intolerable, both to gods and men; so, journalists tell us, are long letters to editors and readers. Prudence as well as convenience, therefore, dictates that instead of treating the subject under discussion in one letter, it will be wiser to devote a shorter one to each of the texts placed at the head of our discourse.

CONSERVATIVE.

Charlottetown, Jan. 15, 1861.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR—For some days past a story has been in circulation hereabouts, that you and Mr. Coles are about to join the present Government. I cannot ascertain how, or with whom the report originated, but it is said to be believed by some of the Ewes (Yeos) and Lambs, and other animals in this quarter; and as a confirmation of the statement being true, the advocacy of the Loan Bill, to purchase the lands, by the *Islander*, has been triumphantly cited. It may be all very well "in the way of trade" for the proprietors, whose humble servants our Government are, and ever have been, to wish, while the lackeys are in power, to borrow money to pay themselves for the lands to which they know they have *no honest* claim, and for which they also know the tenantry are not such fools as to pay them any rent in future. And there can be no doubt but that the present Government, on the principle of "a drowning man grasping a straw," would be happy to get any person or persons to join them, who might be the means of prolonging their tenure of office; because they know well they are *doomed* so soon as ever the electors get an opportunity of treating them with the scorn which their base, bad deceptious proprietary leanings have merited; and, Sir, in order to undeceive you and Mr. Coles, I caution you, that, however popular you may fancy yourselves to be, any junction with the present wretched party in power will for ever annihilate your good names with the great bulk of the electors of Prince Edward Island. No matter what terms you may be offered, any connection whatever with a faction who would reward W. H. Pope with a plurality of offices, to the extent of some £450 per year, the better to enable him to wrong the poor tenantry, and help the proprietors to exact their cruel and unlawful claims, and who employed the same W. H. Pope to secrete the public documents from the Land Commissioners and the Counsel for the tenantry, and to aid and abet the proprietors and their agents before the said Commissioners. Your slightest participation in such a Government would be considered a sanction on your part of all the cunning machinations of the said W. H. Pope, and be the means of raising a "No Popery" cry against you, as it has against the present party—whose views and designs he so inimitably indicates—throughout the length and breadth of the land. The electors of this county have a pretty clear idea how well it would answer a Government, who have so woefully betrayed the trust reposed in them at the last General Election, to get a large Loan to divide amongst themselves. Can there be a doubt on any honest man's mind, that W. H. Pope would not be able to *endorse* to himself a handsome number of thousands of pounds out of the loan—if obtained by the present excuse for a Government—the same as it is said he *endorsed* the unfortunate Bank of P. E. Island out of the shareholders' money to the tune of some £14,000? Would he not like to be settling with and paying himself out of the loan fund for the Westmorland property, whose tenantry he would fain *endorse* out of *two guineas* each for a new lease? Would he not like to be paying a handsome price for the property of Capt. and Mrs. Cumberland? Would he not like to be paying his brother James Pope for the Lot 26 property? Would not the Hon. Edward Palmer, the Leader of the Government, like to be paying himself for his share of Lot One? Would not Mr. Yeo "whatever" like to get cash for those lands for which he is agent, or of which he may be owner, now after all the timber has been plundered off them? Would not Mr. T. H. Haviland, the younger, like to get a good round sum into his hands to pay for the lands which he represents as agent? And would not the same gentleman like to give "a good penny" to his father for Lot 56? and to his cousin, Daniel Hodgson, for his Rustico and Cavendish property? and to his cousins of Tracadie for that well-managed property? and to his brother-in-law Deblois, for the Cunard property? Tenants were a very useful sort of creatures while they slaved and toiled only to pay rents to the land claimants; but now that they begin to know some of their rights as well as their duties. W. H. Pope—*who speaks the sentiments of the Government*—does not like tenantry, and something else must be got for the support of the family compact and land claimants. What a nice little sum £150,000 would be by way of a Loan to divide amongst themselves to *endorse* —*a la* Pope—into their own pockets, and skulk all responsibility! No, no; the electors know better than to trust such people with a Loan. The people here look with good prospects to the enfranchisement of their Township with Summerside, when they will take good care to protect themselves from the machinations of the Ewes (Yeos?) and the Lambs, and the Popes, and their minions. I again caution you, Sir, to keep clear of such characters as you value your own.

A CONSERVATIVE.

St. Eleanor's, January 14, 1861.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR—Your correspondent "Spectator," or his informant, has suppressed the most material one of the facts connected with my purchase of the 45 acres of land adjoining my glebe property on Township 62, and one or other of them has also greatly misrepresented other facts.

One of the regulations made by the Government for the disposal of the Selkirk Estate was, that amongst applicants for Wilderness Lands *a preferenee should be given to any person who at the time owned the adjoining land.*

The gentleman in charge of the Commissioner's Office had not been made acquainted with the above regulation, or had forgotten it, when Mr. G——s applied for the piece of land in question, and merely entered G——s's name in pencil as a memorandum. On the Commissioner's return to his office the mistake was corrected, and the only complaint that was really afforded to G——s was, that the Land Commissioner refused to disregard his instructions, and break a rule which he had previously acted upon with great convenience and justice in all similar cases.

I purchased the land by the advice of a friend acquainted with the locality, as a means of protecting my adjoining property from plunder, which it had been greatly subject to for the last few years—a fact not by any means unknown to the Mr. G——s alluded to, as I have good reason to suspect. Nevertheless, had he at first came to me, and given me a promise to have an eye towards the protection of my glebe land against future trespassers, I should cheerfully have relinquished my right in his favour without any additional consideration. He preferred, however, carrying his imaginary grievance to the deserted shop of a prowling office hunter, whose principal employment is to cater for complaints of any kind against the present Government; hence the story has been dressed up as a fit one for the columns of your paper.

Although I am not aware in what respect my price for the piece of land in question, after it became my own, concerns either "Spectator" or the public, I may add that it is far below the exaggerated sum asserted by "Spectator," nor have I received, nor am I to receive a penny of the purchase money for some years to come.

I remain, Sir, yours, &c.,

Jan. 26, 1861. E. PALMER.

FOR THE EXAMINER.

MR. WHELAN—SIR—Nothing excites my sympathy more than to hear children cry; nor does anything raise my dander so quick as to see little children made to cry without cause on their part.

Frequently, of late, it has been my misfortune to hear infants, from two to four years old, crying in their passage past my dwelling, and in every instance it has been the fault of the nurses or girls who have them in charge. The poor little things cannot walk in mud or snow as fast or as far as their *guardians*, (?) and therefore require to be carried, which these girls, instead of doing, set to work to drag them along by one arm, until they fall down from sheer weakness; then because they cannot toddle any further, they are scolded, shaken, slapped, pinched, and otherwise ill-used, while the whole neighbourhood resounds with their pitiful cries; yet, as the parents are out of hearing, and these infants cannot report their ill-treatment, these girls think themselves safe from detection. My blood has often boiled to see these hussies acting in this manner with beautiful, well dressed children, whom they are paid to take care of, which they should take pride and pleasure in doing; and the question often arises, if in the open street, where people are continually passing, these girls are guilty of such misconduct, what must they do in streets or places where there is nobody to take notice of them?

This very afternoon, Sir, in one of our most public thoroughfares, a girl treated an infant in a most cruel manner, because it could not travel in the snow; and though a number of persons were standing by and looking on, none of them seemed to have charity enough to interfere in the little innocent's behalf; so she vented her rage on it to her heart's content. They were too far from my door, or she should have heard my voice; therefore, I determined to let you know how children are treated when from home. They may be your own, Sir, for what either you or I know, consequently as a parent and a public journalist, you should be cognizant of these facts, and make them known, and I am sure there is no mother who sends out her children for their health but will be shocked to hear of their treatment when out of her sight and hearing.

Another growing evil I cannot forbear to mention. Some nurses have been seen two, four, and six times a week to take the children into low filthy taverns, and keep them there for hours, where the little ones are obliged to hear the obscene and vulgar language current in such places; and also to inhale the nauseous vapours always abounding in these dirty rookeries! Are these the places where infants should be kept for the developement of their faculties, instead of being out in the fresh air, where their mothers design they shall be, and fondly believe they are?

CHILDREN'S FRIEND.

Charlottetown, January 16, 1861.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

MR. WHELAN—DEAR SIR—Can you inform us farmers why the Malpeque Road, near the City, is so shamefully neglected? I never saw it half as bad as it is at present, on account of immense holes and pitches, which could be easily filled up. Our Tory officials, who are kept warm and comfortable in the Province Building at the public expense, think very little about the hardships we have to endure. It is no joke for a poor man, after all his trouble in getting a load of wood ready to take to market, in order to make a few shillings to save the bite being taken from his poor children by those unrelenting harpies, the proprietors, to have his sleigh and harness broken near the City, in consequence of the scandalous state of the road, and then to pay for repairing them more than the whole load is worth. When Mr. Williams was Commissioner the road was always good.

A FARMER.

CHARLOTTETOWN DEBATING CLUB.—"Should the City Corporation be abolished?" was the last subject of debate. No members going for abolishing, the time was consumed in discussing civic matters generally. All the speakers were of opinion that the city should borrow liberally for public improvements. After submitting the names of 22 candidates for membership, the chairman announced, as the next subject of debate, "Whether the Southern States have just cause for seceding from the Union?"

Henceforth, gentlemen residing in the city, unless members of the Club or candidates for membership, will be positively refused admittance. Strangers not residing in the city, members of the Legislature (while in session), and proprietors of Island newspapers, are admitted gratis,—the latter being entitled to all the privileges of members. On Friday evening next, and to each succeeding debate, ladies will be admitted.