have a pension, and that Harry will get a nomination; and when it comes to competitive examination, within certain limits, I'll back him. Meanwhile father and son, and daughter, are settling down into their relationship, and Harry has been relieved of a nightmare. It was this: he fancied that perhaps the man—since dead, by-the-bye—who committed the crime his father suffered for, had made the various presents he had accepted; and one evening, when the three were together, he owned that his suspicions made him wretched.

'Silly!' cried Susan, 'why, of course Mr. Anonymous was papa!'

'Is that a fact, papa?'

'Susan is right, my boy.'

Horrible Murder in Newfoundland.

By the last mail steamer from St. John's, N. F., to Halifax, the particulars of a fearful tragedy were received. The affair is one of a very startling nature, as will be seen by the following account from the Halifax *Chronicle*:—

It seems that about three weeks ago the dead body of an aged woman named Jane Geehan was found on the roadside about a mile from the River Head, on the Spaniard's Bay road. The Coroner, with a surgeon and the jury, at once proceeded to the place. After the surgeon had examined the body, so far as circumstances admitted, it was carefully placed in a cart and conveyed to the husband's house, where a most rigid investigation took place, to the satisfaction of the Coroner and jury. No indications of violence appearing, the jury returned a verdict of "death from natural causes, and not otherwise."

When news of the affair reached St. John's, the Inspector of Police, Mr. Foley, took a detachment of Police and proceeded to the scene. The Attorney General of the colony accompanied them. Not being satisfied with the finding of the jury they ordered a *post mortem* examination, which took place in the presence of Mr. Foley. Nothing was elicited, however, to discredit the jury's verdict. Inspector Foley was not yet satisfied, and he determined diligently to pursue investigations. The wisdom of his course was proved by the result.

It was found that a man named Garret Seyers, a brother of the woman Geehan, was missing. He was an aged man, helpless and dependent for support on his sister's husband—Mr. and Mrs Geehan, Seyers and a servant girl named Hamilton forming the household. It is stated that on the 23d November, Seyers started to go on to St. John's for the purpose of going into the Poor House, and was to be accompanied as far as Brigus by his sister, Mrs. Geehan. Whether they ever left the house together alive has not yet been ascertained. At all events, on the afternoon of that day, the body of Mrs. Geehan was discovered as above related, and Seyers was not to be found. On the 6th inst., Inspector Foley found the body of Seyers.

The St. John's *Chronicle* further says:

The body of Seyers was found by Inspector Foley, who had been searching for it over thirty hours. By means of a ramrod he discovered it buried five feet deep in a manure heap.

The Coroner was immediately informed, and a respectable jury was empannelled and viewed the body, which was identified as Garret Seyers.

The police are in charge of the premises, and every precaution has been taken to secure evidence, &c.

A further telegram received from our correspondent last night says that—

"The mutilations are horrible to describe. The inquisition is secret. Much is being developed. The jury are still sitting, and the prisoners have been remanded."

It may not be generally known that Inspector Foley went to Harbor Grace on Sunday last, and had the husband Geehan and the girl Hamilton immediately arrested. A good deal of material evidence has been brought about respecting these murders, which we are compelled to withhold for the present, but which will come out in due time.

"HARBOR GRACE, Dec. 8th.

"*To the Editor Chronicle.*

"The inquest on the body of Seyers continues, and the circumstances of his death are being thoroughly investigated.

"A mattock has been found secreted on the premises with marks of having been used in the dreadful work upon it.

"Seyers was interred to-day."

We have also information that evidence of a most convincing character against the accused is in the possession of the authorities, but it cannot yet be made public.

The inquest will probably not conclude its labors before Wednesday next.

Monetary Position of England.

There are some appearances, remarks the *Economist*, that the import of gold from the Continent has now ceased, and, if that be so, the Bank of England is not likely to get much richer. We are always liable to many miscellaneous demands for coin and bullion; and, now that the Bank of France does not pay in specie, every one who wants gold urgently must go to the Bank of England. There are only two contingencies which would vitally alter our present situation before the end of the month, when the large payment to Germany becomes due. One is that the Bank of France might sell some of its bullion, but this is not likely, as its liabilities have augmented of late most rapidly, and even her present state is giving anxiety to all the good financiers in Europe. If she began to sell her gold in the market her credit would be affected materially. The second possible event is, that the Berlin Government might lend out some of its present gold, or make some arrangements as to the gold it has to receive. But this is not probable. The policy of the Berlin Government is not wise, but it seems fixed, and it is easily described—to get all the hard cash they can and not to pay it away before they are obliged. The *Money Market Review* thinks it is now pretty well understood why the exceptional state of affairs in the discount market exists. A large amount of English acceptances have been given, and are held on German account, in connection with the French indemnity payments. A portion of these liabilities fall due this month, and a further portion may, on receipt of orders to that effect, be offered for discount at any moment; and as the Bank, notwithstanding the decrease in the discounts, and increase in the bullion reserve, is not yet in as strong a position as it occupied on the occasion of the upward movement in the rate two months ago, the directors deem it advisable to maintain a protective rate. Meanwhile, there is no scarcity whatever of money in the general market; bankers and the discount establishments are even over supplied; and so holders of bills are able to obtain accommodation at low rates. It is worthy of remark that since the week in which the Bank minimum was raised to 5 per cent. there has been an uninterrupted weekly influx of foreign bullion, varying in amount (on balance) from £613,000 to £1,470,000, whereas in the previous seven weeks a continuous efflux had occurred.

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

SIR,—Reilly, who ardently thirsts for power and office, conjointly with his despised, vile lucre-seeking followers, avail themselves of every conceivable opportunity to wantonly depreciate in the estimation of the public, Mr. Howlan's political reputation, by propogating respecting him the most malicious and unmitigated falsehoods by their untruthful and opprobrious declarations they hope to tarnish the hitherto unsullied political integrity of Mr. Howlan, as to cause his friends and supporters to desist from reposing in him that degree of generous confidence which the indefatigable zeal he has unvariably manifested in the promotion of the interests of this Island, justly entitles him. Knowing as I do that Reilly is prompted to pursue this ungentlemanly, ungenerous and disreputable conduct towards Mr. Howlan, from motives the most vile and dishonorable, I presume that it is my duty, as well as that of every free-born man [illegible] to raise his voice in behalf of injured innocence, and sustain by word and action the man who deserves well of his native land. It is apparent to the comprehension of the most meanly gifted individual, that the base and ill-feeling towards Mr. Howlan, by the [illegible] Reilly, and the vain, [illegible] Mr. Sullivan, has originated from their inordinate desire to obtain the reins of the government, that they might be in a position to satiate their morbid appetite for ambition and avarice. That Reilly is a base temporizer, is well known throughout the Island. His predominant passion is avarice, and no party however honest may be their political conduct, can hope to retain his friendship if they refuse to unsparingly lavish unbounded patronage upon him, in every respect, subserviently pander to his prejudices, and gratify to the fullest extent his inordinate ambition. Had the present government forfeited its independence, and obsequiously yielded to grant him the unjust and unreasonable requests he demanded of it, he would be heard to-day sounding its praises far and wide. But when he was disappointed in realizing the golden prospects which his avarice delusively pictured forth for him, he arrived at the desperate, but humiliating resolution of abandoning a party with which he was connected by every principle which good faith and honour could involve. Yes he abandoned that party at the awful sacrifice of his claim to truth, honor, and honesty. The despotism which his unparalleled perfidy and execrable mendacity reflect upon him, time is not capable of obliterating. He may, to a certain extent, make reparation for the enormous political sins he has perpetrated; but it is an utter impossibility for him to wholly efface from the minds of the people of this Island, the doubly imprinted convictions that he has been a traitor of the deepest dye. No effort of his to cast odium on Mr. Howlan will be successful in diverting public attention from his recent acts of dishonesty, the most reprehensible, and inconsistency the most glaring. He vainly endeavors to impress the public with the erroneous conviction that Mr. Howlan is censurable for "deceiving" his Catholic fellow-members by inducing them to sign what he is pleased to designate a dishonorable "bond," by which the present government bound itself not to endow sectarian institutions, nor enter into confederation. But if it were ignominious for Mr. Howlan to sign that bond, was it not equally so for Mr. Reilly? Mr. Reilly, on that occasion, stood in the important position of an independent and intelligent representative of the most sacred rights of a free people; and it was to be expected that before subscribing his name to any bond affecting their interest, he would not fail to give the matter an impartial and thorough investigation. If, after mature deliberation, Mr. Reilly arrived at the conclusion that such a mode of proceeding was the most judicious that could properly be adopted under the then existing circumstances, he acted a strictly honest part in appending his name to the document in question. But if he signed that document under the conviction that he was doing an irreparable injustice to his fellow Catholics, he must, indeed, be pronounced a traitor to the trust reposed in him. Subsequent to the signing of the "bond," Reilly proved satisfactorily by his public declarations that he highly approved of the government being bound to refuse aid to sectarian institutions. He told the public that it was the best and only arrangement that could be made at that juncture of affairs; and of the veracity of this assertion we entertain not the slightest doubt. He remained satisfied with the "bond" arrangement, till an evil hour, when he imagined he could make political capital out of abusing Mr. Howlan for inducing the Catholic members to sign the "bond." But, in this uncharitable and illiberal attempt, he has most signally failed. If the signing of the "bond" was a degradation to the Catholics of the Island as he would now fain cause them to believe, why did he, the conscientious, pure and zealous advocate of Catholic rights, permit his name to be appended to it? Why did he not then fearlessly expose the injustice of such a proceeding? But not a word was heard from him, but glowing eulogies on the ability, enterprise and honesty of the government. No, it did not then suit Mr Reilly to find fault with the government. Such a policy, he thought, would be extremely imprudent on his part. It would be the means of preventing him from receiving that vast amount of patronage which he fondly believed would be bestowed upon him by the government. But being disappointed in realizing to the fullest extent his cherished hopes, and irritated at not being able to carry out the O'Brien scheme successfully, he could not any longer restrain his indignation; and consequently we now behold him lavishing his redundant rancour on the heads of these men who would not satisfy his greed for office. He appears particularly desirous to stigmatise Mr Howlan; but Mr. Howlan need not be the least apprehensive of sustaining any injury from the foul assertions of the degraded Reilly, or Mr. W. W. Sullivan. He is too long and favorably known in this district for the misrepresentations of designing men to work against him. He has served us well and faithfully, and when the time comes for him to present himself to us for re-election, we shall testify to him our sincere thanks for the eminent services he has rendered us by returning him, as we have on all occasions, by an overwhelming majority.

I am Sir, yours truly,

AN ACADIAN.

Tignish, Dec. 13, 1871.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

Dear Sir,

Being an old Liberal, and one who has always thought polling my vote for the Hon. Edward Whelan an honor, I wish to say a few words to my friends at St. Peter's and the other parts of the district, and that is that the people of Morell are of opinion that so far as the branch to St. Peter's and Souris are not likely to be obtained, and that we cannot blame any of the Government, so much as our office-seeking Edward Reilly, who I believe, would sell us to Canada for a few hundred, as Pat, his brother told us, and from what information I have obtained. We, the people of Morell, are now prepared for the next Election, and have our Candidates named, who, I think, will be no other than William Hooper and William Sullivan, Esquires. Hoping you will insert this in your valuable journal.

I remain, Yours,

A [illegible].

Morell, Dec. 15, 1871.

Late Telegraphic News.

London, Dec. 16 6 p.m.—The following is the latest bulletin:

Sandringham, Dec. 15 5 p.m.—To-day the Prince has been more tranquil than any time since the fever declared itself. He is progressing in all particulars satisfactorily. No further bulletins will be issued to-night. The next will appear at 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Boston, Dec. 16.—William Brown, living on Adams street, Lynn, killed his wife this morning, stabbing her with a dirk knife. He immediately fled and was pursued by officers into Rock's pasture and surrounded. When he found there was no avenue of escape open he attacked Officer Thurston, and in the struggle both fell, Brown stabbing the officer. Officer Whitton came quickly to the rescue and used his club freely on Brown, but without effect, when City Marshal Barrett drew a revolver and shot Brown dead. Great excitement has been caused in the city by the affair. Some condemn the shooting of Brown, and others assert that it was done to save the life of Officer Thurston whom Brown was in the act of stabbing again.

Bangor, Me. Dec. 17.—Hon. S. H. Dale Mayor of this city, died very suddenly to-day of apoplexy.

Sandringham, Dec. 15—5 30 p.m.—The Prince was tranquil all the afternoon. The course of the fever continues favorable.

The Queen returns to Windsor to-morrow.

This bulletin was received with great cheering wherever posted.

A feeling of profound relief prevails in all quarters.

London, Dec. 16—1.30 a.m.—Official report from Sandringham at one o'clock says that the Prince had some quiet sleep to-night.

[illegible]—The Prince progresses so well towards recovery that it is already proposed that Princes Arthur and Leopold and Princess Beatrice leave Sandringham to-day for Windsor Castle. Prince Alfred will soon follow.

Toronto, Dec. 16.—In the House this afternoon Wood, Treasurer of Ontario, stated that the House was not satisfied with the present ministry and he had resigned his seat. In this conclusion he was bound to add the Premier did not agree.

After a warm discussion, the House passed a motion of want of confidence in the Government by one majority.

At Montreal the Mayor breakfasted with the Grand Duke. The latter expressed great sympathy for the Prince of Wales and trusted that favorable accounts would be confirmed. In the afternoon the Duke drove to Lachine. No cermony was observed in his proceedings.

London, Dec. 16—3 p.m.—The Prince of Wales has now entered upon the first stages of recovery. There is every indication at Sandringham that the danger is over. The noon bulletin appears to-day and it is announced that it has been discontinued.

The Queen accompanied by Princess Louise and other members of the Royal family, arrived at Windsor Castle this afternoon by special train from Sandringham. The duke of Cambridge has returned to London.

Consols 92 3-8. Liverpool markets generall steady.

New York, 16—Gold 109 1-8. Sight Exchange 9¾.

A special despatch from Quebec reports excitement in the Assembly caused by charges of bribery and corruption against agents of the Ministry. The Speaker caused the galleries to be cleared by police, and an out-door meeting was held which declared for annexation to the United States.

Tweed has been arrested for swindling and has been committed to jail.

The Examiner.

Ch'town, December 25, 1871.

WE issue the EXAMINER on Saturday this week, as Christmas day falls upon our regular day of publication. The circulation of our paper has steadily increased during the past year; without any special efforts we have added 350 new subscribers to our list. Our advertising patronage has also largely increased, and as contracts expired we have been enabled to leave out patent medicine advertisements. This success warrants us in making some improvements in the EXAMINER during the year 1872. For a few weeks we will have to use a quality of paper, not so good as we desire; but at the end of that time we hope to present the EXAMINER enlarged and improved to our patrons, to whom we return our best thanks for their interest in our paper; and to whom we very cordially wish all the HAPPINESS OF THE SEASON.

"Yes, thou has lifted up thy tearful eyes,
Fancying thou heard'st of mariners, the cries;
And sigh'd, 'How wretched now must thousands be,'
When, lo! this dreadful tempest, and this roar,
A ZEPHER in the key hole of the door.'

Now may not David's howlings be a sigh
Pressing through DAVID's lungs for loaves and fishes,
On which he long hath looked with longing eye
To fill poor DAVID's not o'erburden'd dishes!

"Give LAIRD a sop—forgot will be complaint.
The Island safe, and Pope will prove a Saint."

PINDAR.

THE reader may be surprised at reading the above Stanzas. It is not of course a fact that the humorous Walcott who wrote under the *non de plume* of *Peter Pindar* knew or wrote anything about the hero of our article. As our readers are aware there are two important reasons why Pindar did not dedicate a few lines to the nominal Editor of the *Patriot*; the first is, that the celebrated Pindar lived in the reign of George III, while the protracted shadow of our hero did not then darken the place of his nativity for more than a century afterwards; and the second, that this writer directed his satire at nobler game. Still poetical alarmists and greedy demagogues, in all ages of the world's history, have so many peculiarities in common that the above extract from *Pindar*, with a slight variation, reads as if it had been expressly composed by one having a full knowledge of the tactics of the *Patriot*.

Last week we devoted some space and attention to Mrs. Gamp, and the week before to the Editor of the *Herald*, the would-be Grattan; and lest the nominal Editor of the *Patriot* should deem himself slighted, we propose in this article to give a slight review of his career as a politician and an ecclesiastic.

We have a distinct recollection of seeing some years ago a pious stripling travelling through the country, canvassing for subscribers to a religious journal proposed to be issued, of which he was to be the Editor and Proprietor. The Presbyterians rallied round this promising youth, and readily subscribed to a paper that was to be employed in disseminating their principles and supporting their religious views. This young man professed great religious zeal, and told the people that he embarked in journalism only as a means of providing funds to qualify himself for the pulpit. Such promises and pious confessions, together with a remarkably devotional visage, were well calculated to enlist the sympathies of his co-religionists. No wonder then that this pious [illegible] succeeded in gulling a good number of the unsuspecting and credulous among his countrymen. The paper appeared in due time with the high sounding title of *Protestant*; flourishing the religious and loyal, patriotic motto of "OUR GOD, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR QUEEN." In all conscience this pious stripling aimed high enough, but he most unfortunately missed the mark. The chief characteristic of this periodical of odious memory was its intolerant bigotry and intense hatred of Catholics. Week after week it teemed with abuse of Catholic laity and clergy. The Presbyterians soon became disgusted with the spiteful animus of the sheet, and were rapidly giving it up when he made an ingenious change. The paper became a semi-religious paper, under the title of *Patriot*, but still flourished the original motto. In its new garb it professed to deal in wordly matters, and there were happy intervals during which it did not breathe threatenings and slaughter against the Catholic Church. The Church had peace during these periods, and prospered accordingly. In the course of another few months a sadder change comes over the spirit of his dreams. The religious motto "OUR GOD, OUR COUNTRY, AND OUR QUEEN," is rejected, and with it every sentiment of which it is suggestive. Religion, patriotism and loyalty were eliminated from the editor's creed. Having gained a good subscription list and established himself in business, we heard no more of his pious intentions. His patrons have not to this day heard whether he has succeeded in hoarding a fund sufficient to equip him for the pulpit or not. It is unfortunate that so many noble aspirations are crushed, and so many pious intentions are frustrated by tyrannical poverty. How much the Church has lost in this instance! Believing himself born to shine in the Church, and admirably qualified by nature to handle things divine, he is compelled to grovel among the materialites of this world like any common man. He has not quite forgotten his pious mission. His pious ambition sometimes even yet gets the better of him. We are credibly informed that many tender-hearted old women at Flat River, during the late canvass, wept lavishly under his pulpit oratory. They say it was very affecting. His text on that occasion "Put not the bottle to thy neighbor's mouth," he managed with ability. He cautioned his hearers particularly against imbibing adulterated liquors, and demonstrated by practical illustrations that inferior liquors are more abundant than the pure. Temperance societies ought to engage his services as a lecturer to revive the cause on the Island. He would infuse *spirit* into the movement. He is at present, however, too much absorbed in politics, to trouble himself with temperance principles, or to recall to mind the little pious fraud to which he owes his present notriety and political existence. Having gone back on his religious patrons and temperance friends he assumed the role of an unrewarded patriot. In his new character nothing short of Legislative honors would satisfy his political ambition. Having cast his eyes around for a constituency, he thought his chances better in the Belfast District than in any other. Mistaking the intelligence and temper of the people, he thought to gain his seat by abuse of the Catholics. The English language was laid under contribution to furnish terms sufficiently severe and abusive with which to assail them, but all to no purpose. This ambitious scion of the house of Laird was ignominiously rejected by the people. Bound at all events to attain a seat in the House, and seeing no opportunity of doing so in a Protestant District he turns another summersault, and begins coquetting with the Catholic party. The discussion on the School Question upon which he formerly displayed so much bad temper and lavished so much abuse upon his neighbors, when he had his eye on Belfast, next waxed warm, but our pious ecclesiastical aspirants was, singular to say, arranged on the Catholic side, and an assistant of the *Herald*. Then came his famous trip to Fort Augustus with its barren results. The people of that locality entertained him hospitably, but utterly refused his proferred services as a representative. He returns to his journalistic labors apparently broken-hearted. His disappointments and hardships were no doubt judgments upon him for not prosecuting his studies for the ministry, for which he was so eminently qualified. It would be unprofitable to continue this biographical sketch any longer. Every succeeding month found this ecclesiastical prodigy arranged against the party, and the principles he supported and advocated the month before. For inconsistency none but himself can be his parallel. A political accident has enabled him now to secure the much coveted Legislative honor, and we shall await with anxiety to chronicle his actionsin the House. At present he satisfies himself with denouncing the present Government for treachery and extravagence, and representing the country on the verge of financial ruin. He alone is able to steer the ship of state amid so many dangers. He, on a former occasion refused half a loaf, and nothing short of the whole will now satisfy him.

With all his pretentions, and the predictions of his satellites that he will be the "Big Dog in the Tan-yard," when the House meets, we have strong misgiving that he will prove a failure, and that his utterances will not even reach the dignity of a bark, but will only become discordant, guttural growls.

The Juvenile Lecture on Constitutional Law.

THE long document which we give below is one of the funniest things outside the pages of Artemus Ward that has found its way into print for many a day. We feel positive that it is the production of some incorrigible wag, or some juvenile who has just got over the introductory pages of Blackstone. In a future number we will show the absurdity of some of its inflated sentences, but to-day we simply call attention to the absurd position it places some of those whose names are signed to a paper which we are sure they never wrote.

Hon. Daniel Davies as Chairman of the Memorialists committee in this address to the Governor reminds his Honor that the Leader of the Government is virtually without a constituency, inasmuch as a large majority of those he represents have called upon him to resign his seat in Parliament. How does Mr. Davies know that a majority of Mr. Pope's constituency called on him to resign? If he means the address presented to Mr. Pope last session and got up by a few political opponents, he must know that within one week after that address was presented, Mr. Pope received letters from many of his constituents expressing their regret for having been deceived by the falsehoods and misrepresentations of those, who went about the country to procure their signatures. Mr. Davies must also know that a great change in favor of Mr. Pope is strongly evident among his constituents,—and yet with more than ordinary presumption he tells the Governor that Mr. Pope is "virtually without a constituency." What may we ask is Mr. Davies' own position with his constituents? Does he not know that he has forfeited the confidence of a "large majority" of them, by deserting the party who elected him? Does he not know that a large majority of *his* constituents called on him to support the Government policy on the Railway Bill, and how has he acted? Certainly not in accordance with the wishes of a large majority of *his* constituents, and therefore he, Mr. Davies, stands guilty of accusing Mr. Pope of that of which he himself is guilty.

It is well known to Mr. Davies that a large majority of the electors of Charlottetown are adverse to the course he has taken, and he should know that *he* is "virtually" without a constituency.

Coming from a great man to an exceedingly small man we know that Edward Reilly is virtually without a constituency. By a mere dodge in inducing an opponent to resign he slipped in and he took his seat although he had only a minority of the votes polled, as the poll-books prove. But the writer of the juvenile lecture must have had Reilly's criticisms in view when he got him to sign this statement:—

"But we can not refrain from reminding your Honor that if the prayer of the first Memorial submitted to you had been complied with, the Legislature would, in all human probability, have made such provisions as would have resulted in the acceptance of the lowest tender, and the consequent saving to the Island of the enormous sum of over £30,000!"

Reilly denounced that Memorial as being unconstitutional and revolutionary. He spoke of those who signed it as being little better than blood-thirsty communists. He derided them as being ignorant, contemptible simpletons. Now, he has been made to praise that very same Memorial, and laud the signers of it as being prudent men. But that is not the first humiliating document he has signed, nor if he has the chance will it be the last. As to the statement that the acceptance of Messrs. Walker's proposal would save the Colony £30,000 we are astonished that the other gentlemen, whose names are attached to the document should make an assertion that every intelligent person in the Country knows to be incorrect, and almost ridiculous.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. ISLAND,
Dec. 13, 1871.

SIR: The Committee appointed to present to your Honor the Memorial for twenty-two members of the Legislature, have to acknowledge the receipt of your Honor's reply.

The Committee feel it due to themselves, and to those they represent, respectfully to express their regret that your honor should have declined to act on the Memorial, because you do not consider that Parliament, being in recess, the declaration of policy contained in the Memorial can be considered by your Honor as a constitutional expression by Parliament of a want of confidence in the Government.

The Committee are fully impressed with the grave importance generally attached by the Sovereign to a vote of want of confidence in the Government for the time being by the British House of Commons in session, nor do they desire to question the course which your Honor will undoubtedly take when our House of Assembly is permitted to pass such a vote. They respectfully submit, however, that the prerogative of the Crown is not limited to this single indication of the nation's desire for a change of government, and that Her Majesty's Representative in this Colony, in the important exercise of that prerogative, cannot shrink from the responsibility of dealing with any misgovernment or improper conduct on the part of his Executive, even when the evidences of such misgovernment or improper conduct are laid before him during the recess. While respectfully reminding your Honor that the Memorialists do not assume to dictate to your Honor any particular method of action, and while duly acknowledging the weight to be attached to the constitutional precedents of Great Britain, the Committee submit that the course of a Lieut. Governor, of a small Colony such as this, is not shaped from strict analogy to the practice of the Sovereign of the realm. In Great Britain, it is unnecessary for us to remind your Honor, Parliament is in session for by far the greater part of the year, while in this Colony the Legislature sits for a very few weeks only. In the former case, therefore, the House of Commons is in a position, almost at any time, formally to express its want of confidence in the Executive, while in this Colony, the privilege is confined to the few weeks in the spring of the year when it has been customary to call the House together. To declare therefore without limitation, that in this Colony, where the remedy by impeachment of ministers is unknown, the country at large has no relief against a fraudulent or a corrupt Government for the ten or eleven months following the prorogation of Parliament, is a declaration against which we feel bound to record our most determined protest. The power of bringing ruin upon the Colony might, by frequent chances and accidents, become concentrated in two or three individuals of the most questionable integrity, men who bid defiance to the voice and wishes of the people. Upon occasions of this kind, the people can only look up to the Representative of the Sovereign; and if, with the most indubitable evidence placed in his hands—evidence which in England it would not be possible to obtain—that the majority of the people consider a political crisis at hand, and their interests and liberties greatly endangered, a Lieut. Governor delays the simple remedy of convening the Legislature, merely on the ground that the popular voice which appeals to him does not speak through a formal convention of that very Legislature, irreparable mischiefs might ensue, and evils irremediable be entailed upon the Colony. To refuse a remedy at once so efficacious and so innocuous as that referred to, would be, in other words, to declare that two or three individuals for the greater part of a year, might exercise absolute administrative powers in direct opposition to the will of the people of the Colony, and in defiance of their voice, however manifestly it may be made known to the representative of the Sovereign.

We respectfully submit therefore that occasions do and must arise in the political history of Colonies as well as in those of Empires, when the Sovereign, or her representative, as the case may be, can fairly be expected, in the impartial exercise of his prerogative, to listen to the voice of the people, even when that voice is proclaimed by other means than through the vote of a parliamentary majority in Parliament convened. We freely admit that it is your Honor's privilege, as well as that of the Memorialists who have addressed you, to form an opinion as to whether such a crisis has occurred in this Colony or not and also to give expression to that opinion when you consider the time for doing so a proper one; but as your Honor has, in delaying the meeting of Parliament until the usual time, ignored the existence of anything extraordinary in the present condition of affairs, we think it our duty shortly to call your Honor's attention to certain important facts which must have come to your Honor's notice, but which we respectfully suggest have not had their appropriate weight.

Although the present Executive was formed prior to your Honor's assuming the Government of the Colony, you cannot be unaware that the party now in power was not in existence as a party when the late general election took place; but that, on the contrary, it is a Coalition Government, combining fragments of the old political parties which at one time divided the people.

It must also be clear to your Honor, that inasmuch as the project of constructing a trunk line of railroad in this Island, was never submitted to the people at the polls, the Executive were doubly bound to exercise care, economy and prudence in carrying out the provisions of the Bill; and your Honor cannot be unaware that it is chiefly the improper and reckless manner in which those provisions have been, and are now, being carried out by your Executive, that has given rise to the intense excitement and dissatisfaction which is universally admitted to prevail throughout the length and breadth of the Island.

It is not, we consider, improper on our part to remind your Honor that the Leader of our Government is virtually without a constituency, inasmuch as a large majority of those he represents, have called upon him to resign his seat in Parliament; and that since the rejection of the chief Railway Commissioner by his late constituents your Government has not ventured to risk another appeal to the people by the appointment of a member of the Legislature in his place.

The repeated defections from the ranks of the Government of many of the most independent men in the House of Assembly, cannot fail to have made an impression upon your Honor as an impartial observer, and we need only remind your Honor that these defections have been so numerous as to leave your Government in a minority in the House of Assembly, of which fact your Honor has been notified in the only way possible for the members of the House to approach your Honor.

If other proofs are wanting of the state of public feeling throughout the Island, the Committee would point to the various large public meetings held in different parts, at which resolutions condemnatory of the actions of your Government have been passed by large majorities; and to the important fact that in a House of Assembly, composed of thirty members, the Government has only, in addition to the members of the Executive and their paid officials, two independent supporters.

In addition to the foregoing reasons, we would add this fact, more important perhaps than the others, that the spirit, though not the letter, of the Railway Bill, is being violated by your Honor's Government in constructing a road, of much greater length than that contemplated by the supporters of the Bill, and thereby not only abusing the confidence reposed in them by the Legislature, but also entailing upon the people of the Island a debt and taxation largely in excess of that contemplated by Parliament.

It is unnecessary for us to dwell at length upon the different matters of detail in the letting of the railway contract, or in the construction of the road which have been the cause of so great, and as we conceive, well-founded distrust and dissatisfaction in the minds of the people; but we cannot refrain from reminding your Honor that if the prayer of the first Memorial, submitted to you, had been complied with, the Legislature would in all human probability have made such provisions as would have resulted in the acceptance of the lowest tender, and the consequent saving to the Island of the enormous sum of over £30,000.

In conclusion, we would merely say that while disclaiming any idea of limiting or enlarging the prerogatives vested in your Honor by Her Majesty, we cannot but regret that your Honor should have seen fit to refuse the prayer of the second Memorial, even to the limited extent of summoning the Legislature at an early day; and we regret your decision the more, inasmuch as it involves the assumption by your Honor, until Parliament meets, of a responsibility for all future acts of your present advisers, which it is eminently advisable the Representative of the Sovereign should decline to accept.

We have the honor to remain, your Honor's obedient servants,

DANIEL DAVIES, M.P.P.
R. P. HAYTHORNE, M.L.C.
DAVID LAIRD, M.P.P.
BENJ. DAVIES, M.P.P.
H. J. CALLBECK, M.P.P.
HENRY BEER, M.P.P.
EDWARD REILLY, M.P.P.

To William C. F. Robinson, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c., &c.

REPLY.

GOVERNMENT HOUSE, 18th Dec., 1871.

GENTLEMEN,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 13th instant, in which the Committee recently appointed to present to the Lieut. Governor a Memorial from the members of the Parliamentary Opposition, submit observations supplementary to those contained in the Memorial, and enter "their most determined protest" against the principle supposed to be laid down in the Lieut. Governor's reply.

2. While admitting that the arguments which you now advance are put forward with clearness and moderation, the Lieut. Governor still thinks that the charges preferred against the existing Government, the "excitement and dissatisfaction" which are said to prevail throughout the Island, form no sufficient reason why he should take upon himself to exercise at this juncture any one of those prerogatives which, vested in the Lieut. Governor personally, should only be resorted to in great emergencies, or in the event of some political crisis of a far more serious character than that which appears to him at present to exist.

3. The Lieut. Governor concurs generally in the broad principles of constitutional government which you enunciate, and you may be assured that should occasion arise, he will not shrink from "the impartial exercise of his prerogative" or "from the responsibility of dealing with any misgovernment or improper conduct on the part of his Executive;" but, at the same time, he claims to be the sole judge as to when and how should be exercised those personal powers and responsibilities, which have been entrusted to him, by Her Majesty's Government.

4. In thus replying to a communication, which cannot, of course, be regarded as forming any part of the original memorial, the Lieut. Governor feels sure that you will recognise his desire to give full weight and consideration to the views of those who have addressed him, and readily believe that he is only actuated by a sense of what he conceives to be his duty, in directing me finally to inform you that the course which he adopted in declining to take action on the memorial was, under the circumstances, in his opinion, a proper one, and that he is not disposed to reverse it.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

KILDARE C. ROBINSON,
Private Secretary.

The Hon. D. DAVIES, M.P.P.
" R. P. HAYTHORNE, M.L.C.

THE Bazaar held in the Market Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday last was well patronised. The Hall was crowded on both days, and the proceeds of the sales of the numerous articles exhibited will realise a large amount. On Wednesday night Messrs. J. C. Hall and A. McNeill, rendered good service by auctioneering off innumerable articles of Fancy goods, Cake, &c., for which high prices were obtained.

The Examination at Prince of Wales College.

THE Christmas Examination at Prince of Wales College came off on Wednesday last and was one of the best which has taken place there for some years past. His Honor Governor Robinson, his Honor the Chief Justice, Rev. George Hodgson, Hon. John Longworth, and several visitors were present. The students were examined by the Professors and by Rev. Mr. Hodgson in English Literature and History, French, Latin, Greek, and also in Geometry. They seemed to be thoroughly grounded in their studies and amongst those who specially distinguished themselves in all the classics Mr. Jacob Schurman bore off the honors. At the close of the proceedings Governor Robinson made some encouraging remarks to the students in which he showed the importance of education in a country like this, which has free institutions. The Legislature had made liberal provisions—expending £20,000 a year out of a small revenue—for the purposes of education, yet the people did not seem to take proper advantage of it, because out of a juvenile population of 25,000 on this Island, who should be attending school, he was surprised to find that only some 9,000 attended. Why this was so he did not know but it was a matter that would probably engage the attention of the Legislature. He was led to make these remarks from the pleasing fact that the attendance at the College had increased. He then gave the students Christmas holidays.

Though the number of pupils at present in Prince of Wales College is somewhat larger than at the mid-summer examination and whilst we believe that Professors Anderson and Lowe are very capable gentlemen and perform their duties very faithfully yet when we reflect that less than 50 pupils are costing the Colony about £1100 per annum for an education that might be had in any ordinary Grammar school, we can not help thinking that the Colony is paying a little too high for that institution. When we find moreover, that nearly one half the population, derive no direct advantage from it,—not sending a single pupil there, it is about high time that, not only the College, but the whole system of education should engage the attention of the Legislature. We hope, therefore, that when next his Honor addresses the assembled wisdom of the country, his speech will contain a stirring paragraph on the Education Question.

"Evil be to them that Evil think."

"THE domestic manufacture of foreign correspondence" has been going on, we have heard, at a great rate in the *Herald* office for our special benefit, whilst we were honestly attending to our business. Poor fellows! they must have been in a roilly state, and must have had running through their exceedingly small amount of disordered brains certain reminiscences of house-breaking and abstraction of a poor widow's funds some years ago on Kent Street; and also of the sudden exit of a "schemer who ran the *rigg*," as their friend the *Patriot* intimated, and left for "foreign parts" in a bundle of hay with the sheriff in rapid pursuit,—when they published their criminal libles about a man who has more honesty of purpose than a whole host of such gentry, who acknowledged the baseness of their natures by admitting that they are "(un)naturely suspicious."

Their poor spite can not even offer the excuse of being caused by political acrimony. It is owing to a contemptible feeling of business jealousy, which is unworthy of any one of the name of a man, not to say a christian, who professes to be actuated in the "Holy Season of Advent" with the spirit of good will. But such is life and such is *semi-religious* journalism!

We have been blamed by many of our friends for shewing too much forbearance; but we take no pleasure in merely personal matters, and have refrained oftentimes from applying the *lex talionis* to unprovoked attacks; but we have made up our minds "to go for them in future" though some of the exposures which we may make should give pain to some of the relatives, whom we respect, of the imprudent people who live in the most glassy of houses.

Important Trial.

WE have every promise of a great trial during the sitting of the January Court. Mr. Crocker, of whom we made mention last summer, in connection with the Fanning estate is at present in the City with the papers and witnesses in the case. The heir of the estate, Mr. Fanning, a young gentleman about 21 years of age is also in the City. The estate to which he lays claim is now very valuable, and no doubt the result of the suit, which he is prosecuting will be looked for with very great interest.

THE COAL SUPPLY.—Unless some steps are soon taken to get the coal which, we learn, is at Georgetown, there will be much suffering amongst the poor in Charlottetown this winter. The 600 tons which are in Georgetown, would go far to supply the demand which will immediately set in. Inasmuch as the cost of hauling the coal such a long distance, will make it so expensive as to be beyond the means of the poor people, who expected to get their winter's supply for about 25s. per ton, the Government would do well, we think, to pay for the carriage of the coal, or a part of it, from Georgetown. The £200 which the Government were authorised to send to France, if they saw need of it, could not be better appropriated than in relieving the necessities which the sudden setting in of winter has brought upon our own poor. Charity is always commendable, but in no case more so than when it is absolutely required at home.

MEDICAL HALL.—One of the handsomest establishments in the City was opened last week, at corner of Queen and Grafton Street, and is the subject of general admiration. We refer to the new drug store of Dr. Dodd which he has fitted up and stocked like similar establishments in large cities. The new Medical Hall adds greatly to the attractions of the upper part of Queen Street, and we hope that the success of the Doctor will repay him for his taste, skill, and enterprise.

OCEAN HOUSE.—On Christmas Day Dinner will be on the tables, at the OCEAN HOUSE, Rustico, from 1 till four o'clock, P. M., affording parties in the City, desirous of having a pleasant holiday in the country, the advantage of enjoying a good time.

THE ENGLISH MAIL with eight persons, crossed in the Ice Boats, via Cape Traverse, on Thursday last. The crossing is dangerous, and some of the passengers suffered with the cold.

POOR COPY