clusions very good. Arithmetic, 56; 3 classes; very good—ready and correct. Grammar, 35; very good. Geography, 77; taught in a most successful manner; the Geography of the Island well understood. Dictation, 42; regular. Other branches—Algebra, 3; Geometry, 1; Recitation, 53; one who recited Byron's Epitaph on a Dog did so with much propriety, taste and judgment. Remarks—Mr. Roche's abilities *as a teacher are clearly of a very high order; and the extent and variety of knowledge acquired by his pupils are surprising.*"

Mr. Arbuckle, in his recent Report, speaking of Mr. Roche's School, says:—"At the exercises, the scholars shewed a creditable spirit of attention and alacrity in reading; the enunciation was full and distinct; the pronounciation, with slight exceptions, accurate; and the expression of spirit and feeling in the recitation of interesting pieces of prose and poetry, very remarkable. In every department the investigation has been carried beyond the text book. A searching examination of a large class on a variety of subjects—called 'the General Information Class'—shewed that a spirit of inquiry had been elicited. Mr. Roche has had the principal management of this School for many years, the children of the district, with few exceptions, are but-sted to him, and he has consequently enjoyed peculiar privileges for the exhibition of tact and talent in promoting the progress and proficiency of his pupils in the primary and higher branches of education."

Can anything plainer than the above testimonies be required to convict the writer in the *Monitor* of being a mean, contemptible liar, a most shameless, barefaced slanderer? If the other students of the Normal School are as ill bred, mendacious, abominably immoral, and as totally devoid of all Christian feeling as the writer in the *Monitor* is, then would I say that this Institution is a deadly cancer, which will hereafter be the curse of society. I would fain hope, however, that such is not the case, and that the fetid moral depravity which a Normal School Student has exhibited is confined to his polluted self. One would think that it would be well for Mr. Webster not to allow any of his students to be bringing odium on the School of which he is the Head Master. If he continue to allow this student of his to outrage all decency, then shall we hold him responsible for these slanders—then, too, may he prepare himself for a well merited castigation. The midnight assassin who prowles about, ready to fall upon his defenceless victim, is as noble a being as the cowardly, dastardly wretch who, in his satanic malice, shoots broadcast his poisoned arrows of slander and defamation. But I suppose the work of defamation is so congenial to the 'unhanged forger,' *flunkey*, 'A Normal School Student,' *et hoc genus omne*, that it would be absurd for us to hope that they will be converted from the iniquity of their ways. These worthies will, no doubt, continue their 'odoriferous' employment. But it is well that we now know where the sewers and the cess-pool are which emit the disagreeable effluvia of which I before made mention. To the *cloaca maxima*, and to his redolent tributaries, I say—Gentlemen, abuse, vilify, slander, defame, calumniate your neighbours until you are black in the face.

A CITIZEN.

THE TEMPORAL POWER OF THE POPE.

To the Editor of the Islander.

Sir—In the *Islander* of the 7th ultimo appeared an Editorial on the Temporal Power of the Pope, which contains remarks that cannot fail to be very offensive to every Catholic, and also assertions which, I think, should not be allowed to pass without notice. It is my present intention to review this Editorial at some length, and to defend the Temporal Power of the Pope against your violent attack on it; and I would have done this some time ago were it not that I have been too busily engaged in the discharge of my various duties—Advent and a few weeks after Christmas being for a Catholic Clergyman one of the busiest seasons of the whole year.

I will not dwell on the motives which some attribute to you in writing the article in question, viz: that finding yourself rather unpopular on account of the part which you are said to have taken against the tenantry during the sitting of the Royal Commission, appointed to settle the Land Question, and wishing to gain popularity with a certain class, you resolved to make a "political engine" of the Temporal Power of the Pope. I by no means affirm or even insinuate that you were actuated by such unworthy motives, which you will, as a matter of course, repudiate; but I can say that if your sole object in writing this article were to inform your readers about the important changes now going on in Italy, and especially about the Temporal Power of the Pope, you might have attained the end which you had in view without giving deep offence to some of your readers by your sarcastic sneers at the belief of Catholics and the conduct of the Sovereign Pontiff.

Before proceeding further I may remark that you, Sir, are generally believed to be the Colonial Secretary of this Colony; and if you are, the position which you at present hold does not appear to me to be the most dignified; for, whilst you are in the receipt of Catholic "gold," you, at the same time, consider it proper to outrage the most delicate feelings of Catholics by calling the august head of their Church an "impotent old man," and by attacking with virulence both his spiritual rule and his temporal government. I frankly express it as my humble opinion that "under the most favorable circumstances, the demand which the "business of the Colonial Office" "must necessarily make on the time and attention" of the Colonial Secretary "are very great;" and "the purity and dignity" of the Government of Prince Edward Island "cannot fail to be lessened in the estimation of mankind" by the association of its principal official with the editorial department of a newspaper which makes on the Pope attacks that are highly offensive to a large portion of the inhabitants, and that are calculated to fan into a flame the now smouldering embers of religious strife.

Some of our journalists appear to labour unceasingly in order to propagate throughout this Colony the idea that Catholicity is the enemy of civil liberty, that the Papacy is synonomous with political and religious tyranny, and that should "Romanism" ever come into power "a dark shadow crosses over and rests upon our fair home—liberty of speech and action is restrained, progress, even in so general a matter as commerce, is retarded—superstition, which lays its fetters on intellect and conscience, is fostered, and personal safety is endangered." Even you yourself, Sir, are not altogether free from this imputation, for, in the *Islander* of the 3rd of February last, you say:—"Experience has proved—and the prosperity of England is a marked illustration of the fact—that countries advance in the arts of civilization, and prosper just in proportion as their inhabitants are free from ecclesiastical domination. The inhabitants of the small territory under the immediate government of the Head of the Roman Catholic Church are *now*, and for a *long* time past have been, in a state of most deplorable disaffection; and the Sovereign Pontiff would immediately be driven from his Palace by his Catholic subjects, were the army of foreign troops, by which they are now kept in subjection, to be withdrawn. If the secular rule of the Romish Church be intolerable to its own people, it would, necessarily, prove more so to Protestants." In your issue of the 7th ult. you say:—"*Unfortunately for popular liberty*, 'The New Zealander' will, we fear, have completed his sketch before the historian shall have recorded the destruction of the Papacy." The expression of sentiments such as those which I have mentioned has an undoubted tendency to create against Catholics a very strong prejudice, and to induce the great majority of Protestants to look upon us with suspicion, as if we were continually plotting against their liberty, and even against their lives, and to regard us as a dangerous and very wicked class of beings, who should be by all means possible kept down by those who value their liberty and their lives. This, Sir, is not only most unjust towards Catholics, but also very prejudicial to that Christian harmony which should exist in this community. It is true that there are many Protestants who are sufficiently instructed not to be influenced by misrepresentation and virulent invective; but it is also unfortunately true that there are too many who are very willing to believe anything, however false or absurd, regarding the Papacy and Catholics, which the ignorance or malevolence of certain individuals may induce them to publish. We are regarded by many, especially by the more uninstructed, as an outcast degraded race upon whom no species of insult should be spared. As an illustration of this, I might mention the unearthly yelling, hooting and insulting language which are occasionally indulged in by some persons, whilst they are, on market days, passing the College grounds on their way home. It is my humble opinion that we shall never have that Christian peace which I, as well as all true lovers of our Island home, deem absolutely necessary for the future happiness and prosperity of this Colony, until public journalists cease to stigmatize in the most unseemly and odious terms our Bishops, Priests and laity, and to disseminate the most untrue and unjust ideas regarding their intentions and principles. If the inhabitants of this Island are divided in their religious belief, let them, in the name of all that is holy, enjoy their opinions and practice their religion in peace. The people of other countries—Germany and France, for example—respect the religious belief of one another, and live in the sentiments of Christian harmony and peace; and cannot the inhabitants of P. E. Island do the same? Can we not all unite in advancing the material and social interests of our common country without some persons hinting at the propriety of keeping us poor "Romanists" "satisfied with a post before the mast," or "restrained by the limits of the main hatch," or without their jeering priests as "Medes and Persians," or ridiculing "red stockings," or any other part of episcopal or ecclesiastical dress?

Some may consider it unnecessary for me to come forward now and defend the Temporal Power of the Pope. I know that I am unable to do the subject that justice which its importance demands, even if my time were not almost wholly taken up with my numerous duties; but, Sir, I cannot remain silent and read your unjust strictures on the conduct of that benign Pontiff whom I as well as all Catholics revere as Christ's Vicar on Earth. Besides, I hope that my observations may have the effect of removing some of the false notions which prevail regarding the Papal Sovereignty, and also a part of the unjust prejudices which exist against Catholics in general—prejudices which are more or less injurious to us as citizens.

I yield to no man living in the respect and loyalty due to our most Gracious Queen, who now, by her many virtues, adorns one of the most powerful thrones in the universe; yet, my veneration for that august personage whom you are pleased to call an "impotent old man," is as far superior to that which I entertain for my temporal Sovereign as the spirit is superior to the flesh, or as the things of heaven are superior to the things of this world. For thus expressing myself I may be called a "fanatical Romanist," an "extreme Papist," and an ardent defender of "Popery." But, Sir, I deny most emphatically the charge of Popery, if by it be understood "that dark spirit of ecclesiastical pride and ambition which rebels against the law of the land, and tears the hand of the patron that feeds it. That spirit of wild Proselytism, *per fas et nefas*, which pours whole deluges of tracts and Bibles on every shore—indifferent whether they fall on the palace or in the gutter—whether they be written in language which excites faith or contempt. We strenuously reject Popery if it mean that evangelical zeal which would escort its ministers with trains of artillery, and compel attendance by volleys of grape. We abhor, we reject Popery if it revile the Lady of England as Jezebel; if it denounce her as deserving of dethronement; if it single out the object of her hallowed affections as the butt of its ribaldry. We loathe, we detest, we spurn Popery, if it wring the last miserable penny from the starving peasant, and take the tenth blood-stained sheaf from the widow and the orphan—if it leave the father of a family to rot in jail for a debt of five shillings and six-pence. If, indeed, such be Popery—if it loathe the reign of youth and innocence, and sigh after the dominion of a hoary tyrant, then, O Lord, deliver us from Popery!—If by Popery be meant that doctrine handed, in dying, by the Pope and Apostle Peter to Linus, and so to his successors, through every link of the chain of ages—then, indeed, we admire it. If by the term be understood that faith which triumphed over the Cæsars, which confounded the sophists, which softened the barbarians, which freed the slave, which ransomed the captive, which enlightened the ignorant, refined philosophy, and civilized the world—then, indeed, are we in love with Popery. If it be that spirit which instructs childhood in truth and virtue—which restrains the fiery passions of youth, and guides to heavenly crowns the ambition of manhood—which makes old age avaricious of virtues—which guides the footsteps of life, and watches by the bed of death—then, indeed, we embrace Popery. In this sense we see in it the centre of attraction of all noble natures: the prototype of every generous feeling: the beginning and the end of all truly great actions. It gave its spirit to martyrdom: it gave its heroism to self-denial—its zeal to charity—its aspiration to art. In its rays genius sprung to life—under its hand the Madonnas of *Raphael* rose in their humility to thrones of cloud—and *Murillo's* martyrs smiled in dying. Its sweet and awful voice grew sensible in the tones of *Allegri*, in the strains of *Mozart: Pergolese* and *Zingarelli* were echoes of this spirit's song. At its command the temple of Peace, crowned with the Pantheon, rose in majesty under the name of St. Peter's, and the *Moses of Michael Angelo*, full of the glories of Sinai, lives for ever, like the stone tables of the law, enshrined in the splendors of Jehovah. Yet there are wonders greater than these. We have seen palaces in foreign lands, which, in our simplicity, we took for the residences of kings; they were only the abode of beggars. In these magic worlds all seemed reserved: the poor, the wretched, crushed by fortune, found an asylum and rest. Waited on in the midst of every comfort, by the young, the noble, the beautiful, they seemed to bless the storms that had driven them to such a happy port, and, amidst the calm, succeeding so many tempests, soothed and yet weaned from life, it seemed as if it were to them the portal of Paradise, and a pleasure to die. Ah Catholicity! thou great magician! so courageous, so persevering, so firm yet gentle, so avaricious of souls, and prodigal of self-sacrifice, so learned and wise, so ancient yet novel, so splendid and heroic, overflowing with mercy and the charities of life; Lord of all things by a universal abnegation. Ah! can it be that thou art nothing more than a damnable idolatory!"

Promising to return to the subject next week, I have the honor to be, Sir, your humble servant,

A. McDONALD.

St. Dunstan's College, Jan. 22, 1861.

THE EMIGRATION SCHEMERS.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

Sir—You have doubtless observed that during the last month the Editors and correspondents of the two papers which are lashed by the golden chain of corruption to our Government car, have been exerting their very small share of wit and ingenuity to make the public believe that the one thing needful to make this Colony an El Dorado of wealth and happiness, is the immigration among us of a *certain class* from the mother country. If one had time to contrast their puerile projects, and expose their dribbling absurdities, it could not fail to afford some amusement. The *Islander* does not want labouring men who have no money to bring with them. His class of emigrants must be possessed of four or five hundred pounds currency, with which he assures them comfortable houses and cultivated land can be had, and that they will immediately become independent gentlemen! In the same paper Captain Hancock has his house and *six acres of land* advertised for sale, and instead of a "house and 80 or 100 acres of land for £300 or £400," as the editor states can be had, the price set on it is £1000. Now, it is well known that there are comparatively few respectable houses and farms to be had for a much less sum, unless, indeed, we adopt the only conclusions which can fairly be drawn—that the present occupiers are to be driven from their homesteads to make way for the "more respectable class of emigrants"—the consideration being £300 or £400. The *Monitor* would be satisfied with any class, provided they came from the Highlands of Scotland, and throws the blame of the last emigration scheme upon the shoulders of poor Aberdeen Smith, of notorious memory. You, Mr. Editor, come in for a share of the abuse of the pompous pedagogue who fills the editorial columns of the *Monitor* with his inflated verbiage, for the successful manner in which the *Examiner* defeated the designs of Aberdeen Smith's employers. But, Sir, you are honored by the malevolent abuse of the Monitor men. It would have been well for our own countrymen who emigrated not long ago to New Zealand, if some *Examiner* at the antipodes exposed the deception which was practised upon them by land jobbers. They would not now have to regret having left P. E. Island.

One fact will show the wickedness of our emigration schemers! As an inducement for people to emigrate here, they had a flaming handbill widely circulated in England and Scotland, in all the attraction of red and black ink, stating that labouring men in Charlottetown received higher wages than were given in the United States or Canada! The magnificent number which did come in the "Ocean Bride" was nine. Had the number been 900, Aberdeen Smith would have been ridden on a rail, for the nine denounced him in no polite terms; and in a few days, on seeing how they had been deluded, some left for Canada. Of the others, two I have heard returned home. Our land jobbers will have to pay the price, it is hoped, which they agreed to pay for chartering the "Ocean Bride" that brought ballast instead of live lumber, the thought of which makes the schemers feel their folly. This time they propose to make the Colony defray the expense of the next attempt which they are about making, and which they suppose will be more successful than the last, and will strengthen their wavering ranks at the next election.

Some one—a wicked wag it must be—stated that Governor Dundas was dividing the public lands into blocks, and building cottages thereon for the emigrants. Now, the only place in which those who might have been sick—as numbers generally are in an emigrant ship—when arriving here, was demolished as effectually as if six pounders had been levelled at its walls. Was it not in anticipation that sickness would be brought here by them, that the chimneys and windows were knocked out of the hospital? "What will they say to this in Scotland?" Much indignation has been felt in Charlottetown during the past three weeks when the fact became known that the direful and contagious disease, Small Pox, was in danger of spreading through the criminality of those who gutted the hospital without providing some other suitable place in its stead. The hospital, which has been destroyed, was built by Sir Alexander Bannerman, and fenced off from Government Farm, and was public property. It was a mile and a half from Government House and was considered not an inconvenience by either Sir Alexander or Sir Dominick Daly who had a large family to care for; yet, our present rulers, having no family, deem it too near them, and for some petty caprice order it to be demolished! and the City Corporation pay twenty-five shillings for doing it. We read of men offering up their lives to save their country; here the opposite prevails. But thanks to Providence, and not to the wisdom of those at the helm of state, the health of the community was spared. The individuals afflicted with the Small Pox who came here in a schooner were thrown into a cold miserable hut, and had nothing to sustain life for five days but water and potatoes. In a few days seven persons became infected with the disease, and were it not for the extreme coldness of the weather, it would have spread more rapidly. Let us hope that there will be a proper inquiry into this affair when the House of Assembly meet next month. Verily, Sir, the successful efforts of the *Examiner* in defeating the emigration scheme may have been the means, under Providence, of sparing the poor people of Scotland another Darien expedition.

Yours truly,

A TRUE BRITON.

Charlottetown, January 25, 1861.

SUMMERSIDE GOSSIP.

For the Examiner.

Since the advent of the new year there has been a dearth of gossip, a scarcity of news, almost unparalelled since our ambitious little town has aspired to the honour of becoming the County seat, and that is years since.

'Tis true, a few choice spirits ushered in the year of grace 1861 with a Ball and Assembly at the "Ballahoe Hall," where some ardent devotees of Terpsichore enjoyed themselves to their heart's content. Of course an incident of this kind helps to break the monotony which generally prevails in a small country town at this season, but it only furnished food for the gossips for a few days, and then

"Was as much forgotten as the canoe that crossed
The bosom of a lonely lake, a thousand years ago."

Not so, however we opine, will be the case with the *Fete* given by the Collector, in honor of the distinguished Count Currioni, which took place on the evening of Thursday last, at the "Frog Swamp Villa," the residence of Professor Jackanapes.

For some days a fantastically dressed creature, with a cap shaped after the manner of the Cossacks of the Don, and made of sheared sheep skin, was observed strutting about our streets, twirling his cane with a self-complaisant smile, and adjusting his neck-tie with the nervous consciousness that the eyes of the populace were upon him. Various were the opinions that were offered by our astonished towns folk, as to who this doughty stranger could be. Some averred that he was an Italian Count who had fled his country in consequence of the troubles of the revolution; others asserted that he was only the Junior Clerk of the Executive Council, who had arrived here in order to prepare the public accounts of the Collector in time for the meeting of the Legislature, it being stipulated by his masters that he should perform such work for incompetent office-holders as he would have little else to do; and others again insisted that he was none other than "Edward Fwiskey," the redoubtable libeller in the "obscure Monitor;" but certes it is, that whoever he was, a *Fete* was given in his honor that far eclipsed the festivities at "Ballahoe Hall," which ushered in the year of grace 1861. We had the honour of being present at the Fete, and a larger assemblage of "fair women and brave men" we never remember to have seen, with the exception of the Prince of Wales Ball. "All went merry as a marriage bell;" although at times we fancied that a slight shade of disappointment clouded the features of the Junior Clerk, *alias* the Count, *alias* Edward Fwiskey. This, probably was owing to the disappointment he, no doubt, experienced in beholding so many gentlemen dressed in grey homespun, which must have ill-accorded with his ideas on the subject of ball room attire. His mind must have been possessed of vague notions of levees at Government House; and, perhaps, he had anticipated a few white chokers and claw-hammer coats, in his especial honor. Tired of dancing, the guests found relief in some exquisite vocal music, furnished by the host himself, who sang "The Wigwam by the Mill," with great applause. The Count Currioni likewise rendered "The Old Cabin Home" with great effect, which was doubtless owing to reminiscences of the log shanty on the West River. On the whole, the affair was considered the most *recherche* that has ever taken place in this neighborhood.

The writer of this has been assured by Captain Richard Walsh, a gentleman of undoubted integrity and great moral energy, that the statements of Currioni, in the "obscure Monitor," are without the slightest foundation in fact. At the time the Junior Clerk refers to, in his libel published in the "obscure," Capt. Walsh commanded the packet schooner "Rival;" and he states that Mr. Whelan and another gentleman, having inadvertently missed their passage by the "Fairy Queen," took passage with him in the "Rival." He further states that being well acquainted at Shediac, he had facilities which no other person from the Island possessed for finding out if any such event as Currioni describes had ever taken place; and that he neither knew nor heard of such a thing. Therefore, he considers Currioni's insinuation, about "the Messrs. Walsh throwing a flood of light on the subject," as a mean subterfuge to bolster up a statement, which is a falsehood from beginning to end. Here endeth the gossip.

Jan. 28, 1861.

EARLY CLOSING.

Mr. Examiner—Sir—You occasionally tell us of different literary institutions existing in our midst, and hint that folk should support these by their presence and money. This is a very fine doctrine to preach to those who have time and means at their command. There is a class of persons in this community who, however they might improve either by these or religious Societies, have not the time at their disposal to do so. I mean the shop attendants!

It is well known that from just after daylight of these short mornings, the Clerks are at their duties, opening and preparing their respective shops for customers, and they not only stand at their posts, performing their duties during daylight, but long in the night have they to be on foot, even after the hours which these respective Societies commence their services (not because of the immense quantity of business there is to do in the evening, but from a bad habit long preserved here, viz: *late closing!*) And who would like to go to any of these meetings when half the service or business is gone through? Not only would the meeting be disturbed by the untimely visit, but the intruder would not be able to pick up the thread of discourse, so as to profit thereby.

A remedy for this state of things is in the hands of the Merchants, viz: *early closing!* and it is "devoutly to be wished" they will use it, so that their servants may be able to benefit by the religious and moral information within their reach. Perhaps there is not a town in the Colonies that is blessed with greater facilities for informing and improving the mind than our own; for instance, the Methodists and Bible Christians hold two public week night services each week, while the Kirk and the Established Church hold one each. Then there are public religious services two or three times each week in private houses; then the Young Men's Christian Association, the Catholic Young Men's Literary Institute—different Church Singing Societies—a prospect of the resuscitation of the Harmonic Society; and last, not least, there is the Debating Club with its Reading Room in full bloom and vigour, and

One of our beaux
Is bound to propose
That ladies may visit the Club.

This is a summary of our weekly institutions for improvement; but of what avail are they to a portion of our young men whose duties, or rather whose hours prohibit them gaining any benefit therefrom? You will please know, Sir, that the female portion of the shop attendants are differently situated to the male. We have shorter hours and other facilities for gaining improvement than they have; and if we were selfish, need not take up our pen in their behalf; but we wish them to have a share with us, so that after a joint attendance at any of these public institutions, we might, during the following days, when circumstances would permit, talk over the evening's service, whereby we would be mutually improved. There are other reasons, too, that might be urged in favour of the new system of Early Closing! not the least of which is the saving in gaslight and fuel! The general cry all this season has been, dull business, *bad Gas*. If report speaks true, Pictou, Halifax and New Brunswick stores are closed early, say, 6 o'clock in the Fall and Winter evenings, 7 in the Spring, and 8 during Summer. In the neighbouring States, also, most of the business places are closed at 4 o'clock afternoon in the fall and winter months! There is no doubt but in these large cities they have very much more business to do and better and cheaper gas than we have; yet, for the sake of the religious and moral improvement of the employed, the employers sanction and support *early closing*. Could not our shopmates, then, have the same privilege as the clerks in other cities, and our employers be nothing the worse for it? Surely when in large business cities early closing has been resorted to for the benefit of the employed, and without detriment to the employers, it might be tried in our small City for one season; and for *experiment* sake, if on no other consideration. One or two of our merchants have adopted it, but it requires to be a universal system to be of *general benefit*.

Hoping you will pardon my troubling you on this subject, and that the desired system may be forthwith adopted, which, I think, might be more readily brought about if you could spare the time, Sir, to recommend it,

I remain, yours truly,

Charlottetown, 8th Jan., 1861. SARAH.

TESTIMONIAL TO JOHN CLARK, ESQ., LATE OF TRYON.

Tryon, January 23, 1861.

To John Clark, Esq.

Sir,—Being aware of your removal from this community to another part of the Island, and on the eve of your departure, we, the undersigned inhabitants of Tryon and vicinity, cannot permit you, dear Sir, finally to depart without expressing to you our deep regret at losing so worthy a neighbour, and so useful a member of society as you have proved yourself to be, and likewise the high esteem in which you are held amongst us. Your frankness and urbanity of manner, your hospitality and readiness on all occasions to promote anything of a charitable nature and tendency, has won for you many warm hearted friends in this locality. Your ability and efficiency as a Commissioner of the Court for the Recovery of Small Debts, for many years, deserves our highest commendation. And we trust that your removal may prove conducive to your welfare and happiness, and may you find as many friends in your new home as you leave behind you, and may you be blessed with all that Heaven can send. We shall always be pleased to see you when you can make it convenient to pay Tryon a visit, and likewise happy to hear of your welfare, and depend upon it, Sir, that the many pleasant hours that we have spent in social company will not readily be effaced from our memories.

And now, dear Sir, we bid you adieu for the present, and that every blessing both spiritual and temporal be vouchsafed you, Mrs. Clark and family, by the Dispenser of all Good, is the sincere and earnest desire of your freinds and well-wishers.

(Signed)—Samuel E. Dawson, J.P., John Lord, J.P., Richard Hudson, J. P., Alex. Craig, William Callbeck, George S. Muttart, Henry Howat, Alex. Howat, Geo. Muttart, Samuel Thomas, William Lea, sen., William Sobey, Jabez Hudson, John M. Hood, Albert D. Callbeck, Joseph Robblee, John M. Leard, John M. Howat, Richard Howat, Henry Howat, Edward Wadman, W. B. Howat, Charles Leard, Colin Campbell, John Cameron, Duncan Cameron, Benj. Webster, Donald R. Gambell, Thos. Robinson, John McRae, Adam Howat, Dougald Cameron, Samuel McRae, John Cameron, George Howat, James McRae, Allan Cameron, John Holiday, John Bell, sen., Hector McFadyen, John Walker, A. E. C. Holland, J. P., Robert Muirhead, J. P., Henry Wadman, Alex. McDonald, W. B. O'Brien, Finlay McFadyen, Arthur Irving, William Platt, Wm. Muttart, Joseph Stagman.

[REPLY]

Gentlemen:

Accept my warmest thanks for the kind and unexpected address which you have just presented me. I shall ever value it as one of the greatest marks of friendship and respect that you could possibly confer on me.

Your estimate of my conduct while among you is higher than it deserves. If I have assisted you in carrying out any object of a charitable nature, it is only what I shall ever take pleasure in doing as far as my feeble abilities will permit; and I am likewise happy to find that my conduct, while Commissioner, has met with your approval.

I assure you, gentlemen, that had I consulted my own feelings, I should have still remained amongst you, for believe me, that after spending so many years of my life among such kind friends and good neighbours that it is not without feelings of regret that I now leave you.

I again thank you, gentlemen, for this mark of respect shown to me and my family, and can only say that Mrs. Clark, as well as myself, will carry with us a friendly recollection of your kindness, and shall at all times feel pleased to receive a visit from any of our old friends, whenever they can possibly make it convenient to call.

JOHN CLARK.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., February 4, 1861.

THE LOAN.

We do not know of any more remarkable change of opinion on a public question than that which has recently marked the conduct of the *Islander* and its patrons in reference to the Loan and Purchase Bills. The late editor used to become exceedingly rabid when writing upon either one of these measures; and the present editor addressed some grossly offensive letters to Sir D. Daly for having recommended and sanctioned them. The Purchase Bill was denounced as a palpable swindle, under the operation of which, it was said the occupiers of small farms were liable at any time to be ruined by the Government. Yet that Act has not only been allowed to remain unaltered on the Statute book during the two years the Tories have been in power, but they have purchased, and are now selling, in conformity with its provisions, two very extensive estates. The Loan Bill, we all know, was merely intended to supplement the powers given to the Government by the Purchase Act, but it was likewise assailed with the most rancorous feeling. While it was under the consideration of the local Legislature, and afterwards before the Imperial Parliament, the *Islander* did not allow a week to pass without denouncing it as the most ruinous measure that could be devised. We were told that it would bring endless taxation upon freeholders who could derive no benefit from it—that the Colony was too poor, and its then existing debt too great to borrow the large sum of £150,000 currency, the interest of which, we were assured, could never be paid. Our public debt at the time the Loan was proposed was about £30,000; it is now not far short of £60,000. Yet, the editor of the *Islander* who abused Sir D. Daly and the Liberals for advocating a loan of £150,000, modestly recommends the Government to borrow Two Hundred and Seventy Thousand Pounds, and buy out the estates of his friends, the Proprietors, at a much higher figure than was paid for the Worrell property. And Mr. Secretary Pope says this Loan must be procured, if we want to preserve the peace of the Island. He says that "the tenantry throughout the country have been induced to form extravagant hopes and expectations such as can never be realized from the award of the Commissioners; and unless the scheme of emancipation, by means of an Imperial loan—without which," he adds, "it cannot be carried out—be taken up and vigorously prosecuted, *we cannot see how tranquility is to be maintained in the Colony.*"

Now, first, with respect to the "extravagant hopes and expectations"—the present Government originated the Commission—they assured the tenantry that all their grievances, arising out of the Land Question, would be fully redressed by that Commission; and if the tenantry shall suffer any disappointment in their hopes and expectations, the Government will be responsible for it all. Secondly, as regards Mr. Pope's opinion that a civil war will arise in the country if the Government neglect to pass a new Loan Bill—does he forget how violently he abused the late Lieut. Governor when he expressed his belief that the tranquility of the country depended on the adoption of such measures as the Loan and Purchase Bills? His Excellency was then accused of encouraging sedition; but if that accusation could be borne out, the same charge can surely be preferred with great force against the present Colonial Secretary.

Mr Pope says that the late Government paid too high a price for the Worrell Estate, and that that was the reason why it was not a self-sustaining transaction. We are not yet sure that there will be any loss from the purchase of the Worrell Estate; but if the price given for it was too high, it was owing to Mr. Pope having forestalled the Government in the purchase, and then exacting a higher price for the land than that at which it might have been obtained from the owner of it. But after all, deducting the Fishery Reserves and the securities handed over to the Government when they purchased the Worrell property, the actual price paid will not exceed five shillings an acre; the land was transferred to settlers at prices ranging from 8s. to 12s. 6d. an acre, and there are yet 30,000 acres of wild land to sell, which, if disposed of at 5s. an acre, with the £16,000 due on sales, would pay off the whole £20,000 paid for the estate, and leave a balance of £3,500 in the hands of the Government. Now, Mr. Pope proposes to give the proprietors 7s. 6d. an acre for one half of their lands, and 10s. for the other half, which would be nearly double the price given for the Worrell property; and he suggests that those lands should be sold to settlers at an average rate of 10s. an acre, which is about the average price given by the settlers on the Worrell estate for their farms. How, then, can other Estates become "self-sustaining" if bought by the Government at nearly double the price the Worrell property cost, and resold to tenants on terms somewhat similar to those obtained by the Worrell settlers?

But it appears to us that the subject of a Loan will never be entertained by the present Government. Nearly every member of the Executive has very strongly repudiated the principle of that measure; and the President of the Council has just publicly declared that he is now more opposed to it than ever. If the measure is to find favour in the Legislature, it must be under the auspices of new party combinations. Whether any thing of this kind will occur in the ensuing Session it is impossible for us to conjecture. This, however, we may fairly assume, that the Government must pursue a bolder and more liberal policy with respect to the land tenures than they have yet indicated, or their fate is sealed for ever. They have coquetted with the proprietary party too long. The public excitement is greater now than it was even when the Commissioners were here; and the increase of feeling is owing to the culpable apathy of the Government regarding the welfare of the tenantry—their connivance with, and assistance to, the proprietors while the Commissioners were holding their Court in the Island—and the enormous number of writs and distraints that have been issued, during the past three or four months for the recovery of arrears of rent—members and officers of the Government acting as Attorneys in nearly all such cases. We understand that a well organised agitation—originating altogether with the tenantry themselves—is about to burst upon us, the first object of which is to petition the Legislature to pass some measure of relief for the tenantry—something that will restrain proprietary oppression, and relieve the tenantry from the exaction of the arrears of rent until the award of the Commissioners shall be proclaimed. But a speedy abolition of the leasehold tenure, whether by the award or by an act of the Legislature, is a thing that must be accomplished. The Government may cajole and palaver, and say that nothing can be done until the award of the Commissioners shall be made known. The award, we understand, will not be given during the ensuing Session, and probably not until the Session of 1862. Do the Government suppose the tenantry will quietly submit to proprietary exactions for another year or more? No, no; the crisis in the history of the leasehold tenure has come upon us; the Government must meet it manfully or succumb; resistance to the popular feeling will be of no avail; but will rather hasten that state of things when Mr. Pope's prediction will be more than verified—when all the civil power of the land will be insufficient to execute the writs of the proprietors; and when it will be impossible to "see how tranquility is to be maintained in the Colony" without a strong military force. If the Government are of opinion that they should do nothing for the relief of the tenantry until that time shall have arrived, they may rest assured that the cares of office will not press heavily upon them long after its advent.

However incorrect the editor of the *Islander* may be in his details regarding the proposed Loan, he is certainly correct in enunciating the opinion that a general purchase of proprietary estates, waiving all enquiry into the conditions of the original grants, is the most effectual, and indeed the only, means of emancipating the tenantry from proprietary bondage, and averting the anarchy which he thinks must result from an obstinate persistence in the present system. The *Monitor*, acting the part of toady to Mr. Palmer, is shocked to think that any journal on the Government side should manifest more independence of spirit than itself has ever done, or is capable of doing, and tells Mr. Pope and Mr. Ings, that so long as they hold Government employments, they have no right to express an independent opinion of their own. We will quote the exact words of the *Monitor*, to shew that, in the opinion of its editor, a public journalist favourable to the Government, and receiving some patronage from it, must never utter a word of censure, no matter what follies and errors that Government may commit. It says:—

"Mr. Pope, as one of the principal officers of the Government and Mr. Ings, as Queen's Printer, are both, in our estimation, open to censure for the course they have pursued, and are still pursuing, with regard to this matter; and we trust that, for the future, those gentlemen will see the propriety of conforming their published opinions on public questions to the clearly expressed sentiments of the Government whose *servants* they are. If they are not prepared to do this, their course is plain,—let them resign their offices: and then we shall be saved a repetition of the unseemly exhibition we have recently witnessed, and the Government will, of course, no longer be held responsible, in any way, for the political opinions which they may see fit to promulgate through the columns of the *Islander*."

There is no doubt that Mr Cooper would be very well pleased if Mr Ings resigned the Queen's Printership, in order that he might obtain it; and if he did, we have proof in the above extract that he would be the most mean, slavish and subservient tool that ever disgraced a Government. When Mr. Clark proposed to vote against the Administration on an important question of finance, while he held a very lucrative office, and he was advised not to do so, the Tories were shocked at the restraint which this advice was alleged to impose on his personal liberty; and they kept up an outcry against Mr. Coles for many months afterwards on account of it. But here is a most barefaced attempt to bring the "iron rod" to bear upon the *Islander*, which existed long before the present Government came into office—which is not subsidized in any way—which has always aimed at independence in its political views; and which is destined to outlive by many years the party now in power. If Mr Pope has done an improper act in advocating a loan, the Council whose Clerk he is should have spirit enough to call him to account for it; but we have no proof whatever that the majority of the Council differ from Mr. Pope on this subject. If Mr. Ings made the *Royal Gazette* the vehicle of Mr. Pope's opinions in opposition to the Government, it would not, perhaps, be out of place to check him; but we cannot see what right the Government have to interfere with the *Islander*, any more than with the *Examiner*, or even the *Monitor*.

GOVERNMENT PROFESSIONS AND PRACTICE.

AN ELECTIVE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

We alluded, last week, to the outcry made by the Tory party while in opposition against the constitution of the Legislative Council—their vehement advocacy of the elective principle as applicable to that body, and the promises made to their constituents that its adoption would be secured as soon as they became invested with power. There is no question of our Colonial policy upon which the Tories had so strongly committed themselves as this one. So long as there was a majority in the Council favorable to the views and interests of the landholders, the Tories in the lower House did not breathe a syllable against it; but when that majority was turned into a minority by death, resignation or other causes, then the Opposition, from 1855 to 1859 did not allow a Session of the Legislature to pass without agitating the question. Nearly every member of the present majority has more than once declared that he was expressly charged by his constituents, when elected, to abolish the nominative system, and make the Council directly responsible to the people. Two years ago during the first session of the Legislature under the present Government, a great portion of time that should have been given to useful legislation was wasted in long discussions respecting the principle and details of a Bill to render the Council elective. Abuse, descending even to personalities, was then, as in previous years, directed against the unoffending Council, and leading members of the Government pledged themselves to have the Upper Chamber elected by the people before the expiration of twelve months. All this fuss and debate ended in nothing. The Bill referred to passed a second reading in the House of Assembly; it was then handed over to the Clerk—thrown amongst his dusty records, and there it remains until the present hour.

Now, in order to prove that we are not misrepresenting the conduct of the Government, when we assert that they were