A DEPLORABLE PICTURE.

The following account of the sad state of affairs in the States, we copy from the N. York *Shipping and Commercial List*:—

"The dead lock in military affairs—and the proclaimed mismanagement or imbecility which occassioned it—the probability that the Army of the Potomac will go into winter quarters—the probable destination of the Banks' expedition—the probable financial programme of the Government—the prevalent apprehension in regard to the interference of the foreign Powers in our affairs—the fluctuations in Gold and Exchange—and the unsettled and unsatisfactory condition of things and matters in general—have constituted the principal topics of discussion on 'Change during the past several days, and as the week promises to close about as unsatisfactorily, in this regard, as it commenced, these subjects will in all likelihood come in for a large share of attention during the next few days, at least. The unfavourable aspect of affairs pertaining to the war, and to the Government finance, has exerted a most deleterious influence on the various business marts of the city, and the market for almost every description of merchandize remains in the same dull and unsatisfactory state as chronicled at the commencement of the week. It is the general impression that by the repulse of the armies in Virginia and North Carolina, (the latter not authenticated,) and the sailing of the Great Expedition of Gen. Banks for the Gulf, instead of the James River, the war will be greatly protracted, and there are not a few who express their convictions that the general aspect of things is more unfavorable now than for some time past, if not more so than at any period since the war commenced. Business men freely express their condemnation of the evident mismanagement which has resulted in a series of disasters, and many of those who a short time ago were among the most zealous supporters of the Administration, and were sanguine with regard to the future, are more despondent than at any period in the history of the war, and attribute the late disasters altogether to mismanagement. The despatching of the Banks' Expedition to the Gulf at this stage of the war, seems to be universally condemned; at all events we have heard no one express the least approbation of that extraordinary act of the Government, while it is much feared that the Army of the Potomac will thereby be necessitated to go into winter quarters on the Rappahannock, instead of operating against Richmond.

"In regard to the intervention of European Powers, it is argued that if they have the remotest idea of meddling in American affairs, they will never have a better opportunity than is afforded by the repulse of the army of Virginia, and if they do not embrace it, the public will take it for granted that they have fully determined upon maintaining a strict neutrality until the end, whenever that may be. In view of the innumerable blunders which have been exposed of late, however, and the many ridiculous vaticinations which have been vouchsafed in regard to the war, from time to time, by the Departments, it will be a matter of no little surprise if they do not determine upon "Intervention" or at least "Mediation." There is, of course, a vast difference between "mediation" and "intervention," but the public have educated themselves to look with equal alarm upon both.

"Owing to the contradictory character of the Report of the Secretary of the Treasury, the extraordinary proposition of Mr. Stevens, which really amounts to nothing—the business community almost despair of learning anything in regard to the financial policy of the Government until Congress concludes to pay some attention to it. In fact, if we may judge by the general tenor of remarks on Change, as well as almost everything else, the public mind is greatly depressed—and as it is evidently depressed by the unfavourable state of affairs, over which the Government exercises exclusive control, little improvement may be expected until something definite shall have been ascertained concerning the grave questions which occasioned it."

The Cotton Famine.—There is at last some reason to hope that we are approaching a turning point in the cotton famine. The indefinite continuance of the war cannot but force upon our manufacturers the use of Indian cotton. The more discouraging the news from America, the more urgently the necessity of adapting their machinery to the Indian fibre, and thus making the best of a bad business, must come home to them. Hopes are held out by competent judges that the price of raw cotton, as compared with that of piece goods, will be low enough, and the supply of it sufficient in March next to set the mills going for three or four days a week. Let us make a liberal deduction from this sanguine prediction, and admit that the sensible effects of the cotton famine may remain as great, if not greater, after its immediate causes have begun to abate. There will still remain evidence enough that we have done wisely in abstaining from a grant of public money, and that we need not share the gloomy forebodings of Mr. Bright.

The plan suggested approvingly by certain reputed free traders for establishing bounties for the production of Indian cotton excites attention in the city from the fact, which is lost sight of by these orators, and for every portion of land, capital, or labour attracted by artificial means to the production of cotton there must be an equal portion withdrawn from the cultivation of some article of commerce which, if the markets were left to themselves, would in reality be more remunerative. To the various manufacturers who depend on a full supply of jute, hides, seeds, dyeing stuffs, wool, &c., the proposition appears simply to be one for throwing them out of work in order that another set of manufacturers may by a ruinous national process be placed in their position.—*London Times.*

Prodigious!!—We have heard of a talking fish. Here is one that actually walks.

"A correspondent in Province Wellesley informs us that while passing along, during a shower of rain, the wide sandy plain which bounds the sea coast in the neighbourhood of Panaga, he witnessed a singular overland migration of Ikan Puyu (a fish much resembling the tench in size, form, and colour), from a chain of fresh water lagoons lying immediately with the sea beach, toward the second chain of lagoons, about a hundred yards distant inland. The fish were in groups of from three to seven, and were pursuing their way in a direct line towards a second chain of lagoons at the rate of nearly a mile an hour. When disturbed they turned round and endeavoured to make their way back to the lagoon they had left, and would very soon have reached it, had they not been secured by the Malays who accompanied our correspondent, and who looked upon the migration as an ordinary occurrence at this season of the year. Upwards of tweuty were thus taken during a walk of about half a mile, and no doubt many more could have been obtained had the Malays been allowed a little delay. The ground these fish were traversing was nearly level, and only scantily clothed with grass and creeping salsolaceous plants, which offered very slight obstructions to their progress. This singular habit will account for the rapidity with which the paddy fields in Province Wellesley become stocked with fish when they are flooded by the rains. The lagoons from which they came contain water throughout the year, while those towards which they were going are mere hollows, filled by the late rains."—*London and Chinea Telegraph.*

Oyster Shell Lime—A Job for Winter.—Every oyster shell is worth several kernels of grain, and if properly managed it can be made to yield its value. There is scarcely a village within two hundred miles of the seaboard without its regular supply of these favourite bivalves, and in the course of a year there is a large accumulation of shells. These may in most instances be had for asking; the keeper of the saloon is glad to be rid of them. Farmers living near the villages should secure the privilege of carting them away during the winter, to be reduced to lime for home use. A kiln is not necessary to burn them.—Make a pile of any rough fuel, as stumps, old roots, brush, peat, turf, etc., eight or ten feet square, and three feet high. On this spread say fifty barrels of oyster shells, and cover with a layer of combustibles a foot thick. Bank up the sides and cover the top with sods. Fire the heap on the windward side, and when the whole is burned, there will be left a large amount of valuable material to be used for top-dressing, or better, to mix with the muck heap. In some places the oyster shells are crushed or ground, like bones, in a mill. Some farmers claim that the ground shells last longer, and act better than the burned shell lime. For peaty, or cold damp soils, we should prefer the caustic alkali, produced by burning, which is similar to common lime from limestone.—*Am. Agriculturist.*

Discovery of a Forest of Nutmegs.—Intelligence has been received by the Dutch Government that Dr. Burnstein, while undertaking a scientific expedition for the Colonial Government of the Netherlands to the Molucca Islands and New Guinea, has made a discovery in the island of Batjan which may lead to important results in the spice trade. In his ascent of the Sabella range, he discovered at an elevation from 2,600 to 2,800 feet above the level of the sea, a very extensive forest of nutmeg trees, laden with fruit of an unusual size and excellent quality. Dr. Burnstein's official communication reports that the nutmeg-tree forest extends over a very large tract of country.

THE WAR IN THE STATES.

THE BATTLE AT MURFREESBORO.

The latest despatches from the battle-field at Murfreesboro, Tenn., are up to Friday evening, when there had been terrible fighting all day, resulting in severe loss to the enemy. The advance of General Rosecrans was seven miles below Murfreesboro, and the enemy had been driven from the field of battle. The losses of union officers is very severe, but the troops behaved in the most gallant manner, and repeatedly, under terrific fire, advanced to meet the storm of iron and leaden hail. The position of the enemy on the first day's engagement, Wednesday, was on the West bank of Stone's river with the flank resting on Murfreesboro, West side. The centre was on high ground and strongly posted behind a dense growth of cedar. The intention of the enemy was to mass troops upon Gen. Rosecran's right and so cut him off from Nashville. Had he succeeded in his he would have won a signal victory, for Gen. Rosecrans would have lost his means of communication and supply. As it was, the enemy made an attempt to capture the trains at Lavergue, some distance in the rear, but was repulsed with severe loss by the guard at the place.

The battle raged on Thursday with great fury, Gen. Rosecrans fighting with desperate energy and considerable success; foiling the enemy's intentions to break either the centre or left. Late in the day the enemy's centre is reported to have been broken, but at too late an hour to result in much advantage to our forces. On Friday, a brigade was thrown across the river by Gen. Rosecrans, and about three o'clock the enemy made another demonstration on our centre, but was repulsed with great slaughter. The brigade which had been sent across the river was driven back by desperate charges of the enemy. At this moment Gen. Negley made a gallant charge with his division, which drove the enemy steadily back, capturing the colours of the 26th Tennessee and a battery of artillery. At this period of success Gen. Rosecrans ordered an advance of the whole line, and succeeded in establishing the left on the East bank of the river, the centre on the position before held by the enemy, and the right on the line from which it was driven on Wednesday. Night closed on these advantages, but the darkness gave no opportunity for following them up.

The losses since Wednesdy are about 600 killed, 3,400 wounded and 600 prisoners. The rebel loss according to their own estimate is about 4,000 or 5,000 killed and wounded, including Gen. Rains killed, and 1,000 prisoners. General Cheathem is a prisoner Richmond papers of Friday contain the following despatches, the first, which is official to the Rebel War Department:—

Murfreesboro, December 31, 1862.

We assailed the enemy at seven o'clock this morning, and after ten hours hard fighting have driven him from every position except his extreme left, where he has successfully us. With the exception of this point we occupy the whole field. We captured 4,000 prisoners, including 2 brigadier-generals, 31 pieces of artillery, and some 200 wagons and teams. Our loss is heavy, but that of the enemy is much greater.

Braxton Bragg, General Commanding.

CAPTURE OF A CALIFORNIA STEAMER BY THE ALABAMA.

San Francisco, Dec. 27th.—By the arrival at this port of the steamship Constitution from Panama, we have highly important and exciting news.

The Constitution reports that the steamship Ariel, from New York for Aspinwall, was captured on the 7th inst, by the pirate Alabama. The Alabama detained the Ariel until the 10th inst, when she allowed her to proceed towards Aspinwall, upon her giving bonds in the sum of $228,000 as a ransom. The arms and ammunition on board the Ariel were taken from her, and 120 marines who were on board were paroled.

The Ariel was captured near the east end of Cuba. The only plunder with the exception of the arms and ammunition, that the Alabama secured, was $8000 in "green backs," belonging to Messrs. Wells, Eargo & Co. The Alabama last coaled at Martinique. When leaving that port the U. S. steamer San Jacinto aimed her guns at her, when simultaneously the guns of the Fort were turned on the San Jacinto. This is the statement of the 1st Lieutenant of Capt. Semmes.

The Alabama claims a speed, under twenty five pounds of steam, of sixteen knots an hour. She overtook the Ariel with only eleven pounds of steam, and fired two guns at her, when she hove to.

Capt. Semmes first intended to destroy the Ariel by burning her, first putting the passengers ashore in little settlement huts at St. Domingo. Captain Jones of the Ariel protested that half of his passengers would die if this were done. Capt. Semmes then proposed to land the passengers at Kingston, but after much parleying an arrangement was effected to release the Ariel on Captain Jones giving bonds in the sum of $228,000 payable in 30 days after the acknowledgment of the Southern Confederacy.

THE IRISH BRIGADE.

Those who have studied carefully the accounts of the war cannot fail to acknowledge the fact that it is the foreign element that has borne the brunt of the fighting. The Irish regiments especially have fought invariably with most undaunted courage, and in all probability if the whole army had been composed of such material defeat would not so often be the issue to the Federal arms.

The Irish Brigade, as such, is virtually at an end, and now belongs to history. Various letters and extracts enable us to form an idea of how many effective men remain in the Brigade as follows:—

	OFFICERS.	MEN.
69th N. Y. Regiment,	7	59
88th " "	10	90
63rd " "	6	64
116th Penn. "	13	57
28th Mass. "	16	150
Effective force of the Brigade,	52	420

On an average of about 10 officers and 80 men to each of the five regiments of that heroic band! What awful havoc! In the battle of Fredericksburg they fought most determinedly. They took up a line-of-battle in the position they were told, and held it all day, even after they had fired every round, and had to collect ammunition out of the dead and wounded men's pouches in order to prevent the enemy's learning they were out of ammunition. "Facts like these," truly observes an American paper, "tell fearfully of the sacrifices of the brigade, of the patriotic zeal ond heroism of the Irish American soldiers. After an arduous and bloody service of eighteen months, seven-eighths of the original members of the regiments at present represented in the Brigade are either killed, or crippled, for life; and those of the seven-eighths, at least, one left helpless families behind them, when they rallied to the defence of their adopted country, under their idolized leader, against the treachery of native demagogues who had been raised from obscurity to places of emolument and honor, at the expense of the nation."

NEWS BY TELEGRAPH.

St. John, Jan. 9, Evening.—Richmond papers state that Forest had captured Trenton—Union city—and Humboldt, with two thousand prisoners.—Attack on Jackson feint to cover other operations.—Governor Letcher's Message says—Better that the war be indefinitely continued than that Virginia suffer dismemberment of her territory.—Tribune has disclaimer of French Minister of any designs of Napoleon adverse to restoration of Union.—Fighting in progress at Springfield, Mo.—Federals hold all strong positions. Rosecrans advanced headquarters 10 miles beyond Murfreesboro.—President Davis in response to Serenade at Richmond on Monday claimed victory at Murfreesboro, predicting dissatisfaction of North West from it; which ultimately will separate West from East &c.,—denounced Yankees as the offscouring of the earth.—Gov. Robinson, of Kentucky, denounces emancipation proclamation.—Reported Gen. Sherman only changed point of attack on Vicksburg.—Confederate official despatches from Vicksburg state that Gen. Sherman finding all attempts utterly unavailing to capture the city, has embarked his force, apparently relinquishing his designs upon that stronghold.—It is rumored that General Butler will return to the Mississippi, with a large command, for the purpose of operating in that quarter.

St. John, Jan. 10th, 1863.—The iron clad steamer *Pacapsco*, has arrived in Hampton Roads—Richmond papers say that an order has been issued to burn Washington before falling into the hands of the enemy.—A Washington despatch announces arrival of a large iron steamer *Giraffe*, with a valuable cargo of government stores, and a special messenger from Europe at a Confederate port on the 30th ult.—Telegraphic communication with Springfield, Missouri, ceased yesterday morning. The enemy entered the Federal stockade the previous afternoon. General Brown was badly wounded in the shoulder. Springfield contains a very large amount of army stores.—The congressional election in Eastern part of North Carolina is quite favorable to free labour candidate, but will probably turn out adversely by votes of persons not sworn to allegiance. A protest will be entered and the removal of the military governor, Gov. Stanley, demanded.—Bayard has been re-elected Senator of Deleware.—Flour, Superfine, $6.10 a $6.35, extra, $6.50 a $6.70.

CORRESPONDENCE.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

Sir;

Some time ago an elder of high standing in the Presbyterian Church informed me that a committee of Presbytery had been appointed to draw up a Pastoral Letter, for the benefit of the Presbyterians of the Island. I considered that such a letter, proceeding from such a source, at such a time, calculated to produce the best effects among those for whom it was intended. Times of unusual excitement are not generally favourable to the growth of Christian feelings and to the preservation of Christian morals. If at any time the people should be warned against allowing their passions and their prejudices to obtain the mastery over their principles, it is on the approach of an election. If ever the duties of brotherly love, of Christian forbearance, and of universal charity, should be particularly inculcated from the pulpit and the religious press, it is on the eve of a contest in which almost every man in the colony is likely to be warmly engaged. There is the greater need of this, as there is a notion abroad that an election is a kind of modern Saturnalia. People suppose that on this occasion they may indulge in a licence both of speech and act that would not be justifiable on any other. It is perfectly notorious that we are not to form our estimate of a man's character by his election morality. Election lying is considered very white lying indeed. Election calumny and abuse are looked upon as things of course; for who, in election times, thinks of doing justice to the character and motives of a political opponent? Election trickery and chicanery are generally pronounced very clever things, indeed—if practised on the right side—to be winked at and laughed at, by even the most serious and religious people. Election drunkenness, if not thought a positive virtue, is considered a very venial sin indeed. Then, I fear the political morality of too many of our people is not of the purest and most enlightened kind. We often hear of electors selling their votes for the *most paltry consideration; of others suffering* themselves to be persuaded into voting contrary to their principles, out of regard for friends. We have heard of *employers threatening* those dependent on them with loss of work, if they presumed to vote for a candidate whose political principles were opposed to their own; of shopkeepers threatening those indebted to them with all the terrors of the law, if they dared to exercise their privileges, as freemen, in a manner contrary to the wishes of these tyrants of the yard-stick and the counter. All these, and many more, would form the legitimate subjects of a most useful and well-timed pastoral letter to any denomination of Christians on the Island. Coming as it ought from men whose position raised them above the level of those engaged in the contest, and whose education and calling gave them higher, broader, and more enlightened views than those held by the mass of the people, it would be looked upon with respect by politicians of all parties, and it would doubtless have no small influence in mitigating the evils complained of and warned against. Those who composed it would have the gratification of feeling that they had done their duty to their God and to their congregations. Though willing cheerfully to admit the *right* of Christian ministers to the full exercise of their privileges as citizens, I submit that the Christian pastor, the friend of all and the teacher of all, should not merge the preacher of the Gospel in the mere politician. How necessary is it, when all around are heated with the contest—when their interests and their passions hurry them into unjustifiable lengths, and into sin for the sake of party—to have a body of men calm, impartial, dispassionate and clear-minded, who can, without a suspicion of interested motives, authoritatively and fearlessly admonish those who, in the heat of political strife, allow their zeal for party to get the better of their christian principles—in a word, a body of men who will not allow the people to forget that they are Christians as well as politicians. The position occupied by such a body is a high one, and one that should not be readily changed for any other; but it is one that can only be held by men who keep themselves aloof from the contest. The influence exerted by such a body would be more extensive, more powerful and more beneficial than that of any number of partizans, no matter of what station or of what party. But if ministers of religion enter the arena, if they strip for the fight—if they deal hard and telling blows on all opposed to their peculiar notions—if their views of things become clouded and distorted by party spirit, and if their language loses the clearness, the dignity and the authority of the judge, and becomes the mere heated and random talk of irritated combatants, they immediately descend from their high and legitimate position, and often suddenly and irrecoverably fall in the esteem even of their own party. The deep affection and reverence of the people for the faithful and loving pastor are but ill exchanged for the short-lived notoriety and temporary importance that ministers of religion sometimes acquire when they ally themselves with politicians of more than doubtful morality; and prostitute their influence to prop up a party which would never have sought their aid if it had not been already politically bankrupt.

Holding these views with regard to the position that ministers of religion ought to assume in political contests, it was with considerable curiosity I awaited the appearance of the Pastoral Letter to the Presbyterian Church of this Island. I could not repress a smile when I saw its subject matter was the "designs and encroachments of Popery." I have been acquainted with many worthy pious Presbyterians in my day, as well as with many others who were neither worthy nor pious; but I have never known one of either class who gave way to the amiable weakness, or was guilty of the dreadful enormity, of judging too favourably of Catholics and Catholicism. It was with considerable anxiety that I looked into the letter to find what "these designs and these encroachments" were. I searched in vain for any *evidence* of the designs, and for some *instances* of "the encroachments." In this matter-of-fact age, men do not allow themselves to be frightened out of their principles or propriety by unfounded alarms and unestablished assertions. "*Prove all things,*" is the text for the day. The authors and approvers of the Pastoral should have had a better opinion of the good-sense of Presbyterians than to think that they would take a course which many among them consider impolitic and unprincipled, merely because *some* of their ministers have written a letter of warning against Catholics, without condescending to give even the shadow of *proof* of the existence of danger. But while the letter contains astonishingly few facts, it does contain much which shows, in a most melancholy manner, how a distempered zeal and a disordered imagination can make men, who are in other respects good, honest and rational, talk and reason like the most dishonest and unprincipled of politicians. I will take the two first sentences of the second paragraph of the Pastoral to prove that my language, however strong, is perfectly justifiable. They run as follows:—"You (meaning the Presbyterians of the Island) are now called upon to retain and secure for your posterity all the privileges and blessings of the Reformation. Three hundred years ago your forefathers, by toils and privations, by losses and sacrifices, by tortures and martyrdoms, wrenched from the grasp of Popery the birthright of freedom, civil and religious, which you now enjoy." Mr. Sutherland and his associates ought to know, and I cannot think *that they do not know*, that the birthright of civil and religious liberty was not wrenched from Popery at all; and more, if the authority of Baron MacAulay be worth anything against Mr. Sutherland's assertion, the influence of the Catholic religion was used altogether on the side of freedom when the foundation of that birthright was laid. They must know that the birthright of freedom, civil and religious, was wrenched from a Catholic king by his Catholic nobles; that other parts of the same birthright were wrenched from a Protestant king by Protestant subjects, at a time when the Catholics of Britain were a powerless and persecuted people, labouring under the galling yoke of penal laws and political disabilities; and that it is within the memory of many men now living that those disabilities were removed, when thus a finishing stroke was put to that glorious fabric of civil and religious liberty, which is the inalienable inheritance of *every* British subject. But independently of this misrepresentation of historical fact, the position assumed by the Presbyterian fathers has only to be plainly stated to demonstrate its complete untenableness and absurdity. You are called upon, say they in effect, at the coming to secure to your posterity the civil and religious liberty for which your fathers struggled, fought, and bled. If the Conservatives are *returned* at that election, then all that you hold most precious is safe; but if the Liberals are returned, then will you be placed under the iron heel of tyranny. We, your ministers, will no longer be allowed to preach to you in the face of open day; we will not be allowed to administer to the sick and afflicted among you the consolations of religion; but we will, like the Popish priests and Covenanting ministers of the olden time, be hunted from settlement to settlement, and from hiding-place to hiding-place. When we wish to take sweet counsel together we must do it by stealth, with our rifles on our knees and our sentries in the bush. The *Protestant* will be gagged and the *Monitor* office gutted. The editors of these papers will be pilloried, and W. H. Pope, Esq., whipped at the cart's tail. The Governor may snap his fingers in the faces of our representatives, and raise what taxes he pleases by the most arbitrary and unconstitutional means; and if any courageous, patriotic member dare raise his voice against such high-handed doings, may imprison him and reduce him to hopeless poverty, by the imposition of ruinous fines. This is but a part of what is implied in the sensences I have quoted from the Pastoral. Could William Pope, the most unprincipled politician in this Colony, have made a more barefaced attempt to practise on the fears of a prejudiced and ill-informed people? But Mr. Sutherland has reckoned without his host. There are hundreds of Presbyterians in the country too liberal, too independent, and too intelligent to be influenced by such transparent sophistry. With a slight change of words the real meaning of the sentence will be seen. You are called to put forth every legitimate effort to retain and secure for the Tories the privileges and blessings of office. It means neither more nor less than this. That the most insignificant right is in danger, no sensible man for one moment supposes. The Catholics, for any evidence to the contrary seen in the Pastoral Letter, have neither the will nor the power to harm us.

In summing up the evils that are to accrue to the people from the return of the Liberals to power, that of the Island's becoming another Tipperary, occupies a prominent place. This is a very unfortunate example. *In the first place, Popery is* not the religion of the dominant race in Tipperary. What Ireland would have been had it not been cursed with centuries of misrule and oppression, it is *impossible* to say. There is no reason for concluding that it would have been in any respect behind the other nations of Europe. The unsettled state of Tipperary when compared with the orderly state of Belgium could be brought forward as a good argument against the evils of Protestant ascendancy. For hundreds of years the Protestant has been the dominant religion in Ireland, and what have been the consequences? The tyranny of race over race and of creed over creed, together with the lesser evil of absentee landlordism, have been the cause of all the troubles in Ireland. The last of these evils already exist amongst us, and such men as the Rev. Mr. Sutherland are doing their best to introduce the others. If ever this Island loses the character of being the most safe, pleasant and peaceful place of residence in these North American Colonies, and becomes the most unsafe, disagreeable and disturbed, this gentleman, as well as some others well-known to the public, will have the satisfaction of knowing that they have been the chief instruments in bringing about such a dreadful state of things. The future historian of the Island will have to record their names as being the greatest enemies to the public peace and social well-being of their native or adopted country; and this Pastoral Letter will remain an enduring and melancholy monument of the manner in which the talents and influence of Ministers of the Gospel have been perverted to further the schemes of politicians without conscience and without religion.

It speaks volumes in favour of the piety and enlightenment of *those* Ministers who formerly belonged to the United Presbyterian Church, that *not one of them has taken any part in the framing* or circulating of this most injudicious and pernicious Pastoral Letter.

A PROTESTANT.

Prince County, Jan'y 9th, 1863.

(COMMUNICATED.)

PUBLIC MEETING AT MURRAY HARBOUR (SOUTH) SCHOOL HOUSE.

One of the largest public meetings ever assembled at this old political rendezvous was held there on Thursday, the 8th instant, the object of which was to nominate Candidates for the House of Assembly and Legislative Council.

Notwithstanding the unfavourable state of the roads, the gathering was large, numbering well on to 200 electors. The Meeting was speedily organized, and Vere Beck, Esqr., was unanimously chosen to act as Chairman. Hon. J. Wightman first addressed the Electors *on the subject* of the Land Question and the financial state of the Colony, and other matters touching the interests of the Island, and *gave a satisfactory account* of himself as their late Representative. After having retired amid the applause of the meeting, Mr David Beers next addressed the meeting, and touched on several matters relative to the interests of the Colony, and made reference to the unconstitutional manner in which the Requisition was got up by the opposition (Tories) for Col. Gray and Doctor Kaye—how that his name and the names of several others were appended thereto without their consent, he at the time being on a sea voyage and his son-in-law being in Boston, which caused great surprise to the meeting. The cat being now out of the bag, a Mr. Samuel McLeod rose and endeavoured *to explain matters* in reference to the names alleged to be falsely appended to said requisitions, but made a ludicrous elucidation by saying that if he (Mr. Beers) and others were absent at the time of the requisition being signed, their wives and families were at home, whereupon Mr. McLeod retired amid the laughter and hisses of the audience. Mr. Rowe, of Montague, being introduced to the meeting, now came forward and made an able and eloquent speech, which was listened to with marked attention, amid frequent bursts of applause from the audience. He spoke with vigour and point on the land tenure, and reviewed the Award of the Royal Commissioners, and dilated upon its result, and touched particularly on the arbitration clause, and gave cogent reasons why the Award should have been thrown aside; whereupon Samuel Prouse, Esqr., rose and vainly endeavoured to refute Mr. Rowe's views on the clause of the Award relative to the manner of paying the instalments, together with the accruing rent, and eventually to stultify himself by laying blame to the *Examiner* newspaper as being the cause of the Proprietors rejecting the Award; but finding that his harangue was miserably stale to the audience, endeavoured to bring before their notice the propriety of giving their support to Mr. Duncan, of Charlottetown.

Mr. Rowe again rose, and completely floored Sir Samuel on what he (Mr. Rowe) had previously advanced, and reviewed fully, and without refutation several important matters tending to the interests and prosperity and peace of the Colony.

The Hon. J. Wightman was then proposed as a candidate for the House of Assembly by George Harris, Esqr., and seconded by Wm. Clements, Esqr. George Harris, Esqr., was poopoosed by John Hyde, Esqr. senr., and seconded by Mr. Wm. Howe. These nominations were carried unanimously. By verbal resolution, Vere Beck, Esqr., vacated, and John Hyde, Esqr., occupied the chair, when by loud acclaim the meeting thanked Mr Beck for his able and impartial conduct in the chair.

Mr. David Beers was then proposed as a candidate for the Legislative Council by Wm. Clements, Esqr., and seconded by Mr. B. LeLacheur. This motion was also carried unanimously. A vote of thanks having been then given to the Chairman, the meeting dispersed.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

Sir;

I do not intend to write up a quire, embracing a detailed account of all the speakers who occupied the hustings at Charlottetown on the 14th instant, as candidates for the representation of that Township and Royalty, and Districts of Queen's County, but I respectfully ask you for space and favor, that I more particularly may advertize your readers of some special orators who strutted upon that forum.

It would be invidious to select speakers from the Liberal ranks where each carried himself so well. I, however, may be pardoned for naming the burly and dauntless Hon. George Coles, as having dealt signal havoc to the opposition heroes—the Hon. John Longworth, Mr. Attorney General Brecken, and Mr. W. H. Pope—these *invincibles* charged on both flanks, and in rear, but Mr. Coles defeated *them* at every onslaught.

The Hon. John Longworth had the modesty to profess *friendship for the masses* of this Colony, and ask for a constituency. Mr. John Longworth lacks the ability to conceive any comprehensive measure—he is a meagre politician, and is deficient of those qualifications which give birth to patriotism. As to his friendly feeling and sympathy for the people, these have yet never been showe. His creed is proprietary interests, but his practice is John Longworth first. The interests of the Liberals are his last consideration, yet this vain politician hopes to impose himself upon the electors of the 2d District of Queen's.

The bran new candidate, Mr. Attorney Brecken, has been generally respected in this community, and held a name for gentlemanly deportment, and ordinary judgment, with fair attainments, but this young gentleman with suavity of manner always assumed an aristocratic bearing, which seemed to indicate, "I am some pumpkins, and none of your small fry." This assumption was pleasant enough and smileable, the silly notion of greatness belonged to himself and was very harmless. But I now have Mr. F. Brecken on the Charlottetown hustings in shape of a candidate to represent the Town and Royalty, and in the act of making his political debut in a speech. He tells us that he is a young man—that he did not desire to offer; but he did; he could not resist when Mr. George Beer withdrew in his favor—he was tied to no party—not he. He was Attorney General to the present Government—his patrons had been slandered in the Government; he would defend them. Mr. Coles had stated that which was not a fact—nay was untrue—about the transmission of the Award Bill. Hon. Mr. Coles contradicted the young gentleman—the people applaud—and Mr. Brecken gets very angry, bellows vociferously—the people laugh at him—he gets into white heat, and storms; the sneer of the crowd bites his pride, and he grins, and declares that he would not accept the votes of such men. "Don't you wish you may get them," is asked with a jeer,—the dignified young gentleman, the learned Attorney General becomes mad—he raves and summons the shades of his fathers to his aid; the Brecken dignity is evoked; and the great man towers above the crowd on the noble shoulders of his Grandfather. Mr. Attorney General Brecken made an exhibition of conceitednsss, flippancy and windiness, in his speech which was disfigured by bad taste and worse temper. It was in fact a great rant, and for presumption, arrogance, and conceit vies with the orations of Mr. Longworth's 'Cock sparrow." Mr. Brecken may be assured that he has damaged himself severely in his unseemly debut in political life.

He was not fortunate in the gas and frippery he let off in the honor of his late father and grandfather, as the pure vermillion blood which he, Frederick the Great, sprung from. Now, as Mr. Frederick Brecken has thought fit to caper round his geneological tree, and call upon the ashes of his father to bear him high in air, and whirl those ashes in the face of the public as the noble and noteable account, he must not be displeased if I tell an unvarnished tale of his great *progenitors*, of which he said he was in the "third generation" in this Island. Without going into the gettings and begettings of this vaunted family, this all but imperial blood, I shall satisfy myself in briefly recording facts of the House of Brecken.

Grandfather Brecken is significantly remembered here in connection with a pump, which to this hour, known as Brecken's pump, which report says gave him profitable aid in a certain branch of business inimical to the object of Temperance Societies, which Grandfather prosecuted. Grandfather Brecken, for years, kept a retail shop at the corner where Mr. James Anderson now does business, and Grandfather sold tea, sugar and molasses, tobacco, and tobacco pipes, rum and onions, by small drafts and measures, namely from an ounce and by the glass upwards, on the same scale as any of the small retailers do at this day. Prosecuting this business Grandfather made money—but by-and-bye, he died, and Grandmother carried on the shop, and her son the Attorney General's father, served behind the counter with his mother. In the course of time Grandmother died, and her estate, real and personal, was distributed among her heirs, and the Attorney General, F. Brecken's father, suddenly became rich, and took to the business of lending money, and it is said practised shaving, and profited much in his calling; but he too submitted at length to imperious fate, and went down and was numbered with the clods in the valley. Thus ended the second generation of the Breckens in P. E. Island. Now, Frederick, a representative of the "third generation" of the House of Brecken, found himself at the demise of his father with a silver spoon in his mouth, from which to this day he honestly sups his broth. This is the geneology of the Breckens to the "third generation" in P. E. Island. It was all very honorable, and faultless, and praiseworthy; but I cannot discover the excellency of the pedigree above that of the common folk; nor is there a semblance of right for boastful prattle and self adulation on the score of blood and birth. Nor do the virtues or the occupations, nor the name of his fathers give Mr. Attorney General Brecken in the "third generation" of that unillustrious family, any patent right to take conceited airs in society and frown upon his neighbours; and certainly, the deeds and avocations of the first and second generations of the Breckens in P. E. Island give the young gentleman in the "third generation" Mr. F. Brecken, no hereditary claim to the suffrages of any constituency within the borders of this Island. I have much more to say about Mr. F. Brecken's unseemly conduct at the hustings on Wednesday last, but will reserve a shot in the locker until another day for his benefit.

The spectacle of spectacles on the hustings was Mr. Pope. The displeasure of the multitude towards that unfortunate man was intense. When he attempted to speak the tumult thickened, and drowned the voice of that unscrupulous individual. Never did man in hands of the executioner, upon the fatal scaffold, *look* more condemned and criminal than Mr. Pope *looked* at the hustings in the face of the Electors. There the "unclean" one stared with down dark look and sullen brow—deception and malignity seemed to pervade his countenance, while again and again the features of that face appeared to indicate the throes of a mangled conscience. He seemed a spectacle of pity, an object for regret, and a subject for commiseration.

I am glad to know that Mr. Taylor, of Wood Islands, is all but certain to be a successful candidate for the Belfast district, in opposition to Mr. W. H. Pope, who begs the suffrages of that district, not for their interests, but that he may hold the office of Secretary, and receive the pay of £300 from the public chest. So fearful is he of losing his Election, and the £300 office, that the Tory faction offered his opponent, Mr. Taylor, £20, to retire from the contest, but the noble and independent countryman could not be bought by the gold of the Town bribers; and he indignantly resented the insult offered to him, and to his supporters.

PRESENT.

PUBLIC MEETING AT NEW GLASGOW, LOT 23.

A Meeting was held at the Hall, New Glasgow, on Monday the 12th inst., for the purpose of choosing a candidate to represent this section of the District in the new House of Assembly. A large number of electors from Cavendish and Rustico were in attendance.

At the request of the meeting, the Hon. George Bagnall took the Chair. Benjamin Davies, Esq., and the Hon. John Longworth addressed the Meeting. The Land Commission, (or the Award), Loan Bill, and the financial affairs of the Colony were debated at length.

The Hon. A. Laird, and the Messrs. D. Mutch, Knight, and W. McNeill, took part in the discussion, after which Mr. B. Davies was proposed by Mr. Wm. McNeill, seconded by Mr. J. Hughes—Resolution carried.

Hon. John Longworth was then proposed by Mr. Henry Simpson, seconded by Mr. D. McRea; this also was agreed to.

Mr. H. Simpson then took the Chair and a vote of thanks was passed by the Meeting to the Hon. George Bagnall for his able and impartial conduct in the Chair. The Meeting then adjourned.

GEO. F. ROBINSON, Sec'y.

(FOR THE EXAMINER.)

The report of the Public Meeting at Souris on 27th Dec., published in the Examiner, 5th January, is all on one side. As to my having said that *I believed the Government would fall in with my views of Escheat*, is not true. I could not report all I said at the meeting, but I recollect what was said about Escheat. When I was saying that as far as I understood the Commissioners' Report and Ministers' Despatches, the Landlords would have to accept compensation and give up the land—some person said, "But if they won't do that can't we go for an Escheat?" I answered, that as the grants are declared to have been forfeited over and over again, that if the landlords were *allowed* to continue the oppression of the tenantry, the *constitutional remedy* would be an Escheat. But the Government can settle the Land Question in a satisfactory manner without an Escheat. Yet any settlement will depend, in a great measure, upon the men *to be returned* at the ensuing Election, to express the wishes of the people in the Legislature, where *they can turn the balance* in favor or against the tenantry at their own pleasure.

WM. COOPER.

Sailor's Hope, Jan. 12th, 1863.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, January 19th, 1863.

THE GENERAL ELECTIONS.

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATES IN QUEEN'S COUNTY.

Nomination Day in Charlottetown, on Wednesday last, passed off very quietly. The Liberals mustered in very considerable force, and by their influence and numerical strength, kept the opposite party from creating a disturbance, as it was believed they intended to do. All the candidates were heard with respectful attention, except the Colonial Secretary. The infamous character of this individual rendered him a butt for the scorn of the multitude, who drowned his voice with hisses as soon as he began to speak. The following is a condensed report of the principal speeches delivered on the occasion:—

Benjamin Davies, Esquire, was the first to address the assembled electors. He said—Gentlemen, I can wait no longer; it is now after twelve, and it is time to be at work. He then commenced his speech by remarking on the state of affairs previous to the last General Election. He referred to that period as that in which originated that *spirit of religious dissension and bigotry* which had stirred up and inflamed the passions of the zealots *of the Churches. It* was still raging in the hearts of hundreds of the people; and, such was the state of the public mind, that it was believed the most trifling cause would be sufficient to arouse it, *under the sacred name of religion*, to the perpetration of bloodshed and murder. He reflected with much *severity upon the Government* for cultivating and secretly abetting that abominably rancorous feeling. He said he could excuse Colonel Gray for having, in a most ungentlemanly manner, taken advantage of that feeling at the last General Election to injure him (Mr. Davies) in the estimation *of his old friends* at Belfast, by belying his character to them and the Protestant ministers, *although the consequence* of that artful and pitiful dodge was, that he failed to secure his election. He said he could overlook every thing of that kind; but he could not forgive that gentleman, as a leading member of the community and a member of Her Majesty's Government, for allying himself with a band of fanatical terrorists. He well understood, he said, why so much of the so called religious animosity had been directed against himself. He had pointed out to the people of Prince County, at the General Election, four years ago, that the proprietors had no just right to the lands of this Island. That was the reason why so much religious rancour was especially directed against him and others, whose opinions on that subject were identical with his own. He shewed that the right to three quarters of a million of acres was at stake. Under those circumstances it became necessary for the old proprietary faction to divide the people, and to set the Protestant against the Roman Catholic. This they did, and the returns to the late Assembly proved that body to be the most servile that had ever disgraced the Colony.

In speaking of the Award, he shewed that it was adverse to the interests of the tenantry, and altogether in favor of the landlords: that it gave up to the latter £150,000 stg., due to the Colony for Quit Rents,—gave up to them the Fishery Reserves and the Loyalist Claims, and confirmed their forfeited titles. And for these concessions to the proprietary claimants, what was conceded to the tenantry? It was awarded that on certain estates they should be allowed to purchase their farms on paying up their arrears of rent since 1858, and, in addition thereto, twenty times the amount of their annual rent. He declared that the Bill to confirm the Award could not have become law, because it was based on unsound principles; and, from facts, he deduced reasons to shew that it was quite clear that it never could have been intended by the Government that it should become law. That question, however, His Grace the Duke of Newcastle had completely set at rest; he had declared there were insuperable objections to it, and had laid it aside accordingly. The Government, he added, had been as fully aware of the impossibility of the Award Bill becoming law as they had been of that of the Bishops' Bill becoming so. They knew that the latter was unconstitutional, and consequently that it could not receive the Royal assent; but they passed it for the purpose of cajoling the Roman Catholic Bishop and the members of his Church. The policy of the present Government, he said, had been one undeviating course of chicanery, disgraceful at once to themselves and the Colony. The Award he characterized as a snare and a delusion: a snare, to entrap the Legislature into an assent to proprietary claims; and a delusion as concerned the tenantry, because without the provision of any practicable means whereby they could become so, it held out to them the hope that it would make them freeholders. He then cautioned the people against placing any dependence upon Cunard's Bill, or reposing any faith in the present Government. He believed that they were now prepared to accept that Bill, and that, if returned to power, they would accept it as a final settlement of the Land Question. He, however, believed that that Question would never be settled until the animosity of religious feeling should subside. Those feelings, he trusted, were taking a turn for the better; but still he feared that, before the turbulence which they had created should have completely died away, the right of the tenantry and of the Colony, as involved in that question, would be sacrificed by the proprietary claimants. He then concluded this part of his address by recommending the people to band themselves together for mutual protection, and to insist upon a settlement of the great Question in a manner agreeable to the constitutional practice of the other Colonies.

With respect to our Finances, Mr. Davies shewed that when the Liberals went into office, in 1850, the public debt was about £29,000, £11,500 of which, being Treasury Notes, carried no interest, but the remaining £17,500 at 6 per cent for the term during which the Liberals held power, eight years, would amount to about £9,100, which sum added to the original public debt contracted by the old proprietary faction, would thus, of itself, he said, amount, in the course of eight years, to £38,000. The Liberals went out of power, after having been in office eight years, at the end of which time the *gross amount of the* public debt was, in round numbers, as shewn by the Conservatives, £39,700, from which amount, said he, deduct the old Tory debt of the Island, and the remainder would be £1,600. Thus, he shewed that the Liberals, during the time of their Government, had increased the debt £1,600. But, on the other hand, said he, they left assets to the credit of the Colony, amounting to £23,250; that was 45,000 acres of land at 5s. per acre, worth £11,250, and land sold and unpaid for, but secured by law, £12,000 together £23,250. In reality, the Colony had then, he said, about £20,000 funded in land, over and above any charge. Last January, said he, the gentlemen who cried out so much against what they called the extravagance of their predecessors in the Government, acknowledged that they had increased the debt to £69,000, and, at the present time, it probably amounted to £80,000. Of course there may be assets in their favor, for Lands held by them, to some £25,000 or thereabouts; but it was evident that they had acted in this most extravagant manner, having no public work of any magnitude to point to as a set off against the extraordinary debt they have contracted, and which, sooner or later, the people must prepare to pay.

Hon. J. Longworth was the next who addressed the electors. He spoke at considerable length; and, in doing so, took a comprehensive and distinctive view of the general policy and acts of the existing Government, especially contrasting their expenditure during the time they have been in power with that of their immediate predecessors. He admitted the excess of the expenditure of the present Government over the revenue; but accounted for it by the extraordinary outlays occasioned by the purchase of the Selkirk and Lot 54 Estates, and the expense incurred in the reception of the Prince of Wales, the moneys paid to the vendors of the Worrell Estate, the cost of taking the Census, of fitting up the Prince of Wales College, of the Land Commission, as well as of some other smaller matters, all out of the usual course of expenditure, but which, however, could not be avoided. The excess of expenditure over revenue, after these allowances were made, were, he argued, comparatively trifling when contrasted with the excess of expenditure during the last three years of the previous Government. Quoting from a certified statement, which he held in his hand, of the expenditure of the late Liberal Government, as contrasted with that of the present Conservative one, the honorable gentleman said, it appeared that the Conservative Government had conducted the management of the Worrell Estate, Lot 11, the Selkirk Estate, and Lot 54, for two-thirds of the money annually expended by the Liberal Government in the management of the Worrell Estate alone. By that statement, (which, he said, it was impossible to controvert,) it was made quite manifest that the expense of the management of the Land Office for the last four years had cost the country less by £738 3s. 2d. than under the previous four years of the Liberal Government. With reference to the Award, the hon. gentleman remarked, that although it had not yet received the Royal sanction, there was every reason to believe that, if the tenantry were true to themselves, and returned men to the Legislature pledged to use their best endeavours to procure its confirmation, a satisfactory result would be the issue of such perseverance. As respected the Bishop's Bill, concerning which Mr. Davies and certain other parties had endeavoured to impugn his integrity, but in vain, he had, in order to justify himself, merely to explain that the two clauses thereof which were objected to by the Duke of Newcastle were exact transcripts of two clauses in the Bill for the Incorporation of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Kingston and Toronto with his Coadjutors, and that in fact the whole of the Bill for the Incorporation of the R. C. Bishop of Charlottetown was a copy of the Canadian one, in exact conformity with which the Catholic members of the Committee said His Lordship Bishop McIntyre wished it to be drawn. Many Bills of a similar nature had passed the Legislature for the Bishops of different religious denominations; and it was well known that, provided there was nothing in such Bill which in any way contravened the Constitution, the framing of them was left entirely to the parties concerned, and that, in fact, they were not even read by other members of the Legislature, but silently assented to by them. No one at all acquainted with his character would, he thought, believe for a moment that he would knowingly, as he had been accused of doing, make a sacrifice either of any of his own essential interests or of those of others.

To Mr. Longworth, from the beginning to the end of his speech, was accorded a most respectful hearing, and at its conclusion he was cheered by his friends.

Hon. Mr. Coles, in replying to the Hon. Mr. Longworth's assertions of the superiority of the policy of the existing Government, as compared with that of their predecessors, said that they (the existing Government) had nothing of which they could truly boast, unless they were honestly to crave leave to take credit to themselves for having, on coming into power, become suddenly conscious of the error of their previous political creed and ways, and having practically adopted those of the Liberals, the party, every one of whose measures for the relief of the tenantry and the benefit of the Colony at large, they had always before withstood and misrepresented with the most unyielding persistence. The passage of the Land Purchase Bill of the Liberals they had opposed, tooth and nail, through every stage; and yet scarcely were they in power, when, availing themselves of that *liberal* means of emancipating the *tenantry* on a large estate, which, providentially happened to be marked, they carried the provisions of the Act into effect, and purchased that estate. For this purchase and its consequent effects, they have never since ceased to laud and magnify themselves; carefully keeping out of view that, but for the Land Purchase Bill of the Liberals, they could never have had it in their power to make such a purchase, nor have been able to do so much good to a portion of the Island tenantry; and that the gratitude of the emancipated tenants was, in fact, due to the Liberals, and not by any means to the present Government. When, just before the last General Election, the party now in power had recourse, in order to procure the overthrow of the Liberal Government, to the most disgraceful and reprehensible of means, they, to a very great extent, succeeded in raising a strong prejudice against the Government in the minds of the commercial portion of the community throughout the Island, by insinuating into them the belief that the financial policy of the Liberals, in reducing the credit for duties on imported goods at the Treasury from eighteen to six months, was directly calculated to cripple mercantile operations, and to affect most injuriously the general prosperity of the Colony. This financial policy of the Liberal Government, much as they then decried it, they, however, quiety but approvingly adopted on coming into power; and to it they have ever since steadily adhered, convinced of its soundness and wisdom, both as it affects the public purse and the general prosperity. On this head also, then, if they honestly take credit to themselves, they must do so by acknowledging their indebtedness to the wisdom of their Liberal predecessors. Mr. Longworth had also strongly insisted upon the present value of Treasury Warrants, as compared with what they were at the close of the Liberal Government, as a proof of the soundness of the financial system of the present Government. But if he had made his statement and comparison in the perfect spirit of fairness, he would not have omitted to state what causes led to a depreciation of Government securities during the rule of the Liberals; nor that, just before its termination, Treasury Warrants were again current at their facial value. In 1858, owing to a universal depression of trade, and the falling off of our mercantile importations, our revenue, instead of amounting to £45,000, as it would otherwise have done, amounted to no more than £33,000. In that fact, then, might clearly be recognised one cause of the increase of the public debt under the Liberal Government, and of the depreciation of Government securities. Again, in taking credit to himself and his colleagues in the Government for what he had exhibited as their economical management of the affairs of the Land Office, and depreciating the management thereof by their Liberal predecessors, had he fairly stated what he knew to be the case with respect to the Worrell Estate before it passed out of the hands of the Liberal Government into theirs, he would have had to explain that the great expense in the management of the Worrell Estate by the Liberal Government was occasioned by their having to open up roads through the wilderness portion of it, and to cause an accurate survey to be made of the whole, for the purpose of developing its capabilities, and facilitating the sale thereof. The present Government had not been obliged to make any outlay for such purposes on their purchase, the Selkirk Estate. That Estate had, for many years, been under the judicious management of Mr. Douse; and, besides having opened up roads in every needful direction through it—an improvement which, as a member of the House of Assembly, he had been enabled to effect out of the Road moneys assigned to the district of which he was one of the Representatives—he had caused most accurate surveys to be made of it, on which the area and position of every tenants' farm were distinctly shewn. With respect to the Worrell Estate, all these things had to be done by the Liberal Government; and the consequent expense was—and it could not have been otherwise—very considerable. With respect to the Selkirk Estate, the present Government had no such trouble or expense. Everything in the shape of roads and surveys had been previously done; and, therefore, for a saving or economy on that head, they could have no right to take credit to themselves. Mr. Longworth had said that the credit of the present Government was much greater than that of the Liberal Government. That this assertion, however, was not correct, was clearly demonstrated by the fact, that whilst the Liberal Government were able to raise money at 5 per cent., the present Government, in their emergency, could not raise it under 6 per cent., and had, besides, for Bank accommodation been obliged to pay a premium of £60 on their Bills. With respect to the Land Commission, there was one piece of deception which had either been practised by the present Government or with their connivance, to which he would just briefly advert. A short time before the arrival of the Commissioners in the Island, a notice,—a part of which he would read,—headed "Land Commission," appeared in the *Royal Gazette*, the object of which must undoubtedly have been to deceive both the Commissioners and the people. The hon. gentleman then read from the *Royal Gazette*, Tuesday, July 3rd, 1860, as follows:—

"Land Commission.—We also learn by the "English Mail of this day that His Excellency "*has received* despatches expressive of the satis"faction with which the Colonial Minister re"ceived the Act passed during the last Session of "the Legislature, for giving effect to the Award "of the Commissioners."

This notice, now known to have been altogether false, notwithstanding its circumstantial particularity, was also given as a fact in the next issue of the *Islander*. That the notice was altogether false the writer of it could not but have known at the time he penned it. That it was wholly false was also now well known to every one besides, for it had been admitted by those whose office it was to defend the Government and exonerate them from all blame, that the Act was not sent home before October, not until at least two months after the publication of the deceptive notice. Such fabrications were never had recourse to except for some ulterior object; and it required no great powers of penetration to perceive for what purpose that falsehood was written and published. It imposed upon the people, and it imposed upon the Commissioners. The Commissioners entered upon the investigation of the matters and questions submitted to them, in the belief that the Act for the confirmation of their Award had received the Royal sanction; and that, consequently, their Award would be binding upon all the parties concerned who had been consentient in their appointment. But our proprietary Government knew better. They were well aware that the Award, independently of an Act to confirm it, would be powerless to bind even the consenting proprietors against their will. To allow the Award to be made and published before an Act had been passed to render it binding upon the parties who had acquiesced in the appointment of the arbitrators, was just the same as if, in the case of a common arbitration, the parties submitting matters in dis-