

Government of the Colony, are precisely of the same nature, and are, under the present aspect of our affairs, together forced upon our attention at the same moment. As, however, the change in the form and system of our government, will, by itself, be brought under the consideration of your Honors, I will reserve any further comments which I feel disposed to make upon its arbitrary and unconstitutional character, until it shall be fairly before us. His Honor (Col. Swabey), in opening up and reviewing the question of the Fishery Reserves, has clearly shown that the privileges intended to be conferred upon and preserved to the people of this Island, and to British subjects in general, in the making of the Reserves in the original Grants, have been duly claimed and insisted upon, to the present time, ever since the Island became a British Colony; and, in a most able and convincing manner, has he sustained every fact and proposition which he has advanced concerning them, proving beyond the power of dispute that the declaration that the claims of the public or of the government to the rights originally retained for the public benefit in these Reserves has become obsolete. I have had the honor to sit in this House, as a member of the Legislature, for the last twenty years; and, of my own knowledge, I can safely affirm that, in every legislative session during that period the question has been mooted. Nay, not only has it always been kept prominently before the Legislature, but it has been legislated upon; and, although not successfully, yet the fact shows that the claim of the public to the Reserves, instead of having become obsolete, has never been relaxed. If we have legislated unconstitutionally upon the question, (and truly sorry am I to be obliged to confess that all our legislation thereon has been nugatory,) we have been unsuccessful, not because we legislated unjustly, or upon imaginary untenable grounds, but only because whenever and wherever proprietary interests or proprietary assumptions of right, how indefensible soever they may be in law and equity, clashed with or were opposed to the just and true rights and privileges of the tenantry or the public at large, as insisted upon by any acts of legislation in the Colony, the proprietors have always successfully exerted the unconstitutional influence which they possess with the Home Government, to defeat such measures. And, very unfortunately for the people of this Colony, the facilities of access to the Colonial Office, most unjustly extended to the proprietors and their agents, enables them to make in secret, whatever statements they may think most likely to overbalance the allegations on grounds, and reasons which may have been publicly set forth by our local legislature in support of any measure devised by them for the relief of the tenantry or benefit of the people in general. Opposition so insidiously made and so unconstitutionally allowed, we are unable to meet or withstand; and, so long as the people of this Colony shall be dependent upon the Home Government for justice in the issue of any agrarian question in which the claims or assumptions of proprietors, however unjust they may be, shall conflict with the just rights and privileges of the tenantry or the public, just so long, if proprietors and their agents be allowed to have that secret and unconstitutional intercourse with the Colonial Office which has hitherto been most unjustly accorded to them, just so long, I say, will all our legislation on any such question with a view to the amelioration of the condition of the people, be altogether nugatory. Nearly every Despatch of the Home Government bearing upon any such question—that now under his consideration, as well as all others—affords the most convincing evidence of the animus in which it has originated. The objects of all our agrarian legislation have secretly and grossly been misrepresented, by proprietors and their agents, at the Colonial Office; and Colonial Ministers, by such means, have been induced to believe that we had no other end in view than that of trampling upon the rights of proprietors, and that it was their duty to withstand us and to answer us in the condemnatory manner in which they have so frequently replied to us. Three estates were originally recognized in the British Constitution—those of king, lords, and commons. In process of time, however, a fourth estate, and that not the least, as is shown by its influence upon national questions of the greatest moment and of the utmost magnitude sprung up. I mean that of the Press—a free Press—and almost inappreciable are the benefits which, in every point of view, it has conferred, and is conferring, upon the human race wherever it exists. Much good has it done even here, although its wholesome influences, as well as all our attempts at ameliorating agrarian legislation, have been most beneficially counteracted by a power, which, as respects this Colony, may very properly be termed the fifth estate: I mean that of the proprietors, their agents, and their dependent factors. This power, this fifth estate, rests like an incubus upon the body of our public policy, paralyzing and deadening its strength and faculties; and never until it shall have been completely shaken off will popular rights be fully and permanently established in this Colony. Till that is accomplished we shall be doomed to lasting uncertainty and unceasing contention. In 1855 or 1856, we passed some such Bill as that which is now condemned as unjust to proprietors; and, afterwards another was framed and sent Home to the Colonial Office for the purpose of ascertaining whether or not it was such a measure as the Colonial Secretary would deem it right to advise Her Majesty to confirm by the Royal allowance, should it be passed by the Legislature here. The Draft Bill sent home for the purpose of ascertaining the opinion of the Imperial Government concerning its proposed enactments, was duly acknowledged by a Despatch of the Right Hon. Henry Labouchere, at that time Secretary of State for the Colonies, addressed to His Excellency Sir Dominick Daly, which Despatch is dated, "Downing Street, 27th March, 1857." Let us see what Mr. Labouchere wrote concerning the proposed measure. "I have," he wrote, "to inform you that Her Majesty's Government have no objection to the introduction of the measure, which they hope may prove a serviceable one; but they cannot pledge themselves to advise Her Majesty to sanction it, until they have had an opportunity of considering any objections which parties interested in its provisions may have to make to it; which such parties will be able to do while it is passing through the Legislature." Mr. Labouchere, it seems, very naturally concluded that the proprietors,—being the parties who, most probably, would think that their interests would be endangered by the provisions of the Bill should it become law,—would petition against it. But in anticipating their opposition to the measure, it is very clear that he expected they would oppose it in a manner in accordance with parliamentary usage, that is that they would petition the Local Legislature against it—"while it was passing through the Legislature." This, however, the resident proprietors and the agents of the non-resident or absentee proprietors, refrained from doing; although ample time and opportunities were afforded them, while the Bill was passing through the Legislature, to show cause, by petition, why the Bill should not become law. They were, it is but fair to suppose, well aware that, should they so petition the Legislature, their mistaken views, and the futility of their arguments against the measure, would quickly be taken up and quoted at their real worth. They, therefore, preferred their old *ex-parte* mode of proceeding, and sent their petitions against the measure to the Colonial Office, where, as they perhaps calculated, the way would be prepared for their favourable reception, or where, at least, there was no reason to apprehend that they would undergo any hostile investigation. The names of the individual proprietors who petitioned the Imperial Government against the Bill, from this Island, are, I see by the copy of their Memorial to Lord Stanley, T. H. Haviland, Charles Palmer, Robert Bruce Stewart, Wm. Douse, and James Yeo; and of land-agents, G. W. DeBlais, for Samuel Cunard; H. P. Cundall, for John Hodges Winslow; G. W. DeBlais, for H. H. Stanfield; Wm. Douse, for Earl of Selkirk; James Yeo, for Lawrence Sullivan; T. Heath Haviland, for Robert Montgomery; T. Heath Haviland, for Wm. Montgomery and George Montgomery; G. W. DeBlais, for Edward Cunard; T. Heath Haviland, for Sir G. Graham Montgomery, Bart.; T. Heath Haviland, for James F. Montgomery; James Moore, for James Peak; Wm. Douse, for James Montgomery; William Douse, for William Bowley; H. D. Morpeth, for Melville; Robert Stewart, for Robt. Gun Cunningham; Robert Stewart, for F. H. Byrne and A. M. Byrne; and William Forgan, for the Right Hon. Lawrence Sullivan. But, free as they were to petition the Legislature against the Bill whilst it was passing through its different parliamentary stages, not a single petition in opposition to it was, unless I strangely forget, presented to this House by any of these proprietors or proprietary agents. Had they so petitioned against the measure, it would have been acting in accordance with parliamentary rule. But these parties will not do so; such a course of opposition would be too fair and open for them to ground any hopes of success upon it; and none but that which can be sustained and promoted by proprietary influence at Home will they ever pursue. It is to my hon. friend on my left (Hon. Mr. Forgan) entered his protest against the Bill on our Journal; but its passage was not opposed by a single petition to this House, or to the other I believe. That is a course which I believe has never been

adopted by resident proprietors or proprietary agents: the power on the exercise of which they altogether depend for the maintenance of proprietary usurpations is the influence of the great absentee proprietors at the Colonial Office. This influence, has, hitherto, been a positive curse to this Island; and, as such, will it continue to operate as long as it shall be suffered to exist. If it can be destroyed in no other way, we must seek its extinction by the accomplishment of a federal union, under which our interests and welfare being blended with those of the larger and more important provinces, the powers of proprietaryism, if exerted against them at all, would certainly be exerted against them in vain. I am far from being inclined to exert any thing like an extravagant demonstration of my feelings against the cruel injustice which, by means of proprietary influence at the Colonial Office and proprietary petitions sent to it, has so long been perpetrated against the people of this Colony; but I hesitate not to express my earnest belief that they will yet rise in their majesty and strength, destroy that influence, by constitutional means, and thus render such petitions for ever after perfectly innocuous. The statements contained in the petitions to which I have just adverted, cannot be substantiated; and would, had they been duly investigated at the Colonial Office, have been found to be wholly fallacious. And yet the Despatch now under our consideration proves how strongly they have biased the mind of the Minister against the just and reasonable views entertained in common by the people, the government, and the legislature of this Colony, with regard to the Question of the Fishery Reserves. Mr. Labouchere, in 1857, informed His Excellency, Sir Dominick Daly, "that Her Majesty's Government had no objection to the introduction of the measure,"—the act intitled "A Bill relating to the Fishery Reserves,"—which they hoped might prove a serviceable one." Surely this language of the Colonial Minister, so decidedly approbatory of the measure, was strong encouragement to the Government and Legislature here to hope that, on their passing the Bill, it would be confirmed by the Royal allowance. But in 1858, the Bill having been passed here and sent Home for confirmation by Her Majesty, a widely different opinion concerning the merits of the measure emanates from the Colonial Office, under the control of a new incumbent. And thus has it ever been on all land questions. The people have alternately been encouraged to hope for justice—have been tantalized by promises, seemingly sincere—and disappointed, irritated, and provoked by the most ungracious rejection of their demands. The vacillating character and contradictory nature of the Despatches received from time to time from the Secretaries of State for the Colonies, most provokingly unjust as they certainly are, may, I think, be easily accounted for. Colonial Ministers, when left to the free exercise of their own judgment, perceive the reasonableness and propriety of all the demands made by the people of this Colony upon the Imperial Government; but, before they give it in their power to cause effect to be given to their just and impartial opinions, either they are removed from office, or they are induced, through the secret workings of proprietary influence and *ex-parte* proprietary statements, to forego their own independent and correct judgments; and the people are cast back, from a state of pleasing anticipation, to one of gloomy and indignant disappointment; and the conviction is forced upon their minds, as it is most strongly upon mine, that, until the proprietary influence at the Colonial Office shall have been completely destroyed, it will be in vain to legislate on any question relating to the lands of this Colony. That influence must be annihilated, or general prosperity and happiness will never be experienced in Prince Edward Island. This, my opinion concerning the vacillating policy of the Colonial Office and the contradictory nature of the Despatches which, from time to time, we receive from it, is, in no small degree, strengthened by what has been stated to me by two gentlemen from the neighbouring provinces of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, each of them a member of the Executive of his own province. The first of these gentlemen, he from New Brunswick, told me that the number of Despatches, from the Colonial Office, annually received by their Government did not exceed six or seven, other than mere circulars; and the other, from Nova Scotia, informed me that the number received by their Government, in any year, seldom exceeded four, except the usual official announcements. Contrast these statements, Your Honors, with the fact that every English Mail brings us two or three mandatory Despatches from the Colonial Office; and then say whether we and the people of the neighbouring Provinces are, or are not, as we ought to be, placed upon the same footing as respects self-government. Self-government is theirs, perhaps to the fullest extent to which it can properly be conferred upon them, as dependencies of Great Britain. But self-government with us is deranged and crippled, if it is not now completely subverted; and that it is so is chiefly owing to the baneful influences of proprietaryism, and, in 1851, Responsible Government was, seemingly on the broadest and most secure basis, conceded to us. I rejoiced to think that we had forever got rid of the control of the Colonial Office, and would, therefore, have nothing more to fear from the injurious interference of its evil genius—the Proprietors. I rejoiced to think that the people had, at length, deservedly obtained what they had so long justly and perseveringly demanded—the establishment of self-government, to as full an extent as it could, with due regard to their dependence upon the Mother Country, be conceded to them; and the loudly called for and long delayed redress of agrarian grievances, I trusted, would then be found easily attainable, and would speedily follow. But sad experience has taught me that I was greatly deceived; and I am now fully convinced that, unless we shall first be able to destroy the influence of the proprietors with the Imperial Government, all legislation, however just, wise, and necessary, concerning either the Fishery Reserves, or having in any way, for its object an equitable settlement of the Land Question, will be perfectly nugatory. The Resolution submitted by His Honor, (Colonel Swabey) is a clear and concise expression of an opinion in which I fully concur. It is an opinion which duty to ourselves renders it incumbent upon us to publicly express; and I hope it will pass with the unanimous concurrence of the House; for I do not understand a silent dissent, such as that which, last session, when the Bill to which the Resolution refers was agreed to by the House,—was manifested by an honorable member of it, who, although he, by protest, recorded his dissent upon our Journal, yet uttered not a single sentence to show that the measure was not a good and just one. If any of your Honors intend to vote against the Resolution now before us, I hope you will think it right to give the House your reasons for your intention, to the end that they may go forth and be submitted to public judgment; and that we who support the Resolution may be afforded a fair opportunity to reply to whatever may be advanced against it, so that our different opinions and the arguments by which we severally sustain them, may be fairly placed before the people, and be fully and fairly canvassed by them. Let us prove to the country that we are not a body of men,—such as certain individuals elsewhere have said we are,—united together to obey the behests of others, and bound to receive and admit, as just and true, without examination or debate, whatever they may advance; but a body of free and independent gentlemen, composing a perfectly free and independent branch of the Legislature, and ready and able, at all times, to maintain, by the power of argument, whatever position we may, as a legislative body, assume; and, in like manner, prepared to defend any conclusions at which we may, in that capacity, have deliberately arrived. I really hope that the passing of the Resolution will have the desired effect.

(To be continued.)

Correspondence.

To the Editor of the Examiner.

SIR.—It appears that some of those individuals, known by the unenviable name of "Political Parsons," have considered that Prince Edward Island does not afford them sufficient scope to indulge in their darling vice of calumniating their innocent and unoffending neighbours. Persons calling themselves Ministers of the Gospel of Peace, and at the same time doing all in their power to turn one neighbor against another, and to excite religious animosity and national hatred by the most unchristian misrepresentations and calumnies, are nothing less than arrant hypocrites and disturbers of social order. Yea, they are worse—they are sheep in wolves' clothing; and far from being servers of Him who is Peace and Charity itself, they are faithful servants of the arch enemy of mankind. It is a well known fact that all Protestants and Catholics on this Island, until very lately, lived with one another on the best of terms—they

had no ill will for one another—there was no uncharitable-ness—the majority had no intention either to deprive the minority of religious freedom or to tyrannize over them in any other way; but now, unhappily, the case is quite altered in too many instances. And what have been the causes of this lamentable change? Every unprejudiced person in the Island, Protestant as well as Catholic, will answer that this change has been caused by the uncharitableness and gross calumnies of the so called Political Parsons, aided by the uncalled for and invidious religious meddling of certain gentlemen holding commissions in Her Majesty's Royal Navy. Mr. Lockhead, and a few others, who are no credit to the sacred calling which they pretend to follow, have, in a few years, done more harm to the social condition of P. E. Island than all its well disposed inhabitants will be able to counteract for the next generation. They have abused our highly respected and venerable Bishop—they have maliciously misconstrued his words and intentions—they have calumniated all the Catholic population, both clergy and laity—they have been even so base and filthy as to put forth unchristian insinuations against Ladies—and Mr. Lockhead has taken a very prominent part in this,—they have done all these things to excite sectarian hate—to foment religious dissension—to cause their ignorant followers to believe that Catholics were no better than monsters, and that they were plotting for the destruction of Protestants, and to turn our happy and peaceable Isle into a den of religious intolerance and persecution. If, unfortunately, any outrages should hereafter take place at elections, or on any other occasion when there may be a clash of the religious element, the inhabitants will know at whose door to lay the blame. These intolerant gentlemen are to all appearances leagued with their proscriptionist fellow-brethren in Nova Scotia, whose cry at the late election in that province was, "Down with the Catholics, religiously and politically." On the occasion referred to there was a man shot, merely because he was a supporter of the Government—an Irishman and a Catholic. The blood of Patrick Hurley calls loudly to heaven for vengeance, and let Mr. Lockhead and his unchristian fellow peace-destroyers be assured, that although the guilty parties may escape the just punishment of the law, yet the great avenger of wrong will sooner or later visit them with condign punishment. It is certainly very lamentable that Mr. Lockhead, the Graduate, and a few others of his sort, strangers on the Island, and persons whom we may very appropriately call foreigners, should have the power of effecting so much evil in our little community as they have. I have no doubt but many well-meaning persons, misled by those worthies, are already beginning to appreciate their real motives; and it is more than probable that, when the pharisaical veil shall be torn from the long faces of those public calumniators, and their real character shall appear open to all in its hideous deformity, they will be treated by their present dupes with that sovereign contempt and public opprobrium which they so well merit. In the mean time, I hope that Catholics will continue to act with that good sense, patience and christian forbearance which have hitherto characterized their conduct. Mr. Lockhead, alluding to the probability of the Protestants having used ledger influence to obtain the votes of Catholics, writes:—"Popery is generally associated with ignorance, and we know that ignorance is infallibly followed by poverty." If Mr. Lockhead had any sense of delicacy or prudence he would be the last person to write of ignorance or poverty. If ignorance is infallibly followed by poverty, he and a large majority of his followers are worthy subjects to excite the commiseration of the charitably disposed. If the Catholics of this Island are not in the possession of as much property as their fellow colonists, and are not as well educated, they know well the reason; and Mr. Lockhead should know it too, and blush at it. It is because Catholics, for more than three centuries, were subjected to the persecution and tyrannizing bigotry of such narrow minded fanatics as the Rev. Andrew Lockhead. But now Catholics are fast arising from the state of bondage in which they were held; and if they have not gold and silver in such abundance as Croesus, they have plenty of bone and sinew, and good use they are making of them—clearing the wilderness, and cultivating their farms, whilst thousands of lazy gourmands, who are a burthen to themselves and a nuisance to society, are occupying the fair fields of their forefathers. The Catholics on this Island are making noble efforts to educate their children. Witness their educational establishments. These are the facts that excite Mr. Lockhead's holy ire—honest labor and mental culture—these are the terrible plottings that Papists are laying to sap the foundation of Protestantism. Ah! Mr. Lockhead, the dark and gloomy days of John Knox are past and gone for ever—Catholics now breathe the air of liberty. Does Mr. Lockhead know that Her Gracious Majesty the Queen lately appointed Catholic chaplains for the Navy, and (horrible dictu!) that Mass has been said on board some of Her Majesty's ships of war. I hope that he will not get nervous when he hears this news—perhaps it is only the beginning of the end. I would not be much surprised if the Rev. gentleman, in his next letter to the Presbyterian Witness, would take upon himself to acquaint that portion of the "elect" who read that holy sheet, that our good Queen Victoria has entered into a compact with the Pope for the overturn of Protestantism and for her own de-thronement! Do not the appointing of these navy chaplains, the addition of army ones, the increase of the salaries of Catholic Prelates and Priests in India, the residence of the Prince of Wales in the Eternal City, his visits to the "Vatican," &c., really look very suspicious?

I may again, should time permit, pay my respects to Mr. Lockhead. In the meantime, as it appears from his letter that he is an entire stranger to the christian morality contained in the Bible, I would strongly recommend him to purchase a copy of that sacred volume, and diligently peruse its pages. By doing this he will soon learn that it is not one of the theological virtues to malign one's neighbours because they are Catholics,—he will also learn that there are these three, faith, hope, and charity, and that the greatest of these is charity.

Queen's County, June 4, 1859. LECTOR.

The Examiner.

CHARLOTTETOWN, P. E. I., JUNE 13, 1859.

THE WAR IN ITALY.

The telegraphic despatches received here during the past week, via the United States and Newfoundland, are of the most meagre and unsatisfactory description. The first telegram, received through a Boston paper, informs us that a battle was fought between the Austrians and the Allies at a place called Montebello on the 21st May—that the Austrian force was 15,000 strong, that of the Allies about 6,000—that the Austrians were defeated, and retreated behind the Po with a loss of about 2000 killed and 200 taken prisoners, and that the Allies lost in the engagement from 600 to 700. All this is very little better than mere conjecture. We can readily understand the probability of some severe fighting having occurred between two such powerful armies as France and Austria have brought into the field, without taking into account the valiant force of little Sardinia—the belligerents facing each other, and all eager for the fray; but we must wait for the arrival of the regular English Mail before we can

get reliable information and full details. A telegraphic despatch received at Messrs. Hyndman & Co's. Reading Room on Saturday last, states that there has been some further skirmishing between the opposing armies in Italy; but we are not informed where, nor of the importance, or loss on either side. Lombardy, as might well be expected, is represented as in a very unsettled state; and that Garibaldi, who is any thing but a peacemaker, is there with 6000 followers, to rule the whirlwind and direct the storm of national fury against the Austrians. Indeed, we may expect to hear ere long of the whole Italian peninsula being in revolt.

The King of Naples is dead, and is succeeded by Francis II.

DISTINGUISHED ARRIVALS.

His Excellency George Dundas, Esq., Lieut. Governor of this Island, came to Halifax in the last Steamer from England, and arrived here on Tuesday last. His Excellency was accompanied by his Lady and Private Secretary. A very considerable number of our townspeople, with such of the Executive Council as were in town, assembled on the wharf to receive and welcome His Excellency. He was sworn into office on the afternoon of the same day—a salute having been fired on the occasion in front of the Colonial Building.

The Right Rev. Dr. McKinnon, Bishop of Arichat, accompanied by his Private Secretary, the Rev. Mr. Martell, arrived here in the Steamer with the new Governor on Tuesday last. The greater part of the Catholic Clergy throughout the Island, with a numerous body of the Catholics of this City, attended on the wharf to receive and welcome his Lordship, who had come to the Island for the express purpose of consecrating the new Catholic Church at Tignish—his Lordship the Right Rev. Dr. McDonald, Bishop of Charlottetown, being incapacitated by severe illness for performing the august and interesting ceremony.

CONSECRATION OF A NEW CATHOLIC CHURCH AT TIGNISH.

The new Catholic Church in course of erection at Tignish, dedicated to S. S. Simon and Jude, was consecrated by the Right Rev. C. F. McKinnon, Bishop of Arichat, on Thursday last, assisted by many of the Clergy from distant Missions in this Island, and by the Rev. C. P. Martell, of St. Xavier's College, Antigonish, and Private Secretary to Dr. McKinnon. The corner stone of the new Church was laid by his Lordship and the assisting Clergy with all the august and solemn ceremonies prescribed by the Church; and a Pontifical High Mass was celebrated in a temple tastefully erected and embellished at the end of the Church where the altar is to be placed. Dr. McKinnon delivered a very eloquent address at the close of the ceremony of laying the corner stone, and was greeted with unbounded applause by the most numerous assemblage of people we have ever witnessed in this Island. About one hundred fire arms and a piece of ordnance of large calibre, celebrated the event by frequent discharges during the afternoon of Thursday, as well as on the previous day when his Lordship arrived at Tignish, accompanied by a procession nearly a mile long. The Bishop's reception by the zealous and devoted people under the pastoral care of the Rev. Mr. McIntyre, from Cassepeque and Tignish, and thence back, was of the most gratifying description, and will be long remembered by all who took a part in it.

No expense has been spared in making the necessary preparations for the erection of this new Church. The site is admirable—all the materials are on the ground—a very large number of workmen are daily employed—the whole building is under the care of a skilful and experienced architect, and will, when completed according to the plans, be the handsomest building of the kind in this Island, and will not be surpassed by many in the Province. We shall give in our next a more detailed account of the interesting proceedings connected with the laying of the corner stone.

CONTEMPORARY OPINIONS ON P. E. ISLAND LEGISLATION.

The St. John Courier, of a late date, gives the following notice of two measures under the consideration of our House of Assembly last session. We do not agree with all its remarks on the Alien Bill, but we readily endorse its opinion on the Legislative Council humbug Bill.

"We noticed lately that an Act had passed the Prince Edward Island Legislature, granting Aliens the liberty of holding real estate in the Island, and we now observe that an Act has been introduced to the House of Assembly, to make the Legislative Council an elective body. A Mr. Haviland, we believe, is responsible for both Acts; and in our humble opinion, that gentleman has in both instances diverged widely from a statesmanlike comprehension of the injurious results which will eventually flow from the operation of these enactments, should they remain any length of time on the Island Statute-book. We will waive remark on the score of the wisdom, the British Constitution; and merely note *en passant* that under the operation of the former Act a body of Frenchmen, subjects of Louis Napoleon, may become the proprietors of a large tract of country, settle thereon, introduce their own customs, laws, and institutions; repudiate the authority of the courts of law of the Island, and claim to be judged alone by their own Consuls, and by the laws of France—thus setting up two distinct authorities in the country, and in the event of hostilities between the two Imperial governments, throwing their weight and assistance into the scales of our enemies. Suppose that there was only one individual aggrieved, who was driven to take this stand—and which he would have a perfect right to do, as he was not a subject of the Queen—and that he appealed to the Emperor direct for redress, and the Emperor was eager to catch at any opening to make his power felt by the British, even to the arbitrament of war, especially if it would gain him the coveted fisheries of these North American waters—what would have to be done in such a case? It would be too late then to retrieve the error. And what might occur with the French might take place with England in closer proximity. The naturalization laws are stringent in the extreme, on the very ground that there can be afforded a foreign government to establish a protectorate. It was on a plea, something similar, that Nicholas of Russia sought to supersede the authority of the Sultan over the Greek subjects of Turkey, and which ultimately led to the Crimean war. We are as desirous, as it is possible for any colonial people, to encourage strangers and aliens to settle our lands, and participate in our advantages; but they must not be political hybrids—they must either be British subjects or remain aliens. They must not be placed in a position to become a dominant race. The Legislature of New Brunswick exercised a wise discretion in ignoring the subject determinedly, when it was mooted in her halls, and we hope our sister colony will reconsider the step she has so inconsiderately taken in this instance, and revert back to her original position. Our objections to an elective Legislative Council were fully stated some weeks ago, and were predicated on the ground that its position, as the third branch of our government, would be totally changed, and its independence destroyed. The spaces at our command will not warrant our extending the discussion on this head to-day."