THE FENIANS.

BUFFALO, Nov. 5.

Considerable excitement prevailed at Fort Erie last night in expectation of a Fenian raid. The cause of the panic appears to have been the arrival of the U. S. steamer Michigan, which came to restore the Fenian arms captured last June, and a demonstration on Sunday in the iron works portion of the city, where Senator Morrison and other prominent Fenians made speeches. After the meeting the crowd followed the speakers, and it looked as though some demonstration was to be made. A person having some gold about him was seized as a British spy, was rescued, being badly used.... A despatch to the Express from Potsdam, N. Y., the residence of District Attorney Dart, denies that he has been removed.... The Courier states that affidavits going to prove the innocence of Rev. Mr. McMahon, now under sentence of death at Toronto, have been forwarded to Washington.

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 5.

At a Fenian mass meeting last night, resolutions were adopted declaring that the Fenians of America defiantly assert that the conviction of Col. Lynch and Father McMahon will be made the bugle note which will lead on the army of Irishmen that will drive the last vestige of British power from the American continent.

TORONTO, C. W., Nov. 5.

Mr. Harrison, the prosecuting lawyer for the Crown in the Fenian trials, received a letter to-day, giving information of a plot to assassinate Judge Wilson and others concerned in the Fenian trials.... Considerable religious animosity is shown regarding proceedings. The fact that Lumsden, a protestant, was acquitted, while McMahon, a catholic, was convicted, is especially commented upon.... The Fenian trials were resumed at noon to-day. David Drummond was first placed in the dock, but the trial was postponed on account of the absence of witnesses..... Benjamin Perry, a boy fifteen years old, was next tried on the same indictment as the others. The evidence against him was chiefly from his own statements when captured, that he came with the Fenians from Cincinnati to see his uncle; that he crossed with them, got frightened, and was to trying to get back to Buffalo when captured. The prisoner's mother was examined, and gave him an excellent character.... Mr. McKenzie tendered the following affidavit: "I, Owen E. Moore, of the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, make oath and say, I have known Perry one or two years; has excellent habits; is peaceful and well disposed; never engaged in riots and mobs, but is generous, honest and industrious, and was held in high esteem by his employers. Moore, Herrick & Davis.

(Signed) I. OWEN MOORE.

Sworn to before me.
CHARLES F. WIRSTACHE, Mayor.

His Lordship asked if the Crown objected to the affidavit. Hon. J. H. Cameron said he had no objection to its being taken the same as if the parties were here themselves.

After a forcible appeal by Mr. Mckenzie, and a temperate rejoinder by Mr. Harrison, his Lordship charged the jury if not satisfied, to give the prisoner the benefit of the doubt. The jury retired, and in an hour brought in a verdict of not guilty, and the prisoner was discharged.

A PHOTOGRAPH OF SPAIN.

The London *Times* of the 6th ult., in commenting on the present deplorable state of Spain, draws the following picture of things as they now are:—

A short twelvemonth ago Gonzalez Bravo, Narvaez's colleague, durst not show his face about the streets of Madrid. He is now once more in power, and his rule is a reign of terror, unparalelled even in Spain. The Spanish people have strong nerves, not easily shaken by trifles. Let a political movement turn out as it may, one is sure to be beaten, and that one is the rebel and traitor. A traitor is shot if military, garroted if a civilian. An execution follows close upon a *pronunciamiento*, as thunder comes after lightning. The favourite promenade of Fuente Castellna is chosen for the scene of the tragic drama. The scaffold rises beside the fashionable drive, almost opposite to the bull-ring.

Your Spaniard is as eager for one show as for the other. Still, with all the callousness of that stern nation to deeds of bloodshed, it could hardly be proof against the horrors that have been perpetrated in the country for the last two months, and the foreign press, especially the French, has raised a cry of execration that has been but too successfully smothered in the Peninsula itself. If we may believe only one-tenth of what is written, we are at no loss to know the means by which tranquility has been re-established. After the hundreds that have been disposed of summarily either during the conflict or immediately after it, we know of scores of capital sentences pronounced by courts-martial. We hear of whole cargoes of prisoners transported without trial to the penal settlements in the Philippine Islands.

The whole staff of the *Iberia*, that of the *Democracia*, many of the most distinguished writers and thinkers, have thus been disposed of. "There is order and silence," says the Governor of Madrid, "and now that we have cleared the land of journalists the restrictions on the journal shall be removed." It is thus that they manage things in Spain. A noble country, inhabited by as noble a race; but a nation, for some reason or other, that never had a chance with its Government. The last fifty years of Spanish history make up a tale of bloodshed and violence for which we find hardly a paralel in the whole series of European annals; yet, unless common report greatly wrongs them, the present rulers seem bent on outdoing the very worst severities of which even Spain has as yet had any experience.

THE UNITED STATES GETS ANOTHER SLICE OF TERRITORY.

[From the New York Herald.]

Mexican affairs are in the way of settlement by treaty directly between France and the United States, and the primary condition—the starting point of the treaty—is the retirement from the country of Maximilian and the whole machinery of his government, French troops and all. This is a consummation that has been secured by the rightly toned, direct, courteous and firm foreign policy of the President. One of the important results that this treaty will secure to the world of civilization and commerce will be the cession to the United States of a large piece of territory in Northern Mexico. We believe that the tract contemplated includes all the country lying on the Gulf of California, and the whole of the upper country lying between that gulf and the United States boundary line—in fact the whole country between Texas and the Pacific. This is a country susceptible of a grand development in the hands of a free and energetic people. It is said to be even greater than the State of California in mineral resources, while it contains elements of wealth in other directions that may perhaps be-little its mineral riches. There are some other sources of development for the country that we hope will be properly looked after in the treaty.

BLARNEYING THE FENIANS.

[From the New York Herald.]

It is exceedingly amusing to watch the attemps which both parties are making to blarney the Fenians of this State. Every candidate is willing to swear that he is a Fenian or that his father was. Resolutions endorsing the Fenians are passed at all the political meetings. Letters approving of the Fenians are addressed to the President b Mayor Hoffman. Circulars stating the sympathy of Governor Fenton with the Fenians are largely circulated. Every nominee who has a Mac or an O to his name parades it in large letters. Papers which have hitherto preferred the negroes to the Irish now desert Sambo and appeal to Patrick. A stranger landing at New York to-day would almost imagine that this was a purely Hibernian election and that this metropolis was the capital of the Green Isle.

THE "WOODEN WALLS"—The *Times* asserts that the recent artillery experiments show that the strongest iron-clad afloat might be sent to the bottom as easily as a wooden frigate; and iron clads and wooden ships being thus placed on an equality of hopelessness, it suggests whether the recent opinions on the worthlessness of wooden ships may not be reconsidered.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Latest News from Europe, Canada and the United States.

FROM EUROPE.

LONDON, Nov. 11.

News has been received of the arrival of the barque Nellie, Chapin, at Jaffa from Jonesport, Me., with 150 Americans to colonize in Palestine.... The U. S. steamer Ticonderoga left Jaffa on the 29th ult., for Malta.... The American brig Laba was boarded by pirates on the coast of China—no date—and the captain and two mates killed, and several wounded.... A United States Company has got the consent of the Emperor of China to lay a cable from the Western Union Extension Company's lines on the North of Shanghai.... A fearful typhoon had occurred between Japan and Shanghai. No disasters to shipping, however, have been reported.... The French Admiral was awaiting the arrival of his squadron at Shanghai in order to proceed to Corea.... It was proposed at Sydney, Australia, to lay a duty of one shilling an ounce on gold exports. The crops were not extraordinarily good on the Island; of some articles only half of last year's crops were expected.

PARIS, Nov. 11.

News has been received in official quarters that an insurrection has broken out at Barcelona against the Narvaez Government.... Gold 143.

LONDON, Nov. 12.

The London *Times* of this morning says that, considering the difficult position of the President of the United and his efforts to prevent an invasion of British territory in North America, it could see with satisfaction some compliance with his request on behalf of the Fenians who have been convicted of Treason and sentenced to death; but still it would concede no immunity in case of another invasion.... Telegraphic despatches have been received which state that the war in Japan is ended. The report of the death of the Tycoon is confirmed.

PARIS, Nov. 12.

The report that an insurrection has taken place in Barcelona is untrue.

MADRID, Nov. 12.

A plot has been discovered in the city of Saragossa, in consequence of which several arrests have been made.

LONDON, Nov. 13.

Ship "Agra," bound from London to New York, and bark "Elizabeth Jenkins," bound from London to Boston, came in collision in the English Channel yesterday. The "Elizabeth Jenkins" was sunk, and ten lives lost. The "Agra" suffered considerable damage.

ST. PETERSBURG, Nov. 10.

The Czarwitch and Princess Dagmar were married yesterday with great festivity. The Czar commuted the sentences of prisoners and remitted arrears of taxes.

PARIS, Nov. 10.

Forty-two arrests have been made of members of a secret political society in Paris.

FROM THE UNITED STATES.

ERIE, PA., Nov. 13.

The day express train west, on the Buffalo and Erie Railway, was thrown off the track near Wesleyville, four miles east of here, at 4 a. m. Some fifty persons were injured and five killed. The killed are, Dr. Wheeler, of Milwaukie, with his daughter-in-law and her child; Mr. Hunt, of Danville, N. Y., and a Mr. Harlan, residence not known. The accident was caused by the negligence of workmen who were engaged in repairing the track..... A thunderbolt from a perfectly cloudless sky struck a church and three dwelling houses at Rising Sun, Ind., a few days ago. It killed a girl outright, and stripped all the clothing from a boy, whom, strange to say, it only stunned. A more remarkable electrical phenomenon has rarely occurred.

FROM CANADA.

QUEBEC, Nov. 12.

It is understood that the Government will furnish the necessary relief for the destitute fishermen on the Labrador coast.

The Mayor of Manchester, England, sends by the Cable, authority to draw one thousand pounds sterling; and the London Committee also authorizes drafts to the amount of four thousand pounds more. The Queen has written a letter to Mr. Watkins, Chairman of the Relief Committee, sending three hundred pounds, and expressing deep sympathy.

QUEBEC, Nov. 13.

The Committee recommend the immediate distribution of 10 dollars to each of the 3,000 families burnt out, in view of the approaching winter.

KINGSTOWN, C. W., Nov. 12.

A document will be published after the departure of the Ministerial delegation, announcing the important particulars of the course to be pursued by them in England relative to the Confederation scheme.

John Slevin, one of the Fenian prisoners, was found guilty on the 7th instant, in Toronto, and sentenced to be hanged on the 13th December. The Toronto *Leader* of the 8th instant editorially says the indications in the case of the condemned Fenians look toward leniency. The Toronto *Globe* has a despatch from Montreal saying it is understood that the Government at the late cabinet meeting resolved to commute the sentences of Lynch and McMahon. Three men named Bell, Finnagan and Wells, confined since June last, on a charge of Fenianism, have been released from custody, the grand jury having ignored the bills against them.

They do not cramp or rack the delicate frame or weak constitution, but will be found particularly useful in stimulating the weakened and distempered parts into healthy action. Use Parsons' Purgative Pills.

A spoonful of Blood's Rheumatic Compound and mixed with half a cup of molasses, makes an excellent cough syrup. Try it.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, November 19, 1866.

THE FENIAN TRIALS.

THE Fenian excitement—which followed the trial and conviction at Toronto of McMahon and Lynch, of Fenian notoriety—continues to prevail without any abatement, on the borders between Canada and the United States. The most wild and extravagant threats are made against Canada if the authorities of that Province should allow the law to take effect upon the prisoners. This, of course, has done a great deal towards bringing "greenbacks" to the Fenian coffers, which had become empty from the foolish and criminal enterprises in which the Brotherhood had engaged during this year, as well as from the frauds committed upon the Treasury of the Moffatt Mansion by the wire pullers who directed the movement, and lived in luxurious ease at the expense of their numerous dupes. The conviction of McMahon and Lynch is really a windfall, and if they should be hanged it would bring hundreds of thousands of dollars to the Fenian Brotherhood. Nothing, therefore, we think, would please the Fenians better than to find that the misguided men in jail had suffered the penalty of the law. But in this we think they will be disappointed. It appears to be well understood that Lord Monck, the Governor General, will exercise in the case of the condemned Fenians the prerogative of mercy; and, instead of crowning them with the honours of martyrdom, consign them to the vulgar punishment of imprisonment for life. When once within the walls of the Penitentiary at Kingston, the convicts will cease to be objects of sympathy, just as they had been while they were in prison, awaiting their trial, apparently forgotten and certainly neglected by those who are now making such an ill-judged outcry on their behalf. The Fenians of the States propose that they will overrun Canada with fire and sword if the lives of the men are not spared whom they had left unprovided with the means of procuring counsel for their trials. The proposal is made only with the view of getting more money for such unprincipled adventurers as Sweeney and Roberts; but their trade on the credulity of their countrymen will stop when the Fenian convicts are consigned to comfortable quarters, to eat there for life their rations at the public expense: and this will be the greatest blow which Fenianism could possibly receive at the hands of the Canadian Government.

It is well known that the Government of the United States have winked at the Fenian movement ever since its origin; and it is also well known that the action of the Executive at Washington in making a military display against the Fenian invasion of Canada in June last, was so tardy as to encourage the belief that *they* expected the invasion would succeed; and six days after it had signally failed they became very active in discouraging the movement by proclamations and otherwise. This was all done for political effect. The Fenians are too numerous to be disregarded when there is any chance of getting their votes on behalf of the Government, while the opponents of the Government are ready to bid a high price for them. We have now unmistakeable proof of the sympathy of the Washington Government in the Fenian movement in the despatch which was lately written to the British Minister at Washington by the Secretary of State for the United States. It is one of the most extraordinary state documents we have ever read; and, *in the estimation of foreign Governments* it is certainly not calculated to bring much honour upon the Republican Government. The despatch referred to is as follows:—

DEPARTMENT OF STATE,
WASHINGTON, Oct. 27, 1866.

SIR: It is understood that James Lynch and John McMahon have been recently convicted in a Colonial Court of Canada, and sentenced to death upon a charge that, being citizens of the United States, they were actors in the assault made in the month of June last at Fort Erie, in that Colony.

It can hardly be necessary to direct your attention to the fact that the Government of the United States is required by the highest considerations of national dignity, duty and honor, to inquire into the legality, justice and regularity of the judicial proceedings which have thus taken place, and that, after making such a careful scrutiny, we shall expect to make known to Her Majesty's Government such opinions as the President upon due consideration shall adopt.

With this view the Consul of the United States at Toronto is this day instructed to procure, for the information of this Department, a copy of the record of the trial and conviction of Lynch and McMahon, and also of all further trials and convictions of a similar character which shall take place in Canada.

While no unnecessary delay in the examinations of the cases which are thus expected to come before this Government is intended, it may nevertheless happen hereafter that delays may unavoidably result from past incidents or from future events which cannot now be foreseen. I have now the honour to request you to take such proceedings as you may think proper, to the end that such application of the Consul shall be promptly granted.

The President directs me to assure you of his confident hope that Her Majesty's Government will not only cheerfully comply with the request I have thus made, but that they will think it proper, also, to examine the judicial proceedings aforesaid, with a careful regard to the rights of the United States and to the maintenance of good relations between the two countries. Such relations are always difficult and delicate in States that are adjacent to each other without being separated by impassable boundaries. For this reason, it would be very gratifying to the President if you should be able to give me an assurance that the execution of these sentences pronounced upon the convicted persons will be suspended, if occasion for delay shall arise in the manner before mentioned to make it desirable.

Finally, I deem it proper to say that the offences involved in these trials are, in their nature, eminently political. It is the opinion of this Government that sound policy coincides with the best impulses of a benevolent nature in recommending tenderness, amnesty and forgiveness in such cases. This suggestion is made with freedom and earnestness, because the same opinions were proposed to us in our recent civil war by all the governments and publicists of Europe, and by none of them with greater frankness and kindness than by the Government and statesmen of Great Britain. I am very sure that you will find that these recommendations of a policy of clemency and forgiveness in the case of the parties concerned are in entire harmony with all the suggestions and representations which this Government has made to Her Majesty's Government in regard to the aggressions which have been made on the Canadian frontier, and that they are also in harmony with the proceedings which this Government has thought it just, wise and prudent to pursue in regard to the violation of its own neutrality laws which was involved in those aggressions.

I have the honour to be, with the highest consideration, Sir, your obedient servant,
WILLIAM H. SEWARD.

To the Hon. Sir Frederick W. A. Bruce.

The New York *Albion*, of the 3rd instant, reproducing and referring to the foregoing, makes the following judicious remarks:—

"We insert above this letter, addressed to Sir Frederick Bruce, British Minister at Washington, by the Secretary of State, and we quite agree with the latter that the offence of these convicts has been "eminently political;" and moreover, we believe that no one is better aware of this fact than the Hon. Wm. H. Seward. That their offence has, however, been much more intimately connected with United States, than with British or British-American, politics, we think can be clearly shown in evidence, and ought now in justice to be proven to the satisfaction of the court. In fact we advocate most strongly a thorough investigation into the whole surroundings of the case, and recommend free passes to all witnesses willing to proceed to Toronto, under the protection of the British Government, with a view to finding some one who will turn state's evidence, and divulge the secrets of the association. This might lead to the discovery of the *real* Head Centre of the movement, and perhaps implicate the learned Counsel who has just taken charge of the case.

That "the Government of the U. S. is required by the highest considerations of national dignity, duty and *honour*, to inquire into the legality, justice, and regularity of the judicial proceedings which have thus far taken place," we are quite prepared to admit, and we fear that unless this interest *is* manifested, that Father McMahon, or the gallant U. S. Colonel, will be tempted to divulge secrets rather than swing. It would quite change the phase of things if the first named should candidly confess that he went in pursuit of lives rather than of souls, and show his *commission* from headquarters; or if the gallant U. S. officer should admit that he was reporting progress to Washington rather than to a Missouri newspaper. For our own part, we do not favor the idea of hanging these men, for we believe that if they are kept caged awhile, that later developments will quite change the aspect of affairs. We have twice before recommended the prisoners to mercy, but now that so much interest is manifested at Washington, we say by all means stay execution, but keep the culprits in "durance vile" until they divulge what they too well know in reference to this expedition."

WE cut the following piece of news from the Toronto *Leader* of the 10th inst:—

"The Governments of three of the Maritime Provinces have *come* forward to aid the sufferers by the late fire. Prince Edward Island sends $6,000, New Brunswick an equal sum, and Nova Scotia $5,000. Besides these official donations, private subscriptions have been got up. Nova Scotia will give altogether $12,000."

If the Government of Prince Edward Island have contributed $6,000 for the relief of the sufferers by fire at Quebec, they are more generous than we thought they are, and we commend them for their act of charity. But their donation is altogether unknown to the people of this community, at least beyond the charmed circle of the Executive Council. They do strange things at that honourable Board; and who knows that the public money, of which they are such arrant misers so far as domestic charities are concerned, has been thus beneficially employed for once in *their* lives? But, we regret to say, that we suspect the Toronto *Leader* has been hoaxed in the matter of the statement above quoted.

THE CORRESPONDENCE ON THE $800,000 PROPOSAL.

WE made some general remarks in our last No. touching the refusal of the Canadian Government to entertain, *at present*, the proposal of the Delegates from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to recommend a grant to this Colony of $800,000, on consideration of our going into the Federal Union. We published then the resolutions of the Nova Scotia and New Brunswick Delegates, and the Minute of Council of the Canadian Government in reply thereto. These documents certainly cover the whole question with regard to the proposal of $800,000; but there was some other correspondence connected with it, which we had not then space to publish; and we now give all the documents in their entirety, feeling it to be our duty, as an independent journalist, to withhold nothing from the public on this important subject, no matter how trivial an omission might seem to us.

All our people were very indignant at the bare idea of a proposal to "bribe" them into Confederation, and the Canadians were blamed for this attempt at corruption. The spirit in which the Islanders have received the proposal shows that they will not accept of any terms for going into the Federal Union; and the recent developments prove that the Canadians are perfectly indifferent whether we will or not; and they prove, moreover, that they do not regard us as fit recipients of a "bribe." Our people scold them harshly for entertaining—as they were supposed to entertain—the belief, that we had a venal population who were ready to surrender their liberties for a money consideration,—Canada seems to think better of us, and to consider us as too proud and patriotic to give up our inestimable constitution at any price. Now, if there are any people who deserve reprimanding from us it must be the Delegates from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, who seemed to think that we could be bought with a paltry grant of $800,000—although, indeed, we very loudly complained, that there was not a sufficient money allowance proposed to us in the general plan of Confederation. Millions cannot buy us!!—such is the high tone of our public virtue now; and it seems to us that it would be a good punishment upon the Nova Scotians and New Brunswickers, if we anti-Confederates in this Island would direct our patriotic efforts to thwart *their* schemes towards Confederation. We are all united against it here—there is scarcely a man who will say a good word for it in this Island now; and at present our only thought should be, to prevent the Nova Scotians and New Brunswickers from going into Confederation with Canada; for if we could bring that noble enterprise to a successful issue—(as we brought the Nova Scotians and New Brunswickers to a sense of their obligations towards us)—why then we might rest assured that the baleful cloud of Confederation would never darken our fair land.

The proposal of the Nova Scotian and New Brunswick Delegates — much as it might degrade us in our own proud estimation if we agreed to it—is valuable as an admission on their part that some concession was due to us: but the Canadians—the ungenerous "lot"—thinking otherwise, for their Minute of Council is a mere subterfuge—we have no alternative but to resist the Canadians as well as the Nova Scotians and New Brunswickers—to stand upon our rights, and to shew them that we choose to remain as an independent power upon the earth, whose invaluable constitutional privileges cannot be disturbed without our own consent.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN THE DELEGATES FROM NOVA SCOTIA AND NEW BRUNSWICK AND CANADA, RESPECTING A SUBSIDY OF $800,000 TO P. E. ISLAND.

DOWNING STREET,
27th September, 1866.

SIR,—

I have the honor to transmit to you, for your information, the enclosed copy of a Resolution, adopted by the Delegates in England, from the Provinces of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, together with a copy of a despatch, which I have addressed, on the subject, to Viscount Monck,

I have the honor to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble servant,
(Signed) CARNARVON.

Lieut. Governor Dundas,
&c., &c., &c.

The Earl of Carnarvon to Viscount Monck. (Canada.)

DOWNING STREET,
25th September, 1866.

My Lord,—

I have the honor to transmit to you the enclosed copy of a Resolution, which has been placed in my hands, by the Delegates from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, now in England, adopted by them as a means of bringing Prince Edward Island into the contemplated Union of the British North American Provinces. I forward this Resolution to Your Lordship, at the request of the Delegates, that it may be communicated to those gentlemen who are appointed to be delegates on behalf of Canada, and that it may be ascertained how far it meets with their concurrence. I have further to request that you will apprize the Lieutenant Governor of Prince Edward Island of the result. I have, in the meantime, transmitted a copy to Lieutenant Governor Dundas, of the Resolution, and of this Despatch.

I have taken this course, in order to give effect to the wishes of the Delegates, now in England; but it must be understood, that I do so, without expressing any opinion of my own on the subject, as this would be premature at the present stage of the question.

I have, &c.,
(Signed) CARNARVON.

Governor
The Right Hon. Lord Monck,
&c., &c., &c.

(COPY.)

At a meeting of the Delegates from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, held at the Alexandra Hotel, London, on the 22nd day of September, 1866, all being present except the Hon. Mr. Wilmot, it was unanimously resolved that, inasmuch as the co-operation of Prince Edward Island, though not indispensable to a Union of the other British North American Provinces, is, on many accounts, very desirable; and as the settlement of the land question, which has so long and so injuriously agitated that Colony, would be attended with great benefit, and at the same time *place the local Government of the Island, by the possession of the proprietary lands, now on a footing with the other Provinces, which have Crown Lands and Minerals as a source of local revenue:*

Therefore Resolved—

That, in case the Legislature of the Island should authorize the appointment of Delegates to act in conjunction with those from the other Provinces, in arranging a plan of co-operation, prior to the meeting of the Imperial Parliament, the delegates from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are hereby pledged to support the policy of providing such an amount as may be necessary for the purchase of the proprietary rights, but not to exceed $800,000.

(Signed) CHARLES TUPPER,
S. L. TILLEY.

QUEBEC, October 26th, 1866.

SIR,—

I have the honor to transmit, for your information, copies of a Despatch and enclosure, which I have received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies, together with a copy of an approved minute of the Executive Council of Canada, in reference to that Despatch.

I have, &c., &c., &c.
(Signed) MONCK.

Lieut. Governor Dundas,
&c., &c., &c.

Copy of a Report of a Committee of the Honourable the Executive Council, approved by His Excellency the Governor General, in Council, on the 22nd October, 1866.

The Committee of Council have had under their consideration the despatch of the Colonial Secretary to Your Excellency, of the 26th September last, and the accompanying Resolution of the Delegates from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, and they now beg leave to report—

That the Resolution referred to is as follows:—

At a meeting of the Delegates from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, held at the Alexandra Hotel, London, on the 22nd day of September, 1866, all being present except the Hon. Mr. Wilmot, it was unanimously resolved that, inasmuch as the co-operation of Prince Edward Island, though not indispensable to a Union of the other B. N. A. Provinces, is, on many accounts, very desirable; and as the settlement of the Land question, which has so long and so injuriously agitated that Colony, would be attended with great benefit, and, at the same time, place the local Government of the Island, by the possession of the Proprietary lands, more on a footing with the other Provinces, which have Crown Lands and Minerals as a source of local Revenue.

Therefore Resolved—

That, in case the Legislature of the Island should authorize the appointment of Delegates in conjunction with those from the other Provinces, in arranging a plan of co-operation, prior to the meeting of the Imperial Parliament, the Delegates from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick are hereby pledged to support the policy of providing such an amount as may be necessary for the purchase of the Proprietary Rights, but not to exceed eight hundred thousand dollars ($800,000).

It would seem, from this Resolution, that the gentlemen from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick pledge themselves as Delegates, and not as representing the Governments of their respective Provinces, to support the policy of providing the amount mentioned.

As their powers will expire with the settlement of the Scheme of Union, it is to be inferred that their pledge can only be carried out by their advocating the insertion of a clause in the Imperial Act, binding the future Government and Legislature of United British North America, to pay the sum of $800,000.

The Canadian Government do not consider that they have any power or right to consent to the payment of that, or any sum, without the previous consent of the Canadian Parliament, and they, therefore, cannot confer upon their Delegates powers which they do not themselves possess.

The Committee fully appreciate the motives which induced the Delegates from Nova Scotia and New Brunswick to adopt the Resolution, and they agree with the Delegation as to the desirableness of bringing Prince Edward Island into the contemplated Union.

The Committee are of opinion that every proper exertion should be made for that purpose, and recommend that the subject of the adjustment of the land question should be fully discussed by the delegates from the three Provinces in London, in a liberal spirit. Should the result of the discussion be, that in the opinion of the Delegates, pecuniary compensation should be given to the Proprietors, for the surrender of the Proprietary rights, the Committee would further recommend that the Canadian Delegation be authorized to join with those from the Maritime Provinces, in a strong representation to the first Government and Parliament of the United Provinces, in favour of the granting the compensation agreed upon by them.

Certified.
(Signed) WM. H. LEE, C. E. C.

THE DELEGATES FROM CANADA TO ENGLAND.

OUR Canadian papers are full of the reports of speeches delivered at two great public dinners, the first at Hamilton, and the second at Montreal, in honour of the Delegates who were then about to proceed to England, to confer there with the Delegates from the Maritime Provinces for the final settlement of the Confederation question. The principal speakers were: at Hamilton—the Hon. J. A. McDonald, (Attorney General West,) and the Hon Wm. McDougall, (Provincial Secretary):—at Montreal, the Hon. G. E. Cartier, (Attorney General East,) and the Hon. T. D. McGee, (Minister of Agriculture.) The speeches of those gentlemen are very able ones, regarding the question they discuss from a Canadian stand point; but that uttered by Mr. McGee especially sparkles with numerous oratorical gems. We have room for no quotations, nor would they be acceptable to our readers if we gave any. The speakers spoke in the most confident terms of the success of the work they have in hand, and they declared their determination to abide by the Report of the Quebec Conference of 1864, as the "basis" of the constitution to be submitted to the Imperial Parliament for the Confederated Provinces. There was no denying that the Report would not be changed or modified in some respects—what they contended for, was that its essential principles should remain intact, as we had no doubt would be the case. Mr. Cartier plainly signified in his speech that that part of the Quebec Report which refers to education shall undergo revision, with the view of satisfying the just claims of the Protestant minority in Lower Canada and the Catholic minority in Upper Canada; and it is from considerations in reference to that matter that Mr. Galt — who left office rather than sacrifice his views on behalf of the Protestant minority of Lower Canada—has consented to be one of the deputation.

All the Canadian Delegates are now on their way to England, excepting Mr. McGee, who will leave early in December, for the London Conference and the Paris Exhibition. Lord Monck, the Governor General, will leave shortly after, to join the Conference. There cannot be the shadow of a doubt that the continental Provinces will be confederated; and it is consoling to know that the people of Prince Edward Island, who think that the terms proposed in the Quebec Report are unjust, so far as they are concerned— will not be included in the Confederation without their own free will.

FIRE IN HALIFAX, N. S. — The Halifax *Morning Chronicle* of the 12th inst., gives the following particulars of a fire in that City:—

Since Saturday *evening* there have been several alarms, and one serious fire. About 8¼ o'clock on the evening named, fire was discovered in the premises of Mr. Samuel Nash, at Spring Gardens, but the flames were quenched before any material damage was occasioned. Later in the evening a fire broke out in a barn owned by Mr. Leahy, in Grafton street, but the prompt arrival of the firemen prevented the flames making much headway. The damage in both those cases was trifling; but very shortly afterwards, a more serious fire occurred, which occasioned the total destruction of the Military Hospital, which building was situated in the field near the citadel. Soon after the alarm was sounded, and before the firemen reached the spot, the flames burst through the roof, and raged with fury until the building was completely consumed. All efforts of the firemen to stay the progress of the fiery element proved unavailing, though they worked most heroically for some hours. The patients were removed after some difficulty, but the greater portion of the property inside the hospital was destroyed. But the most melancholy incident of this fire has yet to be related. In their zeal to save property three firemen, two members of the Union Protection Company, and one of the U. E. Company, went into a room, and soon afterwards a case of chemical compounds exploded, which injured the men very severely. Mr. John Crowe, of the Union Protection Company, was very badly burnt about the face and chest, and it is feared the injuries may prove fatal. A Mr. Taylor, also of the company last named, and Mr. Patrick Clancy, of the Union Engine Company, were also injured by the explosion. Sergeant Jackson, of the 4th Regiment, was considerably burnt by a portion of a burning ceiling falling upon him whilst he was engaged in removing property.

CONSERVATISM AND LIBERALISM.

[THE Editor of the *Examiner* very cordially gives space in his editorial columns to the following article, being the first of a series which the writer proposes to give on the subject he has chosen. While doing this, at the request of the writer, whose contributions have been always welcome to these columns, the Editor of the *Examiner* respectfully submits that he does not wish to be held as *agreeing to* all the opinions of his able and valued correspondent. —ED. EX'R.]

[TO THE HON. EDWARD WHELAN, M. P. P., EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR OF *The Examiner*.

In the belief that the sentiments enunciated in this production will meet with a cordial response, not only on your own part, but on that of every other enlightened friend of PROGRESS in the ranks of our public men — whether *Liberal* or *Conservative*; and, in the hope that their publication may tend, in some degree, to bring about a realization of the complete obliteration from the minds of our rival statesmen of all the bitter feelings which party conflicts have engendered, and to the preparing of the way, in the public mind, for that honourable and beneficial Coalition, of the probability of which the courteous and conciliatory spirit by which the debates of the last Legislative Session were so uniformly distinguished, seemed to afford the happiest omen; the writer—conscious as he is of the imperfections of his work, but, at the same time, emboldened by the impulse of public spirit in which alone he believes it to have had its origin—ventures to solicit for it the commendatory assignment of space for publication in the editorial columns of *The Examiner*.

Charlottetown, 16th November, 1866.]

SINCE the introduction of Responsible Government, up to nearly the close of our last Legislative Session, the two rival parties in our little State have been known by the distinctive names of Liberals and Conservatives. On the establishment of the Responsible System, under the Liberals, the Executive Council was made to consist of Heads of Departments, who were members of the majority in the Legislature, according to the great model of ministerial structure in Great Britain, and in accordance with the long-recognized working principle of her glorious Constitution, in Parliament. To the form of Government thus established, by the Liberals, under the Responsible System, it was strongly objected, by the Conservatives, that, in consequence of the comparatively great number of office-holders who were, thereby, placed on the floors of the Legislature—the House of Assembly, at that time, consisting of only twenty-four members, and the Legislative Council of only twelve—a power to intimidate and corrupt such officials was placed in the hands of the Premier, and that, in order to be allowed to retain their appointments, they would, perhaps, frequently have, in mere subserviency to the will of the Leader of the Government—their master—to forego the conscientious exercise of their own private judgments, and could not, therefore, be justly regarded as trustworthy representatives of the people. On the other hand, it was maintained, by the Liberals, that the exclusion of office-holders from the Legislature, and, consequently, from the Executive Council, was unwise and impolitic — because the exclusion of Heads of Departments from the Cabinet, deprives it of much of its efficiency;—because, in the same proportion, its utility to the Lieutenant Governor and the other branches of the Legislature, is diminished;—because experience has ever shown that it is most consistent with the best interests of a Government, that onerous and important public duties should not be performed gratuitously;—and, lastly, because such exclusion is directly at variance with the great models afforded by the British Constitution, upon which all Her Majesty's Colonial possessions, in the enjoyment of free institutions, have striven, as far as practicable, to construct their respective Governments — a course which experience has shown to be that which is best calculated to promote the welfare and contentment of the people.

The principles of the Liberals, however, at that time, sustained by the people, were triumphant; and, for eight years, we enjoyed peace, prosperity, and happiness, under a Liberal Government, composed of Heads of Departments. At the expiration of that period—after two successive Assemblies had each run its legal and—I may truly say — its beneficial course, — the people, it would seem, desirous of a change of rulers, gave the Conservatives a majority in the Legislature, which, for now nearly eight years, they have been able to retain; and we have, consequently, had a Government, for that period of time, composed, according to Conservative principles, of gentlemen, members of the Legislature, but not office-holders—except that they have allowed a slight innovation of their system, in favor of the Colonial Secretary and the Attorney General—and of the Solicitor General also, during the late Legislative Session.

A complete change, however, has now come over the minds of the Conservatives in Parliament; and, in the last Legislative Session, they declared themselves to be thorough converts to the principles of the Liberals, as enunciated and put in practice on the establishment of Responsible Government;—fully acknowledging the propriety, nay the necessity, of office-holders being members of the Legislature, and the wisdom of having a Government, composed, *for the sake of efficiency*, of the Heads of Departments.

To the learned and highly talented member for Charlottetown, Frederick De St. Croix Brecken, belongs the honor of having been the first of his party, in the House of Assembly, to stand up, and, in an open, honest, and straight forward manner, to avow this change of principle, *and its necessity*, on their part. He even went farther, and pointed out the folly of expecting to have important public duties gratuitously performed; and insisted that the House would never be able, as they ought to be, to place implicit reliance upon the faithfulness and accuracy of the public accounts annually submitted to them, until they should sanction the appointment of a Financial Secretary, whose duty it should be to make faithful records, according to the most approved system of book-keeping, of all—even the most minute—of the pecuniary transactions of the Government, departmental and otherwise. In doing this, he spoke of the great value of the public services, on that head, which had been rendered, by his parliamentary colleague, the Hon. Daniel Davies, who, every session since he had been a member of the House, had, *voluntarily and gratuitously*, made a thorough investigation of the public accounts—services, which necessitated his close and toilsome application to the business, each session, not for hours only, but for days and weeks, and that, too, at the expense of the withdrawal, for the time, of his attention from his own mercantile affairs. That there should be a necessity for an unsalaried servant of the people thus severely taxing himself in the public service, the hon. and learned member very justly observed, not only argued great laxity in the general mode of keeping an account of our general expenditure, but was also an evidence of very mistaken economy on the part of the people's parliamentary representatives.

The necessity which existed *for the appointment* of a Financial Secretary, whose province, in order to guard alike both against error and fraud, should be to keep full and systematic accounts of all Government expenditures, and of all moneys received and disbursed in the several departments of the public service, was pointed out sixteen years ago, by the Hon. George Coles, when he was the head of the administration; but, although he not only clearly showed the necessity of such an appointment for the sake of the greater certainty and fulness of information, and the prevention of error or fraud, concerning the public receipts and expenditure, which would result from it; but, besides, proved that, even should such officer be handsomely salaried, the country would be a gainer by the prevention of such losses as it was certain every year occurred, through the want of a proper supervision of the public monetary channels both of influx and deflux; yet the only support which he received in this, his most correct and economical view of the matter, either from his colleagues in the government, or from the general body of his parliamentary majority, was that of the Hon. James Warburton and the Hon. Edward Whelan. These two hon. gentlemen, in a spirit at once liberal and economic, gave their hearty support to his wise suggestion for the appointment of a Finance Secretary; but so coldly was that suggestion received, not only by every other member of the Liberal majority, but also by every member of the Opposition, that Mr. Coles, seeing it would be quite in vain to press it, gave way with the best grace he could, and allowed the question wholly to subside.

The Hon. the Leader of the Government, Mr. J. C. Pope, was the next who spoke after Mr. Brecken, in the Assembly, last Session, on this subject: and, in doing so, he not only took the same view of the question as that which had been enunciated by Mr. Brecken — strongly urging upon the attention of the House the necessity for the appointment of a Financial Secretary;— setting forth, as Mr. Brecken had done, their great indebtedness to the Hon. Mr. Davies for his voluntary and gratuitous financial labours; and, with him also justly censuring that parsimony which made it neccessary for an unsalaried servant of the people, in his anxiety to serve them, to task himself in so severe a manner as the Hon. Mr. Davies had done, very session, since he became a member of the Assembly; but he, at the same time, in referring to the Hon. Mr. Coles's recognition of the necessity of the appointment of a Financial Secretary, highly complimented that gentleman upon his administrative talents, which he, (Mr. Pope) in a great measure, attributed to his knowledge of business, plainly intimating it as his (the Hon. Mr. Pope's) belief that, without business training, without business habits, no man, however great his other acquirements, was duly qualified for the proper discharge of the duties of ministerial leader.

The avowal, by Mr. Brecken, of a change of principles on the part of the Conservatives, from the extreme of Conservatism to moderate Liberalism was silently but placidly acquiesced in by the whole Government majority; and every member of the House—several speaking in favour of it—with the exception of the *independent "monerkal"* member from Tryon, Mr. Howat, gave evidence of his approval of the suggestion—originally Mr. Coles's—of the propriety, and, indeed, necessity, for the appointment of a Financial Secretary.

In the general agreement of the assembly, as to the necessity of the appointment of a Financial Secretary,—and whilst, at the same time, they also admitted the propriety, wisdom, and advantages of "Government by Heads of Departments," *having seats in the Legislature*,—it was observable that the general opinion, with respect to the appointment of a Financial Secretary, appeared to be that, should such an appointment be made, it would be quite enough to take care that it was bestowed upon a man of indisputable integrity, and of talents, education, and experience, sufficient to afford a guaranty for his full, systematic, and efficient performance of its duties, without any regard to his being either a member of our Colonial Parliament, or otherwise.

Yes, the line of demarcation between Liberals and Conservatives now, at length, appears to be completely obliterated. The political principles of the latter are now the political principles of the former; and if, therefore, at the approaching General Election, the present representatives of the two parties in Parliament, appeal for re-election to the people, it must be on precisely the same grounds; and, consequently, it will be for the people, without any reference whatever to party-names, or former political distinctions, to choose from among them, for their parliamentary representatives, such as for personal worth, ability, and experience, they may deem the most likely to serve the country faithfully and well.

The present Conservative majority in the House of Assembly, is one of great strength and respectability; and, should not its leading and most conspicuous members be returned at the next General Election, their absence from the House could scarcely fail to prove detrimental to the best interests of the country; for the filling their places with *new* men of equal talent, integrity, and experience, would, I believe, should the electors determine to make the attempt, be found a matter of very great difficulty. And here it may confidently be observed, with reference to both the present Liberal and Conservative leaders in the House of Assembly, that should the people think proper to elect *new* men in their stead, the great probability is, that, however worthy and respectable such *new* men might be in private life, yet, raw and inexperienced, as respects parliamentary duties, they would, in many important qualities, prove greatly inferior to the men who had been rejected to make way for them.

(To be continued.)