

rather than "died," and they hardly knew in the death chamber at what exact moment the great statesman, whose name has been on every page of our history for fifty years, ceased to be among the living. At that supreme moment those dearest to him were about his bed, with the exception of Lady Palmerston, who had been quietly withdrawn. There were present the Minister of Public Works and Mrs. Cowper, the Earl of Shaftesbury and the Countess, Viscountess Jocelyn, Mr. Evelyn Ashley and the physicians. The grief of this circle was quiet and careful, but he was a constant terror to his doctors by reason of his energy, although when once promised to obey them he kept his word as if it had been pledged to the House of Commons. As a rule, he enjoyed superb bodily health, and one of the reasons was that, be it late or early when he escaped from State affairs, he always insisted upon giving himself seven hours and a half of good sleep. If he could not get away home till four a. m. he had his servants leave him undisturbed till noon. His radiant spirit and easy method with public business were of course elements towards his long and unbroken vigor, and he could put them off, when they were troublesome, till the next day. Such little traits of the great man gave are what were recalled and commented on, compared.

#### HIS LAST OFFICIAL ACT.

(From the London Morning Star.)

It was painfully evident during the last session of Parliament that the health of the noble Lord was beginning to fail him. Formerly he used to enter the House with an elastic step, and to remain until the House rose without leaving his place; but latterly, while he strove to conceal the effects of weakness, the unusual pallor of his face and his early retirement from his seat indicated that he could no longer bear the fatigues which he had formerly borne so easily. Indeed, after Easter, he usually retired immediately after the questions on the paper had been disposed of, and only on a very few occasions did he take part in the ordinary business of the evening. On June the 10th he replied to Mr. Berkeley on the ballot, taking the old grounds against this improvement which we have so often combated. It was noticed that, although his body seemed frail, his voice retained all its usual strength, and so clear and firm were the tones that they even startled those who had been familiar with his voice for years. On the same night he replied to Mr. Bright on the debate on Mr. Seeley's motion with regard to dock-yard inspection, and on June the 10th he again spoke on Mr. Darby Griffith's motion with regard to Colonel Dawkins. On the 27th June he made a very spirited reply to Mr. Longfield's attack on the Lord Chancellor, and on the 3rd of July, was present on the occasion of the more formal vote of censure which was moved in regard to the Leeds Bankruptcy Court investigation. With his usual tact, he managed to have the vote taken on a motion of adjournment, by this means ascertaining the strength of parties. The Government having been defeated, he thereupon accepted Mr. Bouverie's amendment, which bore somewhat less heavily on the Chancellor than Mr. Ward Hunt's motion. On the following day it was his duty to announce to the House the resignation of Lord Westbury, and this may be considered the last official act of a statesman who had sat in Parliament without a break from 1806 to 1865. He served in official positions four monarchs—George III., George IV., William IV., and Queen Victoria. He held important offices under ten different First Lords of the Treasury, viz: the Duke of Portland, Mr. Spencer Perceval, Lord Liverpool, Mr. Canning, Lord Goderich, the Duke of Wellington, Earl Grey, Viscount Melbourne, Lord John Russell, and Lord Aberdeen, and has himself occupied the same position in two different ministries. When Mr. Canning died suddenly, after a brief tenure of the high office of Prime Minister of England, Lord Palmerston was a member of the Cabinet, and sat with his colleagues in Lord Goderich's mansion, debating affairs, while they awaited the King's pleasure as to the future. He died at Brocket Hall, the seat of his friend, brother-in-law, and chief, the late Lord Melbourne, and where that nobleman himself died. It was the ambition of the Lord to be Premier of England, and his wish has been granted.

#### HIS HABITS.

(From the London Times.)

He worked hard for success, even in extreme old age. As a young man, he did less than his friends expected of him. As an old one he did more. At three or four o'clock in the morning he was the freshest and liveliest man there, ready with his joke or a clever explanation to appease the irritability of a worn necessarily. Besides the toil of debate and incessant watching in the House of Commons, his office work was enormous. His despatches, all written in that fine bold hand which he desired to engrave upon the Foreign Office, are innumerable. His minutes upon every conceivable subject of interest in the last fifty years would fill many volumes, and it is to be hoped that some of them will be published. Moreover, in private, he was always ready to write for the information of his friends, and he always wrote well. We may add, in parenthesis, that generally he wrote standing. To get through this immense amount of work he lived during the session that most men would regard as an unworkable life. Four days a week, when the House sat at night, he dined at 3 o'clock, on other days at 8.30. When his dinner was late he took no lunch, when it was early he seldom took any supper. While young men went off from a debate to a comfortable meal, he sat on the Treasury Bench all night, and never budged from it except to get a cup of tea in the tea-room, where he liked to gossip with whoever was there; for, with all his official labours, he kept his hold on society and enjoyed life like a youth. Lord Palmerston—and in this Lady Palmerston resembled him—was in his very nature genial and social. They loved society—and necessarily their own society, but all men and women. In the country, as in town, their hospitality was unbounded. A large family circle continually gathered about them, reinforced by whoever was remarkable for political, or literary, or artistic eminence, for sport, for travel, for military or naval exploits. All were a welcome, and all found, in both host and hostess, a sympathetic audience. Yet he was never rich until lately, and even at last his means were as nothing compared with the opulence of many who never open their doors except to the majesty of a coteries. All this was the result of a prodigious vitality. Any doubts on that score might be settled by seeing Lord Palmerston at a public dinner. He sat down to it with the zest of

an Eton boy; or by seeing him on horseback when nearly an octogenarian, he would ride some fifteen miles to cover and think nothing of it. His mind never lost its interest in whatever was new. He was as keen as any young man about the coming Derby, and would rather have won it than any political triumph. These things are worth mentioning, for they are elements of political success. Great as Pitt was, he is said to have lost much through deficient sociability. Lord Palmerston lost nothing in this way, but gained a great deal. He owed, indeed, so much to his social tact, that superficial observers have seen in it the whole secret of his power.

#### LORD PALMERSTON AS AN IRISH LANDLORD.

A correspondent of Saunders' News Letter gives the following picture of the late Viscount as an Irish landlord:

"Lord Palmerston, besides owning some eight thousand acres in and around Dublin, where the tenantry did not require any fostering care, but the most of the property being building ground, held two large estates in the county of Sligo—one near Ballymure, chiefly let to large farmers and graziers; and the other at Clifony, tenanted by small holders. This estate, let to four or five middlemen, at the expiration of the leases, on the deaths of William IV. and the King of Hanover, was found covered with a numerous population, paying exorbitant rents. His lordship, while giving annuities, or 61 years' leases of adequate farms, to the representatives of the middlemen, let the rest of the estate to the sub-tenants at one-half or one-third of their previous rents, and, giving each tenant his own holding. The estate was squared without one eviction, all wishing to go to America getting free passages, with permission to sell their cattle and grain, their arrears of rent forgiven, and a sum of money, according to the number of their family, on landing. A story is told that when the agents, Messrs. Stewart and Kincaid, had arranged for the rate of passages, his lordship wrote to the shipowner that if the rates agreed upon would not allow the best treatment and food on ship-board to 'his people,' the contract should be cancelled, and a new one made to treat them well. On being informed that the merchant was content with the price, he replied, to give 'a tumbler of hot rum punch every Sunday after dinner to his people,' but on being remonstrated with by the clergy that this was a bad example, he ordered the shipowners in the other vessels to give coffee and biscuits daily after dinner. These little traits will show the character of the man. On the Clifony estate, which comprises nearly the whole parish of Abanish, and a portion of others, he settled on the parish priest a glebe of eleven acres, with a house that cost £200, for the use of the parish for ever—the respected priest being the Rev. Malachi Brennan, who calls it 'Palmerston's glebe,' and we are happy to say that this gentleman will be one of the honorees of the incoming Lord Mayor. He offered to the Protestant vicar of the parish double the quantity of land, which was refused, because, as the vicar was a member of the Church of England, he had kept for the next incumbent, being let only for year to year, and called the 'glebe lands.' We trust that his successor will carry out his views in this respect. Though having no residence in Ireland, he could not be ranked as an absentee, as he spent from one-half to two-thirds of the Clifony rental in building the harbor at Mullaghmore, improving the estate by draining, and planting beet and the *pars maritima* over 1600 acres of bogging lands, which effectually stopped their spreading over the property. The tenant-right on this estate sells at £10 to £12 per acre, but the consent of his agents must be obtained as to the purchaser."

#### THE NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES.

Of all the districts on the face of the earth there is none of which we in England know so much as the Colonies of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. They are not only considerable in extent, and they abound in agricultural and mineral wealth. No finer ships are built in the world than those produced by these obscure Colonies. No more tempting ground for the emigrant could be suggested than the fertile lands of the Maritimes. In picturesqueness of scenery, and beauty of the coast, they are not inferior to any found on the American Continent, and may vie with the chosen resorts of tourists within the limits of Europe. Yet, with the exception of the few who have business connections with them, no one on this side of the Atlantic seems to know much of them as he does of the country westward of the Nile or the Zambesi, and in this spite of the existence of a British feeling of a much less equivocal character than the loyalty which pervades many districts of the more familiar Colonies. The obscurity which has shrouded this region, crippled their trade and retarded the streams of emigration, is easily accounted for. They are a rich and fertile land, and though not unprosperous, still no means wealthy, countries. They are shut out—partly by nature, partly by political accidents, but chiefly by their own choice—from effectual intercourse with the outer world. Their available frontier on the land side either faces the territory of the United States, or the general neighbor, or borders on a greater Colony which it is the fashion of the Maritime Provinces to treat with affected contempt and suspicion. During the existence of the Reciprocity Treaty their trade with the United States has become important, but up to the present time the only outlet they have for their produce is from them by a barrier of Custom-houses as effectual as was ever interposed to check the intercourse between jealous and hostile powers. Representing as they do the natural outlet of all British North America to the sea, the advantages have been destroyed by a petty jealousy which has alienated them from their friends and their best customers. Such inland trade as they have with the United States, and Maine alone perhaps absorbs more of their products in a week than all the Canadian and North-western territory does in a year. A Canadian newspaper is said to be a rarity in a Province where the goods, and especially the superior shawls of New York, have established a regular circulation. Financial difficulties and unwise changes may have contributed to this untoward state of things; but the strangest part of the whole story is, that these Maritime Colonies of Great Britain are enamoured of their isolation, and are unwilling to join in a scheme of Confederation which would make them a part—and, by virtue of their coast and their shipping, the most important part—of what promises to be one of the grandest countries that the colonizing instinct of Great Britain has ever produced.

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SIR FENWICK WILLIAMS, K. C. B.

It can hardly be doubted that this despatch is intended as a guide to the Governors of the other Maritime Provinces, as well as a letter of instructions to the Governor of Nova Scotia; and we shall not be surprised to see Mr. Dundas, on his arrival here, publishing a despatch expressing similar views with respect to the "declared policy of Her Majesty's Government." That "policy" means, of course, the confederation of the British American Provinces. We have been told frequently of late, by anti-Confederate papers, that the Imperial Government, having seen through the duplicity practised upon them by the promoters of the measure, were determined to let Confederation drop forever. The despatch to General Williams clearly contradicts that assumption. The General is himself an enthusiastic Confederate—his predecessor was not; hence his removal to the distant Governorship of Hong Kong where he could be no obstacle to the measure. General Williams is not authorized to use coercion in carrying out the Imperial policy in respect to Confederation; but we may rest assured that he will use all the "legitimate authority" which his high office confers to render that policy acceptable to the people of Nova Scotia. The progress of public opinion in the sister Province will, therefore, form a subject of interesting study for some time to come.

In New Brunswick, it is pretty well known that Governor Gordon, recently returned from England, is charged with instructions to give effect to the Imperial policy as far as he possibly can. The Government over which he presides is manifesting symptoms of a general break-up. There are two vacant seats in it already. Hon. Mr. Allen's elevation to a Judgeship made one—and Hon. Mr. Anglin resigned his place a few days ago, making the second. He was the most determined and able anti-Confederate in the Government. It is said that he resigned in consequence of some difference with his colleagues on their Railway policy; but there is good reason for believing that a gentle pressure of the Imperial "policy" by Governor Gordon had much more to do with it. We cannot see how Governor Gordon could allow Mr. Anglin to remain in the Government, and continue to obstruct by his writings the views of the Crown on this very important matter. Then, there is the Hon. Mr. Smith, the Premier, he has softened down much of his antipathy to a Union of the Provinces, if we may judge from a recent speech of his on a late public occasion near St. John. And should the office of Chief Justice become vacant in a few days—as there is every probability it will be, if not so already—there is very little doubt that Mr. Smith will accept the splendid prize which will then be within his reach. A Government thus weakened would have no alternative but to appeal to the country at once. What would be the result of that appeal may be safely inferred from the late York election, where the Ministry received their first heavy blow and great discouragement from the overwhelming defeat of their candidate. In short, every thing indicates the rapid approach of stirring events in New Brunswick.

As for Prince Edward Island, her Legislature has pronounced a very decided opinion on the question of Confederation. She will have nothing to do with it. It is probable that the majority of the population sanction that decision. Under these circumstances the best we can do is to wait and watch how matters proceed elsewhere. The acrimonious personal attacks by a portion of the press of this Colony upon certain individuals, because they entertain, without pressing them upon others, opinions in favour of Confederation—will have no effect whatever, further than to disgrace the parties who make the attacks. It is a pity that those pugnacious people who can not manage to provoke the Confederates here to an encounter, could not exercise their talents in New Brunswick now; there they would find employment and antagonists enough. When New Brunswick and Nova Scotia are confederated with Canada, we may begin to consider how long we can remain separate—whether we can set up an independent nationality of our own, without the consent of the British Government—whether it would be to our advantage to go into the Confederacy promptly and with good grace; or be compelled by circumstances to ask for admission to the Confederacy, when in complete working order, on any terms which the larger Provinces might then be pleased to offer.

#### The Examiner.

Charlottetown, November 20, 1865.

#### THE COLONIAL MINISTER AGAIN ON CONFEDERATION.

PROGRESS OF THE QUESTION IN THE PROVINCES.

The following despatch from the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, Secretary of State for the Colonies, to General Sir Fenwick Williams, on his appointment to the Government of Nova Scotia—has lately appeared in the Halifax papers; and has formed the text of numerous comments—some laudatory and some commendatory:—

DOWLING STREET, 26th SEPT., 1865.

SIR,—I have received the Queen's permission to offer you the Government of Nova Scotia.

It is proposed that you shall be regularly appointed as the Colonial Governor in succession to Sir Richard Macdonell. But he has been appointed to Hong Kong expressly on the ground that the declared policy of Her Majesty's Government will, if successful, lead to the abolition of the office of Lieutenant Governor of Nova Scotia, it would evidently be inconsistent with that policy to appoint in his place another Lieutenant Governor in the ordinary way.

The temporary administration is likely to last longer than it would be desirable for it to be held by an Officer having other duties, since, on the most favorable supposition, the Act of Union of the British North American Provinces could not receive the Royal Assent till late in the next Session of the Imperial Parliament.

If I had been required to tender advice to Her Majesty on the subject of an ordinary succession, I should, in all probability, have named some gentleman, who, having already served faithfully under this Department, had acquired a claim to favourable notice. If I have submitted the name of a distinguished native of Nova Scotia, whose feelings are warmly identified with the welfare of the Province, I am sure this choice will be felt to be an evidence of the sincere desire of Her Majesty's Government to promote that welfare; while I wish it to be understood that you will consequently expect to hold it, not for the usual period of six years, but only for such a term as may be convenient to Her Majesty's Government.

I am sure that Her Majesty's Government could not more show to the people of Nova Scotia their sincere desire to promote the welfare of the Province than by selecting you to fill this office.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient humble servant,

EDWARD CARDWELL.

Lieutenant-General

SIR FENWICK WILLIAMS, K. C. B.

It can hardly be doubted that this despatch is intended as a guide to the Governors of the other Maritime Provinces, as well as a letter of instructions to the Governor of Nova Scotia; and we shall not be