

ANOTHER HURRICANE EXPLOSION.—We noticed in the Argus of Saturday morning a very curious account of a "Negro Outrage in Canada," which the Detroit Advertiser of the 18th, knocks into "pu." The story circulated by the Democratic journals in relation to the affair was intended to prejudice the men against the free negroes in Canada, and to create the impression that they are a lazy, shiftless, desperate class in the community. The Advertiser says of the disturbance which gave rise to the sensational article, the whole story is manufactured out of whole cloth. It says: On the Saturday night in question, some negroes visited a shanty kept by a depraved squaw, who had as lodgers two or three more women of equally bad character, and three white individuals in the likeness of men, who were as bad as the rest. The negroes wanted to go in, and a fight ensued, in which the whites got the worst of it, which served them perfectly right. The negroes were arrested, but something of a crowd gathering around the officers, who were somewhat timid, allowed them to depart. There was no armed mob, and the prisoners were not rescued. There was no danger of a popular outbreak, and none of the officers were summoned from Malden. Mr. Wingfield did not come to Windsor with an officer for assistance, nor did officers or citizens go down the river with him, prepared for any emergency. The first that Mr. Wingfield knew of the transaction, was what he was told after he arrived at Windsor; and up to yesterday noon he has not returned to his home. The indignation and excitement is not intense, though there is a general desire to "clean out" the institution kept by the old squaw, spoken of by the sensation journals, as "a respectable aged lady."

JERILEST AND A FATAL LEAP.—A Liverpool paper states that about three o'clock, on Tuesday afternoon, the 28th ult., a fine young woman, 19 years of age, named Phoebe Davis, destroyed herself by leaping down a coal-pit near the Diston Road, on the outskirts of Wolverhampton. A few minutes before three o'clock she called at a cottage occupied by an aged couple near the shaft, apparently very much agitated. Pulling a handkerchief from her neck, she handed it to the aged inmates, saying, "Give this to Jack, for I shall never see him again." She then ran to the pit-mouth, and, climbing over the fencing, she leaped down, and fell headlong down the shaft, which has been disused for some time, and is upwards of 90 yards deep. An old miner named Russell, having been fastened to a chain, was lowered down by hand, and, stretching the body of the poor girl to another, it was brought to the surface. Russell himself nearly fell a victim to his exertions, for, when brought up, he was quite insensible, and friction and other means had to be used for nearly three-quarters of an hour before he could be restored. There is no doubt that the poor girl destroyed herself in a paroxysm of jealousy, owing to her lover having taken another young woman to a dance.

CATO'S GRACE.—A pious old negro, saying grace at table, not only used to ask a blessing on his board, but he would also petition to have a delicious dish supplied. One day it was known that Cato was out of potatoes, and suspecting that he would pray for some at dinner, a wag provided himself with a small measure of the vegetables, and stole under the window near which stood the table of our coloured friend. Soon Cato drew up a chair and commenced: "Oh, Massa Lord, will you in your provident kindness condescend to bless e-b-tyringly before us, and be pleased to bestow upon us a few raters, and all the praise—"

Here the potatoes were dashed upon the table, breaking plates and upsetting the mustard pot.

"Dem-seem, Lord," said Cato with surprise; "only just luff en down a tceler ceter next time."

RICH KORTON.—The Editor of the Pacific News, published at Okanona, Miss., feels rich, and thus lets himself off on somebody who called him poor: "We poor! A few days since one of our had the hard-ship to call us 'poor editor!' We poor? No, sir, we are not; but by a jug full, we ain't. Why, we have a good library, made up for the most part of Patent Office Reports and Kansas speeches; a double-barrelled pistol—but won't stand round back; a gold watch; six suits of clothes; fourteen shirts; a cat; a ball pup; seventy-five cents in clean cash, and no poor kin; and are going to have a pretty wife, and, as soon as possible, a town lot! Talk of being poor!"

BAD COMPANY.—According to the Worcester Spy, a young girl, who was returning with a merry party of ladies and gentlemen from a ball at Clinton, a few nights since, jumped from his sleigh and gave chase to what he supposed to be a rabbit, running along the road. He was successful in his pursuit, but O, horrors of horrors!—the rabbit proved to be a skunk, and administered an overpowering dose of his celebrated perfumery upon the unfortunate youth. Of course his unfragrant presence could not be tolerated by the superior broadcloths and silks in the sleigh, and the unlucky wight was secured to the rear of the vehicle, and thus conveyed to Worcester, a melancholy illustration of the effect of falling into bad company.

A man once came to the Khojah, saying: "Efendi, I have great need of an ass to-day; have the kindness to lend me yours." "I have not an ass here," said the Khojah. At the same moment the ass began to bray in the stable. "Ho!" said the man, "do not I hear you ass braying?" "What!" exclaimed the Khojah, "would you take the word of an ass in preference to mine?"

The Khojah one day saw a flock of ducks swimming in a lake; he ran toward them, and they immediately flew away. Taking some bread he sat down, and dipping into the water, began to eat. "What are you doing there, Khojah?" said some one from the opposite side. "I am trying the flavor of duck soup," was the reply.

MODEST APPEAL.—A lady once asked a minister whether a person might not be fond of dress and ornaments without being proud. "Madam," replied the minister, "when you see the fox's tail peeping out of the hole, you may be sure that the fox is within."

Gentlemen.—Is Mrs. M. in? Servant.—No, sir; she is not at home. Gentlemen.—Ah, I am sorry, as I owe her some money, and have called to pay it. When? Voice from over the balustrade.—Oh! I'm in, to be sure I am. Why, Sally, did you not know that? Ask the gentleman to walk in!

A gentleman, after noticing the state of the weather previous to going to bed, hung his thermometer, as he supposed, outside his dormitory window. About four o'clock in the morning he was awakened by a police man, who informed him that a gold watch was banging outside of his window, and advised him to take it in. He had placed the thermometer under the pillow, and hung his watch out of doors.

DEGREES OF IRRELIGION.—A correspondent is reminded, by the anecdote related of the great degree of sin ascribed to the fellow who snaped the Elder's horn, of a story of an old New England person, who lived at a time when what he looked upon as a heretical doctrine was rife in the country, and it was necessary to keep a sharp eye upon his flock. Noticing the absence of one of his parishioners one Sabbath, he accosted a neighbor of the missing man and said: "Farmer Clodpole was not at meeting to-day; I hope he is not troubled with Arrianism."

"Oh, no," says the neighbor, "it is something worse than that." "It cannot be Socinianism," says the parson. "Worse than that." "What! Unitarianism?" "Worse than that." "Universalism?" "Worse than that." "Is the unfortunate man, then, afflicted with Deism?" "No, worse than that." "Oh, can it be Atheism?" "What can it be worse than that?" "I don't know, indeed, sir," said the honest countryman, "but he's very bad—his own flat with the Rheumatism!"

Melioro was asked the reason why in certain countries a king may assume the crown at fourteen years of age, and cannot marry before eighteen. "It is," said Melioro, "because it is more difficult to rule a wife than a kingdom."

The Mississippi river having got decidedly "high," the

Arkansas planters are holding great levees on its banks, and though there is nothing but cold water there, they are conducting matters with spirit.

"Oh, dear!" blubbered an urchin, who had just had an application of the birch; "oh, my! they tell me forty rods makes a furlong, but just found out that one rod makes an acher (acre)."

A down-east poet thus immortalises the beautiful river Connecticut: "Roll on, loved Connecticut; long hast thou run, giving Shad to South Hadley and freedom to man."

Correspondence.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

SIR: My communication, published in the last Examiner, has given rise to a lengthened leader in the last Examiner, in which the Editor endeavours in vain to gloss over the fact of his having pandered to the prejudices of the ignorant and the bigoted. He denies having used any expressions calumnious and insulting. Does he not plainly insinuate that the Catholic electors are determined to place the Government of this Island under "the direct control of the Ecclesiastics of the Church of Rome?" He adds: "The inhabitants of the small Territory under the immediate government of the Head of the Roman Catholic Church, are now, and for a long time past have been, in a state of most deplorable affliction; and the Sovereign Pontiff would immediately be driven from his Palace by his Catholic subjects, were the army of foreign troops, by which they are now kept in subjection, to be withdrawn." Will the Editor of the Examiner maintain that there is nothing calumnious and insulting in all this? The gross misstatements contained in the above extracts are highly calculated to mislead the unwary. The Editor first mentions the determination of Catholics to subject the Island to Ecclesiastical domination, and then instances the evil effects of such domination in the Pontifical States. The evident conclusion to be deduced from this is that Catholics are determined to establish in this Island a Government similar to that now existing in the States of the Church, in which many of the principal offices are held by Ecclesiastics—and hence that the Priests and other Ecclesiastics of this Island are plotting to place themselves in office! I am not to be understood to say that I consider it bad, *per se* for persons to endeavour to place a Government under the direct control of Ecclesiastics, or for clergymen to hold offices; but I do maintain that it would be very wrong, in a mixed community as we have here, for the members of one religion, to the exclusion and proscription of all the rest, to endeavour to control all the acts of Government; and I consider it calumnious on Catholics to impute to them such intentions. Should parties succeed in persuading any considerable number of our Protestant fellow subjects that such, indeed, is our determination, what can we expect from them but insult and persecution? I would be very sorry wrongfully to accuse the Editor of the Examiner, or any one else, of any unchristian or illiberal sentiments; but I leave a discerning public to decide whether or not the tenor of Mr. Pope's expressions did not justify me in characterizing them as I did.

The Editor of the Examiner denies my charge against him of calling nicknames when speaking of Catholics and their Church; but strange to say, in defending himself, he uses these offensive epithets, and displays an amount of ignorance which I did not expect to find in an Editor, much less in a Colonial Secretary, in this enlightened nineteenth century. He says: "If the Roman Catholics of this Island are so deplorably ignorant as to consider the term *Romanist* an offensive epithet when used to designate a member of the Roman Catholic Church, we certainly think that we have very good reasons for desiring that they may not become our rulers. The term Catholic, meaning universal, we are aware, is claimed by the Roman Catholic Church; but Protestants do not acknowledge the propriety of the term, and when speaking of members of the *Papal* or *Romish* Church, they use the term *Roman Catholics* or *Romanists*." I will endeavour to "enlighten the dark understanding" of the Editor of the Examiner. At the first promulgation of the Gospel, its followers were distinguished from the Jews by the name of *Christians*, as we learn from Scripture, Acts xi. 26. Hence the title of Catholic did not occur in the primitive edition of the Apostles' Creed (see four collated copies of it in Dupuis Bib. Eccl. tom. 1.) but no sooner did heresies and schisms arise to disturb the peace of the Church, than there was found to be a necessity for discriminating the main stock of her faithful children, to whom the promises of Christ belonged, from those self-will who, of their articles of belief, as the word *heretic* signifies, and those obedient separatists, as the word *schismatic* means. For this purpose the title of *Catholic*, or *universal*, was adopted, and applied to the true Church and her children. Accordingly we find it used by the immediate disciples of the Apostles as a distinguishing mark of the true Church. One of these was the illustrious martyr St. Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, who, writing to the Church of Smyrna, expressly says, that "Christ is where the Catholic Church is." St. Cyril, Bishop of Jerusalem, in the fourth century, gives the following directions to his pupils: "If you go into any city, do not ask merely, *where is the Church or the house of God?* because the heretics pretend to have this; but ask which is the Catholic Church? because this title alone belongs to our holy mother." Catech. 18. St. Augustine in the 5th century says: "Many things detain me in the bosom of the Catholic Church—the very name of *Catholic* detains me in it, which she has so happily preserved amidst the different heresies; that whereas they are all desirous of being called *Catholics*, yet if any stranger were to ask them, *which is the assembly of the Catholics?* none of them would dare to point out his own place of worship." Contra. Epist. Fundan. c. 1. Again he says: "We must hold fast the communion of that Church which is called *Catholic*, not only by her own children, but also by all her enemies. For heretics and schismatics, whether they will or not, when they are speaking of the Catholic Church with strangers, or with their own people, call her by the name of *Catholic*—inasmuch as they would not be understood if they did not call her by the name by which all the world calls her." De ver. Belg. c. 7. I would ask Mr. Pope if the arguments and remarks of these illustrious Doctors are not as true and as appropriate at the present time as they were when they were first written? The highest authority in Britain accords to us our proper name—*Catholics* or *Roman Catholics*; and persons in every country throughout Christendom, having any pretensions to Christian courtesy and good breeding, have never failed to call us by that name and by it alone. Those alone who have been distinguished for their unchristian abuse of the Catholic Church, and who have been always characterized by their perverseness, ignorance and fanaticism, have persevered in making use of the nicknames, *Romanist*, *Romish*, *Papist*, *Papish*, *Popery*, &c. If the Editor of the Examiner wishes himself to be classed in the category of the ungentlemanly, ignorant and fanatical, let him continue as he has done in the two last numbers of his paper, to insult Catholics by calling their Church the nickname of *Romish*, which every person, who is not "deplorably ignorant," will know to imply a greater or less degree of contempt. In my last letter, I wrote *Romish*, not *Romanist*, as it is printed—the Editor of the Examiner will, therefore, remember that I alleged nothing untruthfully.

Mr. Pope denies that he hinted at the necessity that may possibly exist for curtailing our privileges. But will he tell us what was his motive for calling the attention of the Protestant population to the rapid increase of Roman Catholics in this Island? Was it to advise them, now that they are in power, to be moderate towards their Catholic fellow Colonists, to treat them as having equal rights and liberties with themselves, and entitled to equal privileges? Was it to inculcate the necessity of not expatriating Catholics by endeavouring to make them "hewers of wood and drawers of water," and by excluding them from any participation in the offices and patronage of the government to which they, as faithful and loyal subjects who pay their share of the taxes, have a most just and unequivocal right? Did he propose to their consideration those moderate steps in order that Catholics, should they ever have the majority, might act with equal moderation and justice towards the minority? He did no such thing. The late Mr. McLean, who was no slave to any secret society, and who did not pander to the intolerance and designing plots of proscriptionists; recommended the moderate and conciliatory mode of action, when he wrote on the proportion of Protestants and Catholics on the Island; but the person who at present guides the destinies of the Island has "enjoyed the freedom which Protestantism confers," and having once tasted of the sweets of office,

he is determined, *per fas et nefas*, to continue to do so, and therefore he considers it the more prudent policy not to be independent, but rather to "sound the alarm," and to be the striking hose from behind which bigotry may shoot its iron, poisoned and calumnious shafts at the Pope, Dr. Cullen, and Catholics generally. He writes: "We do not blame Roman Catholics for endeavouring to obtain political power and influence in this Island; \* \* \* but we are the sons of those who, centuries ago, threw off the shackles which the Church of Rome imposes,—we have enjoyed the freedom which Protestantism confers; and it should be our aim to preserve that freedom, with all its blessings, and transmit it unimpaired to our children." What is the meaning of all this? If it has any meaning at all I maintain that it implies a threat on the liberties of Catholics. Mr. Pope lays it down as a truth, (but he does so falsely), that liberty cannot be enjoyed under the rule of Catholics;—then he says that Protestants are determined to enjoy liberty and transmit it to their children, and consequently are resolved to keep Catholics from obtaining power,—that is, to keep them down and make them "hewers of wood and drawers of water"; and hence to prevent them from the enjoyment of advantages to which they have as good a right as others. And how is this to be effected? If Catholics are fast increasing, as the Examiner says, in a few years they may be in a majority, and then, should they enjoy the same privileges which they do at present, they will obtain the Government. But the Examiner says this terrible condemnation of things must be *p* entered. And how? Why, a *top* must be put to the increase of Catholics by a persecution of some kind or other; or they must be proscribed, and their privileges of course curtailed; so that should they ever be in the majority, they cannot obtain power. If these deductions are just and logical—and I defy the Editor of the Examiner to show that they are not—may I not justly charge him with having given expression to the most libellous sentiments that ever disgraced the pages of any paper printed in this Colony? Mr. Pope may now disclaim such abominable and infamous intentions, but let me remind him that—*quod scriptum est scriptum est*—is written is written. I really pity the Editor of the Examiner, on account of the unenviable position in which he is at present placed. A few months ago, before he got office, he appeared to me to be a thorough gentleman—to be independent and tolerant in his views; but, alas, how changed is he now, at least apparently. I would almost say that his company since the commencement of his tenure of office has not been always the very best.

Will the Editor of the Examiner have the kindness to inform his readers what those "shackles" were which his forefathers threw off? Will he also tell them whether it is a fact, that during the last ten years hundreds of the most respectable people in England and Scotland, both lay and clerical, including a near relative of his own, have not put on "the shackles which the Church of Rome imposes?" The Editor of the Examiner says: "We have enjoyed the freedom which Protestantism confers." Perhaps so. Our forefathers suffered for three long centuries the unheard of penalties, confiscations, oppressions, and persecutions which Protestantism conferred. Will the Editor of the Examiner deny that these are facts—yes, facts written in characters of blood, which time will never efface? Is it not true that until a few years ago, Catholics were treated, under the freedom which Protestantism confers, as Helots? Is it not a fact which should make the Editor of the Examiner blush for his forefathers, that one of the wealthiest and most respectable men now in Charlottetown, was debarred some years ago on account of his religion, from exercising a privilege which Mr. William Byers, commonly known by the name of *Black Bill*, could at the same time exercise without let or hindrance? These facts will, no doubt, bring a blush to the cheeks of every generous hearted man of the present day; but they are not on that account the less true. Mr. Pope may discover the excellent designs of re-enslaving any of the noblest statues or disabilities against Catholics; but he should know that there are thousands who long for such a consummation of things—and the conduct of some persons in high places evidently shows that these wicked longings are not confined to the uneducated and the unimpartial.

On a future occasion I will review the latter part of the leader in the Examiner of the 10th inst. In the mean time, I would advise the Editor of that Journal to keep himself cool, and prepare himself to bear, not a quantity of "noise," but a good deal of plain truth. I would also suggest that it would be very becoming for him, who has taken occasion lately to lecture some of his contemporaries on the propriety of not ridiculing the dogmas of any religion, not to serm on at the "centre of unity" and at the "infidelity of the Church."

I am, Sir, yours very truly,

Queen's County, February 13th, 1860.

LECTOR.

FOR THE EXAMINER.

WHAT WILL THEY DO WITH THE ELEPHANT?

Once upon a time, no matter what time, a man who had his eye on a lottery, drew a prize, an elephant. At first the lucky individual was greatly rejoiced; but after he had got possession of the prize, he was much perplexed to know what use he could make of the unwieldy animal. To add to his trouble, he had no stable of sufficient size to hold the elephant, neither had he the fodder wherewith to feed him. The end of it was that the elephant was disposed of to a travelling showman for a trifling sum. The showman, who is a people of a fine aristocratic and elephant in the shape of an engine. But I will give the story in full. It appears that some three years ago the Legislature passed an Act, authorizing the people of Summerside to elect fire-wardens, and giving them a certain control over their local affairs, including the appointment of hog-reeves. Accordingly the wardens were elected, and the hog-reeves appointed. The former month a fine aristocratic and elephant in the shape of an engine, in order that funds might be raised to purchase a Fire Engine. After debating for two years to the benefit of nobody, except the tavern-keeper to whose house they met, they accomplished the purchase of an Engine, which arrived at Summerside a short time since. In the meantime the wardens have neither a house in which to keep the engine, nor well sunk water with which to supply it with water in case of fire.—The formation of a Fire Engine Company now engaged the attention of the village magistrates. It was suggested by some that the wardens should select the Company and appoint its officers; others of more liberal views thought that the voluntary system would be the best way to raise a company. Acting on this idea, some twenty-six men volunteered to form a company. The Chairman of the Wardens called a Public Meeting on Friday, the 27th ult. to have a definite course of parliamentary order, agreed to this, and this mode was quickly being proceeded with, when an individual of a mild, benign countenance, and a brow with a tendency to baldness, objected to young men becoming members of the company, alleging that they were generally not possessors of property, and would not take that interest in the movement that men of property would. He thus novel idea not appearing to take with the meeting, he of his benevolent countenance and his friends withdrew in high indignation. The meeting now proceeded with the formation of the company and the election of its officers. The next morning, however, the greatest discontent prevailed.—\* \* \* Already had the discontented notified the senior magistrate that a public meeting will be demanded to settle the vexed question. The ultra malcontents propose that the machine be handed over to the inhabitants of a neighbouring village, the shadow of whose aristocratic influence hangs heavy on Summerside. In this little community it is no longer asked, will there be a war between France and England? How will the Italian affairs be settled? Will the Great Eastern be successful? All these questions have been overshadowed by the great local question—*What will they do with the Elephant?*

Charlottetown, P.E.I., February 14, 1860.

POLITICAL CHANGES IN NOVA SCOTIA.

THE recent change in the Government of Nova Scotia cannot but suggest grave reflections to the public men of the North American Colonies. That Province, small in geographical area, when compared with N. W. Brunswick or Canada, has, from the abilities of her leading politicians, and the intelligence and zeal manifested by them in the struggles which preceded the concession of self-Government—acquired and maintained a position of the first rank for appreciation of constitutional principles. True it is that, occasionally, from causes of momentary origin and of momentary duration, these principles have been violated; but it has always happened that the good sense of the public has soon checked the evil in the bud, and drawn the line which would prevent exception from becoming precedent. So far the future historian of Nova Scotia may honestly describe the character of her statesmen, of whatever party; but when the "philosophy which teaches by example" shall chronicle the course of the late administration, since the last general election in that province, we incline to the opinion that she would fain, like Sterne's recording angel, blot the record with a tear, were tears philosophical or history sentimental.

Without entering upon the discussion of the merits or demerits of the causes which placed Mr. Johnston at the head of a Government, which, at the time of his accession to the premiership, was certainly supported by a substantial working majority of the electors of that Province, we must confess that we were surprised at his reticence of power after the election in May last. The decision of the people was there expressed—*that decision was adverse to his Government*—to that decision, as a constitutional statesman, he should have bowed; and by so bowing, relieved the Lieut. Governor from the awkward position of being compelled to conduct his Government in opposition to the well understood wishes of the people. As a gentleman, we should have supposed Mr. Johnston possessed of too much spirit to continue the paid officer of a people who had declared that they would not have him in their service; and that his colleagues should have consented to remain in the same disreputable position, argues a want of decency, excusing that of the flunkies in the farce who squandered the substance, and usurped the designations of their masters, only while they supposed their superiors were ignorant of their doings.

The late Government of Nova Scotia, with an obstinacy worthy of a better cause, steadily refused to set their house in order, although the handwriting was upon the wall announcing their doom; and it was not until after several days spent in idle cavil about the eligibility of several members, that a direct vote of want of confidence, passed prior to the address in answer to the Governor's Speech, hurled them from power. Byron's lines to Napoleon may, with propriety, be addressed to the Hon. J. W. Johnston:—

"Then! from thy reluctant hand  
The thunderbolt was wrong—  
Too late to heed the high command  
To which thy weakness clung."

Had the late Government retired after the electors had signified their want of confidence, or even when they were beaten on a motion of censure, they would have received the negative credit of not having sought to retain power against the current of public opinion, and Mr. Johnston would not have suggested the reflection that "superfluous legs the veteran on the stage."

We may, in conclusion, observe that we never had much faith in the sincerity of attachment to the Catholics, as much professed by Mr. Johnston and his Government. The antecedents of that gentleman induced a slight suspicion that, while his eye it was that of the languid Coriolanus, he used the language of the cunning Antony to obtain "the most sweet voices" of a body which had always opposed him and his policy. This belief has received a confirmation of no small significance, from the fact that on the question of the appointment of Second Clerk to the House of Assembly, no less than eight of Mr. Johnston's supporters voted against the re-election of the only Catholic candidate, Mr. Tobin, son of the Hon. Michael Tobin, a Catholic member of the late Executive Council, and who was praised by Mr. Johnston himself as having been a most efficient officer.

We have no doubt that the experience of the results arising from the introduction and maintenance of elements of religious or denominational discord into political combinations, will show those who have been by such means temporarily estranged the propriety of making up their quarrels and burying in oblivion all irritating reminiscences, unite them into the same solid phalanx they presented of yore; and it may be, that this brief exhortation will but insure a more durable association of the parties who have been of mutual aid to each other.

This morning's Mail from Halifax brought us an account of the closing scene of the Johnston Administration. It appears that Mr. Johnston, in a lengthy Minute of Council, signed by himself and his colleagues, advised the Lieut. Governor to dissolve the Assembly—they declaring their willingness to take the responsibility of the rash act. Lord Mulgrave, in a courteous letter, declined the advice, for cogent reasons stated by him; whereupon Mr. Johnston and his colleagues resigned the Government. The following gentlemen have been appointed to succeed them; and the House was adjourned until the 12th of March:—

- Hon. William Young, President of the Executive Council; Hon. Joseph Howe, member of the Cabinet and Provincial Secretary; Hon. Adams G. Archibald, member of the Cabinet and Attorney General; Hon. Jonathan McCully, member of the Cabinet, Solicitor General, and Chairman of the Railway Board; Hon. J. H. Anderson, member of the Cabinet and Receiver General; Hon. William Annand, member of the Cabinet, and Financial Secretary; Hon. Benjamin Wi r, member of Council without office; Hon. John Locke, member of Council without office; Mr. Anderson has been appointed to a seat in the Legislative Council.

The Queen's Printer resigned shortly after the Government retired, but we have not heard of his successor.

LAND JOBBING AND DECEPTION.

The following extraordinary article first appeared in the Halifax Sun, of the 2nd inst., and has been reproduced in several other Colonial papers—even the Monitor of Charlottetown copying it without note or comment, although the editor of that paper must know it to be a tissue of falsehoods:— "PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND. "Mr. Longworth, Controller of Customs, Charlottetown, in a report to the Lieut. Governor of the Island, certifies that 561,850 bushels of produce were shipped from Charlottetown alone during the last three months ending 23d December last. From the whole Island one and a half millions of bushels were exported during the above period. This fact is certainly clearing, and goes far to confirm what is generally said, that the Island is the "garden of North America." The total area of the Island is 1,350,000 acres, nearly all of which is fit for cultivation. There are 250,000 acres of Crown lands still to dispose of, and His Excellency who has all along taken the greatest interest in developing the resources of the Island, and promoting the welfare of the inhabitants, in having those lands "blocked" off in suitable farms for intending settlers. With a view to bringing the capabilities of the soil, and the adaptability of this large district for settlers, before industrious people of good conduct in Britain. Mr. Smith, a practical farmer from the Island, left here last night in the steamship Europa, on his way to Scotland, to give every information

requisite to intending emigrants. With a soil so fertile and a climate so healthy, the Island offers far greater inducements to the hardy settler from the north of Europe than any of the States of the Union. Governor Dundas deserves the greatest credit for the warm interest he has taken in the improvement of the Island, and in the comfort and happiness of the people under his charge."—Halifax Sun.

Now, every person in this Island knows that our Government have nothing at all like 250,000 acres of land to dispose of. The Worrell Estate is the principal part of the Government property—indeed, there is very little land besides it at the disposal of the Government; and according to the Commissioner's report, presented to the Legislature last year, there were then only 40,000 acres undisposed of—a considerable portion of which has been since taken up; and it is admitted on all sides that much of the remainder is bad. A year or two ago, when the gentlemen now in the Government were in the Opposition, it was their constant cry that there was no land at all left on the Worrell Estate worth having—all that remained undisposed of, according to their assertion, were patches of bog and barren, in some out of the way corners of the property. The only other lands at the disposal of the Government are a few hundred acres of the worst parts of Lots 15 and 56; and some utterly useless land on Lot 11—all the best of that property having been taken up long ago. Altogether, the Government have scarcely 50,000 acres at their disposal, one half of which at least may be said to be nearly worthless.

The allusion to the Lieut. Governor is an absurdity. We have no objection to His Excellency being praised for cherishing a desire to develop the resources of the country, as far as he can do so; but we do not know of a solitary instance in which His Excellency has distinguished himself in that line. He has had no occasion to have Government lands "blocked" off in suitable farms for intending settlers. All that was done under the rule of his predecessor; and the late Surveyor General, Mr. Ball, made the necessary surveys, and laid off new lines of road, under the authority of the late Government.

With regard to the "Mr. Smith" who is said to have gone to Scotland, to give every information requisite to intending emigrants, we really know nothing of his mission. The person referred to is one, we believe, known about Charlottetown as "Aberdeen Smith"—a poor farmer who arrived here a few years ago, and cultivated a small patch of leasehold land, but who was not known beyond the boundaries of Charlottetown, and who possessed no influence whatever, even in the small circle in which he was known. If he has been sent by the Government to impose upon poor ignorant farmers in Scotland, to get them to come out here with the view of taking up lands which are not available, the Government have exercised their authority in the most secret and clandestine manner, and will be held responsible for perpetrating a most shameful deception. But we can hardly believe that the Government would be guilty of such a disreputable act. If the authorities have sent Mr. "Aberdeen Smith" to Scotland, to impose upon ignorant farmers there, who might wish to emigrate, they have deemed it, no doubt, a very wise policy to preserve the utmost secrecy with regard to the mission, recollecting that their model agent was in rather bad odour for the trick which he played on the Royal Agricultural Society with respect to a turnip exhibition, and for which he was expelled from membership in that very Conservative institution. We have charity enough, however, towards the Government to believe, until better informed, that the person who appears to have passed himself off as a Government Agent, and so thoroughly humbugged the editor of the Halifax Sun—has merely gone home to do a small stroke of business on his own account, a la Sleigh in miniature. He had a shanty on the West River, insured for £50, which was burnt down,—the money, we have heard, was paid; and knowing that extensive land speculations in this Is and have been started on less capital, we may safely presume that the gentleman who palms himself off as a Government Agent only takes a pleasure trip to Britain to improve his leisure, and invest his superfluous cash.

The Colonial Secretary has, in the last Examiner, made a sorry attempt to be facetious on the subject of the public meeting lately held at Battery Point. He remarks that Messrs. Coles and Whel n went there with a keg of whiskey and four resolutions. Mr. W. was not in company with Mr. Coles on the occasion referred to, in going to Battery Point, and arrived there only after the resolutions had been passed, a line of which was never written by him. Whether Mr. Coles took a keg of whiskey for the occasion, is a fact upon which we have not been informed; but if he did, we are sure everybody would praise him for the generous act; and if the editor and publisher of the Examiner were in the vicinity of the keg, we have no doubt they would be among the last to leave it.

The Colonial Secretary may rely upon it that he has no vein for humour. His forte is to string platitudes about "the rights of property"; let him stick to that theme; or when he will condescend to notice a public meeting held by the Liberals, it will be much more becoming in an officer of his standing to combat the resolves and arguments of his opponents than to scribble nonsense about whiskey kegs, (as if he never used and carried such himself), and sneer at the homely ways of honest farmers, whose votes at elections he would be only too glad to get for candidates of his own party.

If it were in our power to descend so low, we might relate many anecdotes of the manner in which we have seen Tories conduct themselves at public gatherings, and the preparations they made for them in the spirituous liquor line. We could easily relate the adventures of a certain Executive Councillor on a late occasion, whose exploits about Sturgeon and Cherry Valley formed the subject of considerable merriment in those places; and if we did, the publisher, if not the editor of the Examiner, would blush at the recital, provided he is not too old for that amiable weakness. But we have no intention to imitate the bad example of the Government organ, by parading in print the names of our opponents whenever they feel inclined to entertain themselves abroad.

FIRE!

An alarming and destructive fire took place yesterday morning (Monday), about 5 o'clock, in Water street, by which three houses and some out-houses and offices were destroyed. The fire originated in the Victoria Hotel, of which Mr. Peter McKinnon was proprietor, and is supposed to have been caused by some firewood which had been placed upon the cooking stove by one of the servants, for the purpose of lighting the morning fires. The fiery element must have been stealthily pursuing its work of destruction for some hours before it had burst out into full fury; for, when first discovered, the lower part of the building was one mass of flame—some of the inmates having to make their exit through the upper windows of the house. The other houses were tenanted by Mr. McLeod, Tailor and Mr. Moule, Bootmaker. The house occupied by Mr. Alexander McKenzie, Confectioner, was reduced to a mere shell. The fire was first discovered by His Worship the Mayor, who resides on the opposite side of the street. Some portion of the furniture was saved. The premises were insured for £1800. There was also an insurance on the furniture of the Victoria Hotel, a considerable portion of which was destroyed.

MECHANICS' INSTITUTE.

On Tuesday evening last, the first lecture of the present season was delivered by Mr. Silas Barnard on "Combustion and artificial light." The lecturer stated that combustion was nothing more than what is called a phenomenon, or an appearance resulting from the rapid union of a combustible with a supporter of combustion, whereby new compounds are formed,—heat and light accompanying the formation. He gave a number of experiments as proofs of the fact, and showed that the great supporter of combustion is oxygen, which