

Summerside Journal.

THURSDAY, MAY 13, 1869.

No notice can be taken of anonymous communications. We must know the names and addresses of our correspondents as a guarantee of their good faith. We cannot undertake to return communications that are not used.

HOME NEWS.

The contents of the English newspapers to us who dwell on the western side of the Atlantic. It is indeed surprising to find how little that is really new, is to be found in their columns. Not only is the telegraph anticipated every important item of intelligence, but the diligent newspaper reader's knowledge of current events is very considerably in advance of what he can learn from the Old Country sheet which he holds in his hand. While the steamer was slowly and painfully ploughing her way across the Atlantic, the telegraph wire at the bottom was flashing with the lightning's speed, a record of each hour's events, as they occurred. Much, then, that was speculation and conjecture with the British journalist, is a matter of history to his trans-Atlantic reader. We knew long ago that the Irish Church Bill had passed through its most dangerous stages, and that the majority in Parliament for its disestablishment and disestablishment, was a very large one. We see in the papers before us the whole history of that great measure. There are the arguments for its passage, and the arguments against it. We find that the new law strips the Irish Church of its wealth, and severs its connection with the state. The first process is that which is called the disendowment, and the second goes by the name of disestablishment. Some people—and very intelligent people, too—have been sallying to see what constituted the difference between the two processes. From this time forth, the Episcopal Church in Ireland will stand on precisely the same footing, as regards the state, as all other denominations in that country. There will, after the passage of the Irish Church Bill, be no church established by law in Ireland. Religion there will be pretty much as it is among ourselves. Every denomination will be obliged to support its own ministry out of its own resources. This seems to us to be the fair way of regulating the religious affairs of a nation, in which the people composing it profess different religious creeds. It always seemed most unjust in our eyes, to see the Roman Catholics of Ireland compelled to support the religion of a few Episcopalians. Those poor people—and they were always poor enough, goodness knows—were forced by the law to support a religion which they did not believe in, and their consciences and religious convictions compelled them to make large sacrifices to support a religion which they did believe in. It is no wonder that the Irish were discontented. Such an imposition, or one not one-tenth part as unjust, would raise a rebellion in a few weeks in the most loyal and obedient of the British colonies. The Tories are fighting against this measure of tardy justice with might and main, but with very little effect. They were never more badly beaten. The honest English people see at last that they have been parties to a most atrocious piece of tyranny, and they are now in haste to make what amends they can. The principle of the Bill once allowed, the management of the details is comparatively an easy business. In closing so old a concern as the Irish Church, there are many matters to be settled, many claims to be considered. It would be neither justice nor good policy to turn the present incumbents out of their livings, and to send them adrift upon the wide world, without any provision for their old age. They had been educated for their calling; they had taken their positions under the existing laws; and it was only a matter of honesty and good faith for the state, when it disendowed the church, and took from her the temporalities she was legally possessed of, to secure to them, for the term of their natural lives, the livings which, to very many of them, were their sole means of subsistence. The curates, too, were entitled to some consideration, and we believe a very liberal provision has been made for them by the new law. Some complain of these compensations, but we think, without reason. In a few months the Irish Church, as a national establishment, will be no more; a great grievance will have been done away with forever; and if a few years must elapse before the whole of the rubbish of the ruined edifice is cleared away, so that not a single trace of it shall remain in the land, we do not think that there is very great cause of complaint. The church fabrics and burial grounds are, we believe, to remain the property of the Episcopal Church in Ireland. There will no doubt be considerable squabbling about the Regium Donum, the Maynooth Grant, and other matters, before the matter is finally settled. The holders of endowments are to be divested of them on Jan. 1st, 1871. These endowments are to be vested in a commission, but what use the revenues of the Irish Church are to be eventually put to, we have not yet seen.

There is a great deal of talk in the Old Country now-a-days about emigration. There are a great many people there out of employment. These—or by far the greater number of them—are a burden upon the poor rate. There are 30,000 able-bodied men in England who cannot find work; the number depending upon charity for subsistence, is enormous. Now, charitable men say, why keep these poor people in a country where they cannot find employment, when there are wild regions of the earth that are wanting but just such strong arms to convert them into smiling fields and fruitful gardens? Let us send them away, say they, where they can get plenty of work and a generous return for that work. Let the parishes, instead of wasting their resources year after year in feeding or keeping, in a miserable existence, thousands of half-starved creatures, make one grand effort and ship their superabundant population to Australia, to New Zealand, to Canada.

We publish in to-day's paper a very old and sensible letter, from the New York *Albion*, written in answer to a letter published some time since in the same paper, and reproduced in the *fact Progress*, on the Annexation question. JOHN CLAY, Esquire, of Bellevue, has been appointed Superintendent of Public Works for Prince County. From what we know of this gentleman's ability, and his general knowledge of the whole of this part of the Island, we think the Government have made a very good choice. We trust that experience will prove that they and we are both right.

CORRESPONDENCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE JOURNAL.

Sir:—The subject of Education is undoubtedly an important one, and it is well worthy the serious consideration of all reflecting minds. The cost of that department, at the present time, is a large item in the public expenditure. Last year it amounted to £19,466 17s. 8d., or nearly one-third of the whole revenue proper of the Colony. With the increase of school, of course this will proportionally expand, and as the assessment on land for school purposes amounts to only £4,091 2s. 11d., it will decrease each year as wilderness lands become cultivated. It therefore follows that it will soon be a serious question, where the funds are to come from to maintain our school system. We cannot assert that the impost duties will keep pace with the increasing expenses of education, and even if they did, steam communication, telegraphs, post offices, roads, bridges and wharfs,—which are all necessary to the progress of the Colony, must be maintained; and their cost, we have every reason to believe, will increase rather than decrease. Under these circumstances—which must be patent to the meanest capacity—the financier or statesman who can solve the problem otherwise than by the imposition of a largely increased tax upon lands, for school purposes, will be deserving of the warmest thanks of the whole community. An extraordinary emergency has ever brought forth the extraordinary man to grapple with it; and so it is in this case. Poverty will not do to labor under the same difficulty in establishing the exact locality of his residence, as in the case of Homer, nor will ambitious villages be permitted to contend for the honor of giving birth to the benefactor. New London has the genius really made, who can remove all the ills to which the body politic is heir; nor will his prescription cost the patient an extra penny. In one particular he lacks the characteristic greatness; for, whilst he utters his sentiments over an anonymous signature, he assumes to speak in the name of the people. "Vox Populi" is the high-sounding title adopted by your correspondent. He is evidently acquainted with Latin, and hence the classical patronymic of the New London exponent of the popular voice, who very appropriately finds his way into print on the 1st of April. Comparatively speaking, the burden which Atlas was forced to bear, was greater than that which "Vox Populi" voluntarily assumes. He contends that teachers ought to be better paid than they are. He is right, and there is no class in the community who would more gladly see placed in a position of independence commensurate with their humble and laborious, yet highly responsible and important profession. I know something of their qualifications and labors, and I hesitate not to say that they are poorly remunerated. I would candidly unite in any passable scheme of legislation which would improve their condition, both socially and financially, without unduly adding to the burdens of the tax-payer. Whatever my own views may be as to the best method of accomplishing this desirable object, it is needless to say that "Vox Populi" is not within the roar of an ass' of it. Let me examine his panacea; his infallible cure-all remedy. With the utmost flippancy and confidence he asserts that the reasons why teachers are not better paid are

- 1. That £1000 is wasted in public printing, "over and above what it might easily be done for."
2. That a great deal of money is wasted in senseless delegations.
3. That half-a-dozen messengers are employed to wait on the M.P.'s during the "sitting of the Legislature," when less than one-half would do equally as well.
4. That a few special friends" are kept in "fat offices."
5. Apart from the bad grammar of the sentence, I unhesitatingly pronounce the first charge against the Government of the Colony to be wholly incorrect. Public Printing cost last year £1682 4s. 4d. Of this amount the detailed public accounts show that the Queen's Printer received £940, and the balance of £740 was spent upon printing which was put up to the credit of the out of the audit, one-half for the whole of the service, nearly one-half of it can be set down for contract work. Now from this statement of the facts of the case, I would like to know how £1000 can be saved out of the public printing? It certainly could not be saved out of the contract work, and it would be a difficult matter to transform the Queen's Printer's amount of £940 into £1000, even though the former sum was all profit to that officer, which is far from being the case. I refer my own view here as to the possibility of procuring with a Queen's Printer, and putting all the public printing up to competition, but I do most positively state, from an inspection by any competent and dispassionate person, of the contract work and that performed by the Queen's Printer, it will be readily admitted that the Queen's Printer has given fully as much value for the money received by him, as the contractors have. I fail, therefore, to see where any saving worth speaking about could be effected in the department of public printing. If, out of this, I put up to-morrow, it is doubtful if the tenth rs would be benefited thereby to the extent of a farthing each. It remains for those who assert the contrary to prove their position, which will be rather a difficult matter.

2. I am not aware whether your correspondent refers in his second charge to former delegations, or to those undertaken by the present Government. If he means the latter, I must say that I have too high an opinion of the intelligence of the people of this colony, to believe that they share in the opinion of "Vox Populi," that the Hon. Mr. Hensley's missions to London, Halifax, New York and Washington, were "senseless" ones. By the first two, £300 per annum was saved to the Colony, and the telegraphic communication will be restored, if it is hoped, free trade also. These objects may be "senseless" in the opinion of "Vox Populi," but not in mine. No waste or extravagance can be traced to those delegations. If, however, your correspondent refers to the delegations to Quebec in behalf of Confederation, to Brazil in search of free trade, and to Halifax in order to bring troops to the Colony to suppress the Tenant League, perhaps he is right; but the former Government, and not the present, are responsible for the extravagance.

3. Your correspondent is in error as to the number of messengers employed to wait on M.P.'s. There is only one messenger, a door-keeper and a fire-lighter, whose united salaries amount to some £60. I leave it to the teachers themselves to say how much this would allow each of them, even if the amount were divided among them, and the M.P.'s compelled to run their own errands, and light the fires in the Colonial Building.

4. I scarcely know what "Vox Populi" means by the statement that the Island can afford to keep a few special friends in fat offices. A person would be inclined to infer either that unnecessary offices are maintained to reward put up to tender to the Island, or that these special friends are remunerated too highly. If this is the case, "Vox Populi" should particularize, so that the remedy may be applied; but if it is not the case, your correspondent should explain what he means. In fact, Mr. Editor, this view of the case brings me to the object of my letter, which I would have written much sooner if time permitted. The whole tenor of "Vox Populi's" letter forces the conviction on my mind that he is in hopeless ignorance of the subject upon which he attempts to enlighten the public. He does not know what he is writing about, and therefore he, in common with many other newspaper correspondents, requires to be told that before his ambition or vanity again urges him into print, he should make himself acquainted with the facts of the case which he wishes to bring before the public. By adopting this simple advice, he will save himself

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until they shall make all their wilderness to flourish like the rose. In this we see what we wish ourselves successfully to imitate, but we are not deceived as to the causes of these events—we do not think that we shall prosper because we live under a monarch, nor that the Americans have prospered because they preferred a republic. We attribute the success of the English race to their capacity for politics, legislation and government; to their indomitable courage, energy and industry; in short, to those qualities which render it impossible that they should be badly governed under any form of government; which made the English nation prosper under such sovereigns as Charles and James, and under such republicans as Oliver Cromwell; and which has enabled the Americans to prosper in spite of universal suffrage—the worst form of government known among men.

The last article of Brutus, which I find space to notice, is the only one used by him which merits the name of a sophism inasmuch as it has a superficial appearance of soundness, but is in reality fallacious. This is where he compares the poverty and backwardness of Nova Scotia with the wealth and civilization of Massachusetts, and argues that annexation would speedily raise his province to an equality with the oldest States of the Union. Our friend is, however, mistaken in this—wealth and civilization are plants of slow growth. Nova Scotia, if it had been settled as early as Massachusetts, would now be far richer and more civilized, if possible; for the natural riches of Nova Scotia exceed by an incalculable amount those of Massachusetts, as our American friends are well aware. But at present, and for many generations to come, the effect of annexation would be to reduce Nova Scotia to the level of the new States and territories of the Union—countries like Arkansas and Mississippi—oelhocraetes, or mob governments, tempered by assassination; her fertile regions teeming with all sorts of agricultural and mineral wealth would be overrun with ruffians; her citizens would be elbowed out of their legislative halls by law-makers of the newest and most marketable pattern; and the orderly administration of her laws would be replaced by the regime of the bowie knife and revolver. I will now take leave of your correspondent Brutus. I cannot indeed flatter him by calling his arguments sophistical, for that would be to pay them an extravagant compliment, but I am grateful to him for demonstrating the exceeding badness of a cause which can find no better arguments to defend it.

Intelligence was received in this city on Wednesday last of the death (from apoplexy) of the Right Rev. Dr. Dalton, Roman Catholic Bishop of Harbor Grace, Newfoundland.—*Ille. Express.*

The Steamship "Germany" arrived at Quebec on the 29th ult. with about one thousand Emigrants, mostly working men and their families, from London.

Very Latest Telegrams.

London, May 6. In the House of Commons this evening, Mr. Otway, under Secretary for Foreign Department, in reply to an enquiry from Mr. Goutley, said that instructions had been sent to the British Minister at Madrid in regard to the seizure of the brig *Mary Lowell*, but they could not now be made known.

The House in committee resumed consideration of the Irish Church Bill, Sir George Jankinson, (Conservative), moved that the claim providing compensation for Maynooth College from the Church funds be stricken out. Rejected by the following vote: for amendment, 192; against 318; Government majority, 126.

Mr. Aytoun (Liberal) moved an amendment that the compensation to Maynooth College take the form of annuities instead of Capitalists' sums. After long discussion, the House again divided with the following results:—For the amendment, 198; against it, 305; majority against, 107. The other amendment which had been proposed were then withdrawn; and clauses 39 and 40, in regard to the College of Maynooth, as originally introduced by Mr. Gladstone, were adopted.

Consols 93½. U. S. bonds 73½. The Bank of England has advanced the rate of discount to 4½ per cent. Bullion has decreased £400,000. Liverpool markets without quotable change.

Madrid, May 6. In the Spanish Constitutional Cortes, yesterday, the article of the National Constitution guaranteeing liberty of worship, was adopted by the following vote: For 164; against, 140.

New York, May 6. A railway tie of polished California laurel wood, mounted with solid silver and spiked of pure gold, has been forwarded to the end of the Central Pacific Railroad, and will be laid on Saturday next, thus completing the road.

The Government sold one million dollars in gold, to-day, at 136 and 136½.

Ottawa, May 8. Hon. Mr. Rose made a financial statement yesterday. He spoke for four hours. The receipts from Customs and Excise had fallen below the estimate; but the Government curtailed expenditure, so that there was no deficit. Ordinary receipts for 1868-9 to 30th June, last quarter estimated at \$137,446.56. Ordinary expenditure, \$134,706.24, leaving a surplus of \$2,740.34. Estimates for next year, \$14,765,000; Expenditure, \$14,319,500; Surplus \$246,122. He reviewed the state of the country, holding that the falling off in import was due to prudence and previous overtrading.

London, May 10th. In the House of Commons to-day, Mr. Fortescue, Chief Secretary for Ireland, in reply to an inquiry of Lord John Manners, said that the Ministers were already considering the best means of increasing the powers of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, for the more effectual repression of outrages in that country.

London, May 11th. The London Standard to-day has a leading article on the Alabama question and Senator Sumner's speech, in which the writer reviews the relative positions of the United States and Great Britain and asserts that the raids and other outrages perpetrated by American Fenians in Canada during the past few years more than overbalance the denudations committed by the Alabama on American commerce. The Government of Great Britain is consenting to submit the mutual international grievances to arbitration did more than could be fairly demanded, and to yield further would be an act of cowardice and irreparable degradation.

New York, May 11th. The completion of the Pacific Railroad was celebrated yesterday in various parts of the country with public rejoicing.

The Murray silk mills in Patterson, New Jersey, were destroyed by fire last night. Loss—quarter million dollars.

From the New York *Albion*.

THE ANNEXATION QUESTION.

BY A CANADIAN.

Permits me to reply briefly to your correspondent's BRITISH CANADIAN and NOVA SCOTIAN BRITISH. To the first, thanking him for the courtesy of his notice, I have only to say that the question of annexation has two aspects; and the objections to that measure may be ranked under two heads, namely, those which are addressed to the reason, and those which are addressed to the sentiment of men—my letter was intended to refer solely to the former.

The tone of the letter of your Nova Scotian correspondent does not do honor to his temper. Not being, however, reduced to vituperation for lack of argument, I shall not imitate him by charging my opponent with dishonesty or untruth.

Brutus declares that my arguments are sophistry, and my facts untrue; he truly remarks that many persons are deceived by sophistry; but it is no less certain that many persons are led into error by the use of words which they do not understand. Desiring to avoid this error, let us define sophistry to mean argument apparently sound and plausible, but really fallacious. Having made these two charges of fallacy and falsehood, it was surely incumbent on Brutus to show that at least some of my arguments were fallacious and some of my statements of fact untrue. Has he done so? Not in any one instance.

Your correspondent objects to my argument as unsound by reason of an erroneous assumption that all British Americans are opposed to annexation. I believe, indeed, that this assumption is true, or nearly true; but it formed no part of my argument. I said that Canadians are adverse to annexation because they dislike the American system of government. Of course any man of common sense will understand this as it was meant—namely, to refer to the vast majority of Canadians. A few disappointed Nova Scotians cannot be allowed to speak for all Canada, any more than the three tailors of Tooley Street for all England.

Brutus, however, having failed to show the untruth of any of my statements of fact, is not unprovided with some facts of his own; and first, he says that there is an annexation party in Canada and New Brunswick. If by the term Canada he means the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario, I deny the fact, and respectfully invite him to show the proof of it. As to New Brunswick, I believe that it contained one annexationist, who moved in the assembly an annexation resolution which failed to find a seconder; after which he fled to the United States to hide from the general execration of his countrymen.

But our amiable censor goes on to say that people in Canada are corrupt as well as people in the United States. This is the old fallacy so often exposed, the *argumentum ad odium*. "You are corrupt yourselves and therefore should not object to be annexed to a people still more corrupt!" But are we corrupt in Canada? Was any part of our public debt created for corrupt purposes, or used in venality, as our friend charges? Of course the answer to this question does not in the least affect the argument, but as it is introduced, however irrelevantly, it should be answered, therefore it is answered by a denial. Nevertheless, for sake of argument, let us suppose that part of the Canadian debt was used corruptly; is that any reason for annexation? My reason against annexation, drawn from the corruption of our neighbors, is this, not that part of their debt was used corruptly, but that their officials are corrupt, and their legislators capable of purchase, and that these evils arise from universal suffrage. Will your correspondent assert that in any legislature in the Dominion of Canada the passage of an Act of Parliament could be obtained by bribing the legislators? Does he not know perfectly well that such an attempt would cause instant destruction of all parties engaged in it? does he not know perfectly well that such things are common elsewhere, and that the price of legislators in certain States is almost as well known as the price of Erie stock in Wall Street.

Again, our friend from Nova Scotia asserts that the debt of the United States is diminishing, and that our debt is increasing. Are we to judge of the correctness of his other facts by the truth of these? What does the Secretary of the Treasury say? no less than this, that on the 1st January, 1869, the public debt of the United States was fifteen and a half millions more than it was at the date of the last statement. This is diminution with a vengeance. As to our Canadian debt, no person can tell whether it is rising or falling, until the next meeting of Parliament; but supposing it rising in amount, is that any reason for annexation? Brutus says to us, "You owe seventy millions, and your debt is increasing therefore you should assume the debt of a nation which owes two thousand millions."

My argument concerning slavery was to this effect: Canadians dislike annexation to a country formerly oppressed with millions of slaves, and therefore now is great part governed by the bayonet. To this our friend replies, "True, but Great Britain introduced slavery into America." Is this meant for a reason why we should like annexation? If not what does it mean? This is a great mystery, but not greater than what follows next; we are twitted with the St. Alban's raid, a villainy inflicted by one set of Americans upon another. What is that to us? We indeed thought it right to pay the cost of it, for it seemed to us that we were answerable for the crimes of those whom we should have guarded better; but is it our fault that our guest should prove to be a thief? or, if we were, shall we, therefore, be in love with annexation to the country which produced him?

Let us now, with the words of Brutus, look at the other side of the story. Less than one hundred years ago the Americans numbered but three and one half millions of people; they are now about thirty millions. At present we number four millions and upwards, and are increasing in a more rapid ratio than our neighbors. In one hundred years we may fairly expect that the New Dominion will contain more inhabitants than the United States at this moment. Shall we, therefore, abandon this fair prospect and lose our identity of being swamped and merged in the overgrown Republic of the States.

It is perfectly true, as stated by your correspondent, that the American nation, after gloriously acquitting themselves in the wars of their revolution, being oppressed by debt and all sorts of political difficulties, did nevertheless create order out of chaos, and flourish with unexampled prosperity and success. Brutus considers this to be due to the excellence of American institutions—in this respect I differ with him. I consider they have prospered not because, but in spite of, their institutions. We Canadians sincerely rejoice in the success of our neighbors—we hope that they may long continue to prosper

until they shall make all their wilderness to flourish like the rose. In this we see what we wish ourselves successfully to imitate, but we are not deceived as to the causes of these events—we do not think that we shall prosper because we live under a monarch, nor that the Americans have prospered because they preferred a republic. We attribute the success of the English race to their capacity for politics, legislation and government; to their indomitable courage, energy and industry; in short, to those qualities which render it impossible that they should be badly governed under any form of government; which made the English nation prosper under such sovereigns as Charles and James, and under such republicans as Oliver Cromwell; and which has enabled the Americans to prosper in spite of universal suffrage—the worst form of government known among men.

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