The Examiner.

Charlottetown, December 4, 1865.

THE EXECUTION OF WIRZ.

Wirz protested to the last that he was not guilty of the crimes of which he was charged. Even on the scaffold he refused to admit that he was the ruthless, atrocious ruffian the evidence adduced on the trial would make him appear to be.

The following letter, without date or signature, was written by Wirz's own hand to President Johnson four days before his execution, but his counsel, Mr. Schade, deemed it inadvisable to present it:—

"With a trembling hand, with a heart filled with the most conflicting emotions, and with a spirit hopeful one moment and despairing the next, I have taken the liberty of addressing you. When I consider your exalted position; when I think for a moment that in your hand rests the weal or woe of millions — yea, the peace of the world—well may I pause to call to my aid courage enough to lay before you my humble petition. I have heard *you spoken of as a man willing* at all times and under all circumstances to do justice, and that no man, however humble he may be, need fear to approach you, and therefore I have come to the conclusion that you will allow me the same privilege as is extended to hundreds and thousands of all. It is not my intention to enter into an argument as to the merits of my case. In your hands, if I am rightly informed, are all the records and evidences bearing upon this point, and it would be presumption on my part to say one word about it. There is only one thing that I ask, and it is expressed in a few words — pass your sentence. For six weary months I have been a *prisoner; for six months my name has* been in the mouth of every one; by thousands I am considered a monster of cruelty, a wretch that ought not to pollute the earth any longer.

"Truly, when I pass in my mind over the testimony given, I sometimes almost doubt my own existence. I doubt that I am the Captain Wirz *spoken of*. I *doubt that a man ever* lived such as he is said to be, and I am inclined to call on the mountains to fall upon and bury me and my shame. But oh! sir, while I wring my hands in mute and hopeless despair, there speaks a small but unmistakeable voice within me that says, "Console thyself. Thou knowest thy innocence. Fear not. If *man holds thee guilty*, God does not, and a new life will pervade your being." Such has been the state of my mind for weeks and months, and no punishment that human ingenuity can inflict could increase my distress. The pangs of death are short, and therefore, I humbly pray that you will pass your sentence without delay. *Give me death or liberty.* The one I do not fear; the other I crave. If you believe me guilty of the terrible charges that have been heaped upon me, deliver me to the executioner. If not guilty in your estimation, restore me to liberty and life. A life such as I am now living is no life. I breathe, sleep, eat; but it is only the mechanical functions I perform and nothing more. Whatever you decide I shall accept. If condemned to death I shall suffer without a murmur. If restored to liberty, I will thank and bless you for it. I would not convey to your mind, Mr. President, that I court death; life is sweet. However lowly or humble man's station may be, he clings to life. His soul is filled with awe when he contemplates the future, that unknown land where the judgment is, before which he will have to give an account of his words, thoughts, and deeds. Well may I remember, too, that I have erred like all other human beings, but for things which I may perhaps suffer a violent *death I am not guilty*, and God judge me. I have said all that I wished to say. Excuse my boldness in addressing you, but I could not help it. I cannot bear this suspense much longer. May God bless you and be with you. Your task is a great and fearful one. In life or death I shall pray for you, and for the prosperity of the country in which I have passed my happiest and darkest days."

THE EXECUTION.

His arms were drawn back and pinioned closely behind him, and the noose was thrown over the head and drawn loosely up, with the knot resting beneath the lobe of the left ear. An officer was about to produce and adjust the black cap, when those nearest him saw a slight tremor of the lower jaw, which as it increased, gave the whole face a ghastly grin; but the black cap speedily curtained the face from further view and left the cowled and sombre shape standing rigid for the fall. All but the officer who was charged with springing the trap retired from the scaffold, and as the latter passed swiftly to either side of the drop, withdrawing the bolts that were used to sustain it in addition to the spring. Wirz, who seemed to have expected the fall immediately, was seen to sway slightly, but even then there appeared to be a determined recovery of equilibrium, and he became motionless, standing thus eight or ten seconds, when the officer below raised his cap as a signal, and there was a crash of the falling trap, a sudden jerk and extension of the rope, and a dark and lengthened form swung convulsively beneath the scaffold. For a moment there was a hush upon the multitude within and the people upon adjacent house tops as all eyes noted the spasmodic twitching of the lower parts of the criminal's body, and some strong nerved man in the crowd made an audible calculation of the number of tremors that passed through the frame before life became totally extinct. Then came something like a cheer from beyond the prison walls, where all available objects commanding a view of the scene within were crowded with citizens and soldiers, and gradually there was lifted from the nearer spectators the awe occasioned from seeing a life pass violently from most infamous manhood to the darkest valley of the shadow of death, and there was a hum of comment accompanied with a general crowding nearer the scaffold. At the same time a photographer adjusted his instrument upon the roof of an adjoining shed, with its lens covering the scaffold and the wretch that quivered from its beam. Fifteen minutes more passed without material event.

The people who had been on the roofs of houses and in the branches of trees, together with considerable numbers from the prison, retired from the contemplation of the scene, leaving a few officers and a large group of the members of the press, to witness the last of the tragedy. About a quarter to eleven, a surgeon approached the pendant body, carefully raised the lower part of the hood and peered for a moment into the dead man's face and felt for the flutter of the pulse. There was no spark of animation remaining. The rope was made to loosen its throttle, and the body was lowered upon an hospital stretcher and carried past the crowd into the dead-house of the prison. The guard was brought to an "attention" and filed out of the court, leaving the spectators in undisturbed possession of the field, quarrelling and elbowing each other for fragments of the rope that performed the sacrifice. Not five minutes elapsed before the executionary cable was severed into inch bits that accompanied the delighted possessors from the field.

THE SHENANDOAH AFFAIR—RUMORS AND INCIDENTS.

From the Boston Journal.

It appears that Capt. Waddell of the *Shenandoah* run his vessel into the Tagus, discharged his crew and shipped a new one, before he proceeded to Liverpool. When the pilot boarded him at that port he was asked by Waddell whether the war in the United States was over or not—information he certainly did not require, as, undoubtedly, he must have heard the news, if news it was to him, at Lisbon, where he had previously been. It is reported in Liverpool that the crew of the *Shenandoah* suffered much from want of supplies before touching the coast of Europe, and that three of their number died. Scurvy prevailed. A Liverpool paper says that Waddell had a considerable sum of money on board, but did not design using it, as he held it to be the property of the United States Government. He and his officers were said to be without pecuniary resources. A despatch, dated Liverpool, 9th instant, says Waddell and the crew of the pirate had been released on parole.

The English papers are variously impressed relative to what ought to be the duty of the Government toward the pirate. We make a few extracts showing their different opinions on this and subjects in the same connection.

"Capt. Waddell and his men either are pirates or they are not. They have undoubtedly been, for the last three months, burning, sinking and destroying American whalers in the name of a Government that did not exist, and whose non-existence they might have ascertained by reference to the nearest port. It is for them to prove their ignorance that the war in which they persisted in carrying on had terminated everywhere where the *Shenandoah* was not. Meantime there is *prima facie* evidence against them of having been guilty of piracy on the high seas. Why are they not kept in custody until a grand Jury has decided whether they ought or ought not to take their trial as pirates?"—*Pall Mall* [London] *Gazette*, 8th.

"The questions involved in the surrender of the *Shenandoah* are difficult and perplexing, but we trust the Government will not, on that account, attempt to shirk the responsibility of deciding them. *The honor of the country and the supremacy of the law alike demand that the Captain and crew should be put on their trial.* Although we have had, during the war, abundant evidence of the efficiency of the customs of the authorities at Liverpool, we can scarcely credit the story that the crew were allowed to escape without the instructions of Government being taken. If this blunder has been added to the many already committed in connection with these privateers, it only imposes upon the Government the duty of more energetically setting about their recapture. * * * * Earl Russel has already, in the correspondence with Mr. Adams lately published, excused himself for not taking steps against the *Shenandoah*, not because she has done nothing illegal *but because there was no evidence of an illegal intention when she sailed. She now comes back after having committed the crimes she was then only suspected of meditating, and the evidence of them is in the Bureau of the Foreign Office, in the shape of the depositions of those whose ships were burned by this English vessel and English crew.* Those who fail to apply English law to the punishment of these most un-English crimes will incur a most serious responsibility."—*London Star, 8th.*

"If, for the sake of vengeance on the destroyers of his country, Capt. Waddell had accomplished this work, his crime would have been essentially *a political one; and Englishmen will never consent to give up political offenders.* A ministry which should resolve to hand over the Captain of the *Shenandoah* to a Yankee hangman must have made up its mind to an immediate downfall and to indeniable infamy."—*London Herald, (Tory)*, 8th.

The *Daily News* is very suspicious that Brother Jonathan has been playing a shrewd game with England in the matter of the pirate. The paper of the 8th inst. says it is possible that the expectation of recovering, from this country, compensation for the losses resulting from her capture causes the United States to be less eager for her capture than they otherwise would have been; and if the world generally could have come to that conclusion, from *observing the impunity* which Waddell had so long enjoyed, it would be the very strongest practical argument against American claims in English responsibility for her depredations and those of a kindred character.

THE SHENANDOAH.

The leading American journals lay hold upon the circumstance of the delivering up by Capt. Waddel of this cruiser to the British Government, to excite and foment more angry feeling between the two countries.

The following is a list given of the whaling ships destroyed by the *Shenandoah* during her cruise on the Arctic Seas:

Vessels.	*Belonging to*	*Date of capture.*
Barque Edward Carey	San Francisco	April 1
Barque Harvest	Honolulu	April 1
Barque Pearl	New London	April 1
Ship Hector	New Bedford	April 1
Barque Abigail	do	May 27
Ship Euphrates	do	June 21
Ship Wm. Thompson	do	June 22
Barque Jireh Swift	do	June 22
Ship S. Thornton	do	June 23
Barque Susan Abigail	New London	June 23
Ship Gen. Williams	San Francisco	June 25
Barque Nimrod	New Bedford	June 25
Barque Wm. C. Nye	do	June 26
Barque Catherine	do	June 26
Barque Gipsey	do	June 26
Barque Isabella	do	June 27
Ship Hillman	do	June 27
Ship John Howland	do	June 28
Ship Nassau	do	June 28
Barque Brunswick	do	June 28
Barque Waverley	do	June 28
Barque Martha	do	June 28
Barque Congress	do	June 28
Barque Favorite	Fairhaven	June 28
Barque Coxington	Warrell	June 28
Ship Milo	New Bedford	June 23
Barque Gen. Pike	do	June 22
Barque Nile	New London	June 27
Barque Jas. Maury	New Bedford	June 28

Upon this subject the New York *Herald* remarks:—

"What our government has now to do is to demand the unconditional surrender of the *Shenandoah*, just as we demanded and obtained the ram *Stonewall* of Spain—*not under the ridiculous* assumption that we are the heirs of rebel effects, but as property confiscated to us by acts of lawlessness committed against our commerce, and of outrage against our flag. We do not believe England will refuse to concede our unconditional right to the pirate now in her waters any more than we at one time conceived it prudent to surrender Mason and Slidell to her. The cases are not precisely parallel, but the difference is all in our favour. In regard to Captain Waddell, we apprehend we shall have no material difficulty Being regarded as a pirate by Great Britain, and ourselves knowing him as such, we have only to *remind the British Government that we have an* extradition treaty with them which requires the rendition of all criminal offenders against the laws of either Power. On this ground the United States will demand Waddell, and punish him as the law and courts of our country shall decide. England cannot deny this claim, or refuse to grant it; *or, if she do, she may find in an incredibly* short time Fenian Shenandoahs on the St. Lawrence and Fenian Alabamas on the seas."

The *Tribune* observes as follows:—

"The unwelcome apparition of this uneasy ghost in British waters is not to be added to the catalogue of John Bull's many and grievous offences against the rights of this country. John would rather have paid three times her cost than see her steaming up the Mersey. "Curses, like chickens, come home to roost," says a very old saw, and here is a fresh illustration of its truth. The *Shenandoah* is where she ought to be; and we trust our Government will neither claim nor accept her.

"But it tries our patience to note the suggestion in a British journal that our Government has left the corsair to pursue her desolating career unchecked, in order to swell our claims for damages against the country which built, armed, and subsisted her. If we could have known where to find her, her career would have been a short one. But the world is very wide, and most of it covered by salt water; and by the time we had heard of her in one ocean, she was sure to be in another, far, far away. The British know by sore experience in the war of 1812 how a cruiser may elude pursuers, and pursue for months a career of devastation. Happily, the *Shenandoah's* is at last ended."

We apprehend that grave difficulties are not unlikely to arise out of this matter, and further complications between the two countries which are needless. Not that we imagine that the British Government will for a moment recognize any claim on account of the *Shenandoah*, nor ought to do so, but the heavy loss inflicted upon so many unoffending parties is well adapted to rankle in the minds of a people sensitive in the extreme, and worked upon by the public press of the nation.

Heavy Ordnance.—There is surely good cause to demand that a decision shall be soon arrived at, and based on sound practical reasoning, backed by the results of proper experiments, as to what is to be the heavy gun of the future. We are, as a nation, pretty tired of indecisive experiments in guns, and we cannot help thinking, with all deference to those by whom these lengthened trials have been carried on, that they must have been working in a wrong direction. We mean by this, that instead of trying guns against guns for accuracy of range, and measuring the most minute "rectangles de tir," it would have been better had they long ago made up their minds to consider that gun the best which appeared to possess the most general advantages; in fact, the one which, under circumstances of actual war, would be likely to be the most generally useful. One gun on a particular plan, will shine forth in a certain way, another will eclipse all comers in some other quality, and a third will beat both, perhaps in a totally different but more important qualification. We have always considered the question could never be settled except by actual experiments, and those continued and various, but had the matter rested even in the hands of some commercial company, totally ignorant of the subject, or with a great contractor, it is our unbiassed opinion that they would have taken steps to arrive at conclusions in a shorter time than her Majesty's Government.—*British Army and Navy Review.*

An action against a railway company for bad grammar is the last novelty reported from Italy. A passenger from Voltri to Genoa refused to deliver up his ticket, and demanded to be paid the price of his journey, on the ground that the ticket bore an inscription on the back which literally translated runs thus: "If one does not present this ticket on arrival, one may demand the price of the entire journey." The *Movimento*, which tells this story, states that already many eminent advocates have given their adhesion to this view of the matter.

If you have a Suffering Child.—Do not let your prejudices of others, stand between it and the relief that will be absolutly sure to follow the use of MRS. WINSLOW'S SOOTHING SYRUP. Millions of mothers can testify that it is a perfectly safe and reliable remedy. It relieves the child from pain, and cures dysentery and diarrhœa. It softens the gums, reduces inflammation, cures wind colic, and carries the infant safely through the teething period.

LATE EUROPEAN NEWS.

EARL RUSSEL ON MINISTERIAL AFFAIRS.

The banquet of the Lord Mayor of London, on the 9th, was looked to with considerable interest, as it was known that the leading members of the Cabinet would be present, and some of them, it was surmised, might give an indication of the Ministerial policy at the present crisis. This duty devolved on Earl Russel. He said enough to excite curiosity without gratifying it, and yet he seems to have said quite enough for the occasion. The speech was ingenuous and yet reticent—dwelling on facts which every one admitted, but leaving to the future the solution of questions respecting which people were most anxious to know something. He spoke of the confidence which had been reposed in him by his colleagues,—dwelt on the fact that fifty years had elapsed since the last treaty of peace had been signed between France and England—referred to the civil war in America, and hoped that the future of the great Republic would be all that its best friends could wish,—rejoiced, above all, that the great "guilt and stain of slavery" had been cancelled there, and declared that he would never abandon the great principles of progress in which the best years of his life were associated. In conclusion, he professed his readiness to abide by the verdict of the country, and finished by a personal compliment to the Lord Mayor. The speech seems to have given satisfaction to the newspaper which, professing to be Liberal, has for many years shown itself so hostile to Lord Russell. In its issue of yesterday, it says: "Lord Russell is too old a politician to satisfy public curiosity all at once. A man in office, even if he has something to tell, ought not to say more than is needed, and, consequently, as he must make speeches, the power of uttering acceptable generalities is one of the most valuable that he can possess. Those who expected that the new Premier, a fortnight after accepting office, would give indications of his policy, and either inform the nation whether or not there is to be a Reform Bill, deserve to be disappointed for their pains."

FROM SPAIN.

The recent accounts from Madrid represent the feeling in the city to be very hostile to the Queen, and some of the officers in the Spanish army do not hesitate to indulge in open ribaldries of her and her Court. So unpopular is her Majesty declared to be, that the populace have expressed their intention of giving her a reception the reverse of complimentary the next time she appears in her own capital. It is believed in some quarters that the Queen will allow this ill-feeling to subside before she presents herself at Madrid; and one writer goes the length of declaring that if she were now to appear, the royal carriages would meet with obstructions that would probably produce very serious consequences. This, however, is speculative; but there is no doubt of the fact that all the European capitals resemble each other in this—they contain the most democratic portion of the people, are the most easily excited, and allow their anger to cool as readily as it is warmed. London has from time to time immemorial returned to the House of Commons the most Radical members that have found their way there.

The Cholera at Valencia.—The Boston *Advertiser* publishes the following extract from a private letter received from a gentleman now resident at Valentia, Spain:—

"We have had an awful season here with the real Asiatic cholera, in a very aggravated and fatal form. Many of our people left their homes during the sickness, thereby reducing our population to perhaps from fifty to seventy thousand; but with this reduction it is estimated that we have had ten thousand deaths within the city and its precincts.

My own family have remained here during the whole sickness, residing on a street very sadly visited, with almost entire families dying around us; but, thanks to a kind Providence, we have been preserved from the 'pestilence that walketh in darkness, and the destruction that wasteth at noonday.' I was attacked by the incipient stage of the disease—called by the doctor *cholerine*—but it was checked and subdued seasonably, leaving me, however, quite reduced in strength and confined to the house for an entire month."

THE CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Plymouth, Nov. 7.—By the arrival of Her Majesty's ship *Tamar*, from Simon's Bay, news has been received from the Cape of Good Hope to the 23d ult., being eleven days later than that brought by the mail. The Basuto war was not settled. The Boers were, however, tired of their campaign, and some of them were talking of retiring to their farms, and divisions had taken place among them through want of confidence in their officers. The second Whitworth cannon had burst. President Braund has been sent for to negotiate with Moshesh. George Moshesh was at Aliwal North, with despatches for the Governor. He acknowledged that the Basutos were beaten, but said they would not give over their country to the Boers, although they would to the English. He remained awaiting the Governor's reply. A scheme was afloat in the Eastern Province for colonizing Basutos with English settlers. The speculation was expected to turn out very profitable. Parliament was to be prorogued on the 15th of October. Business continued dull. Merchants were, however, looking hopefully towards the wool season, but unless there was an increase in price, a thorough revival of trade was scarcely expected.

NEW ZEALAND.

Melbourne, Sept. 26.—Advices from New Zealand state that severe fighting has taken place at Waitapa, on the east coast, resulting in the defeat of the natives. The Opetiki expedition has effected a successful landing. The colonial troops were victorious in the first skirmish, captured the native pah, and occupied the town. Martial law has been proclaimed. The official *Gazette* announces that the war in Ockurna (Waikato?) is at an end. Sir G. Grey, by advice of his ministry, has confiscated land in Taranaki, and has issued a peace and amnesty proclamation.

AUSTRALIA.

The following is from the Melbourne *Age* of Sept. 25:—

"We are still in the midst of a political crisis, unparalleled in the history of the colony. The Council persists in its obstructive policy, and in its futile attempts to seize the supreme control of affairs, and render the Assembly entirely subservient to its will, even in matters of supply and taxation. The Assembly, in the meantime, nobly fulfils its mission. With the exception of a few factious individuals, possessing little or no inflence, party politics appear to be entirely forgotten, and the house stands united and determined to resist the aggressions made on its privileges and on the liberties of the people by the other branch of the Legislature. In our last summary we stated the fact of the Appropriation Bill, together with the schedule containing the new tariff, having been laid aside by the Council, and of the Assembly having passed a series of resolutions declaratory of its privileges, and asserting that it would pass no other bill for the appropriation of supplies until that already submitted by it to the Council had been passed. Accordingly, for upwards of a month, all payments were stopped. The withdrawal, however, of such a large sum of money from circulation was found to be injurious to the colony, and, in some cases, productive of a considerable amount of individual hardship; and, on the 24th ult., on the motion of Mr. McGregor, a resolution was agreed to in the Assembly by a majority of 40 to 16, asking his Excellency to take such measures as, in the opinion of his responsible advisers, should be expedient and necessary to discharge the public liabilities. During the debate, the hon. the Treasurer pointed out that no funds could be taken from the public account for this purpose, pending the passing of the Appropriation Bill, and at the same time stated the determination of the ministry to resort to no illegal means of remedying the ills caused by the unconstitutional conduct of the Legislative Council. On the following Tuesday his Excellency transmitted a message to both houses, also stating that funds of the public account were not available until an appropriation bill had been agreed to by the three branches of the legislature, and at the same time expressing a hope that the existing differences between the two houses would be adjusted, and active legislation resumed. Tuesday, the 5th inst., Mr. Verdon announced to the Assembly that without in any way violating the law, arrangements had been made for meeting the inevitable pecuniary liabilities of the government. The arrangement made is briefly as follows:—Loans, as necessary, are contracted with the London Chartered Bank, and the claims on the government paid from the funds thus available. The bank then sues for the amount, judgment is confessed, and the warrant being signed by the governor, the amount, by virtue of the Act 21 Vict., No. 86, becomes legally available out of the public account, and is paid accordingly. Thus the public business is carried on independently of the Council, and no inconvenience is experienced."

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Cholera at Jerusalem.—A letter from Jerusalem, dated the 23rd October, says:—"The cholera is at the present moment committing great ravages here, and it is scarcely possible to form an idea of the deplorable aspect of our unfortunate city. The streets and bazaars are deserted, the shops are closed, and the well-doing portion of the population are taking flight in all directions. The Pasha, the various Turkish officials, and, what is more sad, the foreign consular agents, with the exception of the French consul, have been the first to give the example of desertion, and there now only remain at Jerusalem those inhabitants who are too poor to afford to leave. Those unfortunate people, abandoned, so to say, to themselves, seek for a remedy or mitigation of their distress in excesses, which only tend to aggravate it, and to increase the number of victims."

Herr Ulex, a chemist of Hamburg, has lately discovered copper, and, in some cases, lead in the remains of animals. He has found copper and lead in human flesh, and copper in the intestines of beasts of prey, in beef, in poultry, in hens' eggs, in fish, crustacea, insects, spiders, and snails.

At a recent review of about 3000 troops, near Belgrade, several casualties occurred; among others, one man was killed and two dangerously wounded by the discharge of a cannon, caused by the word of command being given by the officer before the loading was completed. Several men, also, in the excitement caused by the evolutions, received bayonet wounds. Last year, on a similar occasion, seven men were wounded.

COMPLIMENTARY DINNER TO THE HON. THOMAS D'ARCY McGEE.

A Public Dinner was given to the Hon. Mr. McGee by his constituents of Montreal West, at the St. Lawrence Hall, on Wednesday evening, 15th November. The Dinner was given in acknowledgment of Mr. McGee's services to the whole Province of Canada as a very able Statesman, and as an honoured and faithful representative of Montreal. All nationalities combined to do honour to our excellent friend; and it is needless to say that the entertainment was in the highest degree brilliant and successful, if we may judge from the accounts of it in the various newspapers. Nearly all the Cabinet Ministers were present, and addressed the large and distinguished audience on public affairs. Mr. McGee's speech was, as might be expected, an admirable effort. We give the report of it, without curtailment, from the *Montreal Gazette*—a very able paper, which, we believe, reflects the views of Mr. McGee—and we have no doubt that the report of this eloquent speech has received revision at his own hands:—

HON. MR. McGEE'S SPEECH.

Hon. Mr. McGee said: Hackneyed as I may be thought, Mr. Chairman, in public speaking, I rise to acknowledge these cheers, and the toast you have proposed, with an overpowering sense of your goodness, and my own shortcomings. There are some unusual circumstances observable in this room, well *calculated to fill me with embarrassment.* I have been long accustomed, Mr. Chairman, to your own kindness; you have stood sponser for me on the hustings more than once; I have been long accustomed to the kindness of my friends, the Vice-Chairmen and the Stewards; but the presence here of so many friends from a long distance—(*cheers*)—*of so many gentlemen* of the city whose names are synonymous with Montreal honour and Montreal enterprise—the presence of my honourable colleagues, right and left, my seniors and betters in the public service—these are unusual circumstances, and not without embarrassment. You have been good enough to see to-night, Mr. Chairman, *only favourable* traits in my character; but by the very contrast with the picture you have drawn, the colors of which you borrow from your own good heart, rather than from my actions, I feel, and I can see clearly, how very far I have failed and fallen short of the services you ascribe to me, and how much I must *endeavour to do hereafter* to make up for so many deficiencies. I wish I could feel that all my friends had the same disposition to be satisfied with my course, for I must often, I know, have disappointed their particular expectations. I may say, however, for myself that I have never done so willingly, that I never disappointed them *without experiencing* greater pain myself; but what can one do, at times, associated, like the infallible juryman, with eleven unreasonable men, though they are His Excellency's advisers—(*laughter*)—but grumble and give way, and hope for improvement? You have said, Mr. Chairman, that last July you tendered me this honour on my return home, but that I "begged off." If I had my own way, I should still continue to beg my friends not to go on with so costly a compliment; but when the Committee renewed their invitation—when the former excuse no longer existed—when so many of our fellow-citizens approved your course—I thought it would hardly be decent, or commonly grateful of me, to renew my refusal. What, then, can I say, in accepting this great honour, more than this, that from the bottom of my heart I thank you for having made this 15th of November a memorable day for me and mine. (Cheers.) You have given my health, as Minister of Agriculture and Emigration; as Minister of Agriculture, my duties, as at present defined, are, to see to the Administration of the Agricultural and Patent laws, as they stand on the Statute Books—which, I believe, the Department does promptly and efficiently, but the sphere of the Minister's duty, whether I occupy it or another, would bear, I think, corsiderable enlargement. As the Minister charged with Emigration affairs, all that I can do, at present, is rather discretionary than defined, and therefore, the more a matter of anxiety. It is satisfactory to be able to say on this head, that the number of immigrants using our route in 1865, was rather over than under the average of late years; but it is the reverse of satisfactory to see the larger half of the arrivals, allured by the reported high wages, but uninformed as to the equally high cost of living, making their way to the United States. (Hear, hear.) I think we fought, and I believe we shall, liberalize our system of disposing of the public lands; I think we ought to have some substitute for the Homestead law, which attracts so many settlers to the States; but so far as the tide of mere labour is concerned, I confess I can discover no prospect of seriously diminishing this annual efflux, until we see begun, or about to begin, those great works of public utility which we all expect to accompany the advent of a closer union of the Provinces (Cheers.) In reference to the official toast, Mr. Chairman, let me also say that I can hardly reciprocate the satisfaction *you* have expressed at the result of the Canadian representation at the Dublin Exhibition. Although we had very little time for preparation, and only a thousand pounds sterling to start with, I think it ought to gratify those who took a much larger share in the preparations than I did—my indefatigable Deputy, Dr. Tache, the *two Boards* of Arts and Agriculture, and Dr. Hunt, of the Geological Survey, acting in the absence of Sir Wm. Logan—to know that Canada attained so honourable a place—the *ninth* place among all nations—at that Exhibition. (Cheers.) We were honored in our Department there, with the presence of many thousands of visitors, from His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales—(cheers)—and the Viceroy of Ireland, down to the intending emigrant labourer: and so far as I could learn from the press on the spot, and from private report, the impression left on all our visitors was favourable to this Province, its prospects and resources. If, however, we are to be represented at Paris in 1867, as we hope to be, and if I should have anything officially to say to the arrangements, I should endeavor to get time enough and money enough to put the country in the best possible point of view before the myriads who will flock to that Exhibition. (Hear, hear.) I feel, Mr. Chairman, *in the presence of so many* gentlemen to whom we hope to listen, that I ought to reiterate my thanks and resume my seat: but there is a subject which has occupied a good deal of public attention, with which my name has been much mixed up, at home and abroad, and upon which, I hope, you will allow me to be, as these times demand, explicit and emphatic. If this be your will, gentlemen, you will grant me the latitude Montreal has always allowed me, and I will endeavour not to abuse your indulgence. As to the usefulness of the speeches made at London or at Wexford, I can have *nothing to say; I thought it necessary to* show my countrymen the reverse of the American medal always glistening before their eyes; I endeavored to set the truth clearly before my own mind, and equally so before them; my intentions were the best, whatever the result. (Cheers.) It was not a pleasant report for me to make, or for a Mother Country to hear, that for so many of her emigrants democracy and degeneracy had proved identical terms. It was not a pleasant *subject to sketch* those seaport demagogues, native and Irish, who have made themselves the masters of the passions of so many of the Irish in the United States, who are at this moment coining their prejudices, if not into gold, certainly into greenbacks, to the astonishment and derision of all sensible men. But I was careful not to permit the *impression* that this degenerate class, though unfortunately too numerous, included all my countrymen in the United States; I was careful to do justice both to the domestic and public virtues of a very different class, (*cheers*), against whom the worst reproach we can make is, that they fail in a robust resistance to the demagogues and their dupes; that they allow the lowest and least worthy among them to speak for all; that content with avoid*ing the contamination* themselves, they make no concerted effort to keep their less intelligent compatriots out of the jaws of those who daily devour them as their prey. If any justification were needed by any one of the severity with which I spoke of the Yankee-Irish demagogues, they may find it in the shameful farce now played *before our eyes* under the title of the "Irish Republic." (Laughter) We have had on the boards before "the Irish Ambassador," and "King O'Neill," but these performances are all eclipsed by "the Irish Republic" and President O'Mahony. (Laughter.) An Irish Republic on Manhattan Island, with Senators from Tennessee and *Senators from Massachusetts*, with a President taken from the Lunatic Asylum, and in "a concatentation accordingly," Mr. Train—if there really be such a person as Mr. Train—as its orator—I say if there really be such a person, for I always suspected that Train was a work of fiction, like Orpheus C. Kerr or Bird-o'-Freedom Sawin. (Great laughter.) As an extravaganza on American oratory, the character is not badly sustained: a little too improbable perhaps; but if there be really such a person, and if he really made the mad speech he is reported to have made, "in lavender colored gloves," to the Fenian Congress at Philadelphia, only fancy what a Congress it must have been! (Laughter.) Only fancy the Congress that sat nearly a century ago at Philadelphia:—grave men conscious of their work—invited to listen to some earlier Train—in the midst of their deliberations! What would have been their disgust? and what must be the disgust of every sensible man, who has heard or read of these saviours of their country, showing their capacity for their work, by shouting themselves hoarse at the crazy periods of poor Mr. Train! *Mr. Chairman, as I have introduced* this subject, which not indirectly concerns ourselves, perhaps you will further bear with me if I say something additional in relation to the attitude of the Irish at home and abroad to the Empire under which much the larger half of them still live, including, in that Empire, these Provinces, of course. This late exhibition of mingled knavery and folly at Philadelphia, I admit, is chiefly calculated to inspire disgust; but it also excites commisseration for the dupes, and indignation against the demagogues concerned in it. When we see how delusion at this side the Atlantic begets delusion at the other—how the astute "organizers" profit by the plunder of the confiding ignorant,—when we see how the dupes who really run risks are egged on in Ireland to their ruin by knaves who lie up in clover on Manhattan Island—when we see Irish patriotism paying for a palace in Union Square—when we see the treachery that betrays the sworn brother to the outraged law,—what else can we feel but indignation against the authors of such madness, and misery, and infamy? (Cheers.) They! the authors of a liberation of Ireland. They liberate Ireland! Why don't they liberate the Ireland at their own doors, from the poisonous and murderous surroundings of the tenement houses of New York and Boston? (Cheers.) Why don't they liberate their own young Ireland from sanitary destruction—that Ireland in America, which, ac*cording to the New York Times, contributes* 88 per cent of the deaths of children, on the whole number of deaths in that great city? They liberate Ireland! Why don't they liberate those children of a larger growth, worse than fatherless, who are swept daily from among them to the far West, there to undergo the fate of changelings *and apostates, among an alien people?* Cheers.) The New York Protectory, established by sane and good men, to diminish the swollen volume of Irish vagrancy and juvenile crime, has asked the other day for $28,000 to carry on their work—there is a chance to liberate a part of Ireland at all events. (Cheers.) Why don't these insatiate *patriots lend a hand there, where they can be of* use? Why don't they try to liberate the Irish labourers in New England, where they rank in the social scale below the negro, and hardly above the beast they drive for their Yankee bosses? There is a work for them to do if they were only honest, and if they tried; but I admit there is one *objection to it, insuperable to the Fenian mind;* it is practicable, it is possible; therefore it is avoided and despised. (Loud cheers.) These liberators, Mr. Chairman, are held out by a portion of the American press as a menace to us here, in Canada; and it is alleged, moreover, that they have many sympathizers, if not actual associates, *among the Irish population settled on this side of* the line; I think they set down their force in British America at the exact figure of 45,000 men. Well, Sir, all I can say is, that if the rest of their figures are as near the mark as these, they are a very formidable body of enemies—to the Truth! My reverend friend, the Archbishop of Halifax, (*cheers*), who was here the other day, assured me that Fenianism was entirely unknown within his jurisdiction. In Lower Canada it has neither a local habitation nor a name; and though, as I said at Wexford, there may be some of the species somewhere among us, since the number of fools, we are assured on good authority, is infinite, (laughter,) *yet* compared to the great, orderly, law-abiding, religious mass of the Provincial Irish, they are not a drop in the bucket, nor a bucket in Lake Ontario. (Cheers.) Our friends from a distance, if they think it worth while, can speak for their own sections. I speak in presence of Irish gentlemen from almost every section of the country, and I say as to the alleged sympathy existing here, in the City and District of Montreal, I say all the statements that have appeared are shameful falsifications (Cheers) What, I ask is the character and position of the Irish Catholic inhabitants of this city and district? I do not flatter them,—I respect them too much to flatter them, but I believe every administrator of the law in this vicinity will bear me out when I say there is generally no more orderly or law-abiding *portion* of our population. (Cheers.) Like the western wheat when shipped through our cooler northern waters, they avoided fermentation by taking the Canadian route. (Laughter.) But if they are not so easily fermented as they are in New York, neither are they so apt to get damaged. They are a religious people, blessed with *an exemplary* clergy whom they honor and obey. (Loud cheers.) No good cause appeals to them in vain, and I question if there are congregations in the city which, according to their means, more liberally respond at the call of every charity. (Cheers) Large numbers of them—about 7,000 in this city alone—*are tax-paying proprietors.* Another portion have stock in our Banks or deposits in the Savings Banks; still another are what we call in Canada, where no man denies his nativity, "Irishmen born here." (Cheers.) And these are the people—industrious, gainful, and generally respected—who are expected by the speculators *in disaffection to change* their nature in a night, to destroy trade, to stop employment, and rush into a general pillage and massacre of their friends and neighbors. We who know them, know that, having made their homes by hard labor, they will be found ready to defend them, if need be, by hard blows; that having a *large and growing interest* in Canada, they feel it to be their own country, and will guard it as their own. (Cheers) We know that, having full freedom in all matters, civil and religious, they need no new light from the dark lantern of the Fenian Know-Nothings. (Cheers.) I call the Fenian Know-Nothings, for they are, so far as we are concerned, genuine duplicate of the original Know-Nothings. And they would, no doubt, be backed up in their designs on Canada by the other Know-Nothings for purposes of their own. "To the Banks" would be the cry of one set; "To the Convents" of the other. [Sensation.] The hate of Cain and the cupidity of Judas, and *the lust of Belial*, would be the inspiration of these well sorted allies, for the objects of all would be plunder, and all kinds of outrage. Who for a moment supposes that any man dwelling among us, buying, selling, and mingling freely with his fellow-citizens, would lend himself to such villainy? (Cheers) I repeat, for the Irish inhabitants of this section of Canada, that there are no grounds for so foul a slander, and I am happy in this respect to echo the declaration of our national Society at its last monthly *meeting*, in the resolution proposed by our Secretary, Mr. Clarke, and seconded by Mr. O'Meara, "That the Irish Catholics of this Province, in the event of any emergency requiring their assistance, will be found in the future, as they have been in the past, ever ready and willing to defend the cause of law and order." There was *not a dissentient* to that resolution, and there would not have been had it been put to the whole of the class represented by the Society. (Loud cheers.) It is well the true state of feeling should be known; nothing ought and nothing can (if the facts alone are heeded) shake our mutual confidence in each other. Let no man attempt to embody us, at any time, by sect or class, or race, or society—(cheers)—such distinctions will and must exist, but in the *presence of those who speculate* on our divided interests,—of those who would be the only gainers by such divisions,—let such distinctions be buried and forgotten. (Loud cheers.) The care of Canada is no man's monopoly, but every man's equal and bounden duty; in the discharge of that duty, if called upon actively to discharge it, we shall know, till it is over, neither Orangemen nor Catholics—(cheers)—nor any other distinction but one, who are, and who are not, ready to defend their country. (Enthusiastic cheers.) I am sorry that there has been some needless discussion couched in a different spirit; let it pass; let it be forgotten. (Loud cheers.) The Fenians in the United States, feeling in their hearts for all their fustian about the glorious republic, that they are not really at home there; feeling that they *have not conquered for themselves* a new country in the New World, may try to solace themselves with a conspiracy in lieu of a country; but the Irish in Canada, who [looking back to their small beginnings a few years ago] have already made such headway—who have already acquired so much property—who already exercise by common consent so large a *share of legitimate influence*—they have a position to guard, and guard it they will, with national ardor and resolution. [Loud cheers.] Mr. Chairman, in holding this language I am morally certain I speak for 999 out of a thousand of all my countrymen in Canada; for all the old and known residents; for all but a handful of those who are known as skeddadlers—(laughter)—runaways from the first and second American draft, who would not fight for the United States when they were in it, and who would be satisfied nowhere, under any form of government, that required duties to be discharged, in return for rights conceded. If there are any Fenian sympathizers among us, they are altogether of this class, and the Americans ought to know by this time what reliance to place upon them and their reports. (Hear, hear.) But with all due respect for our American neighbours, I think it must be admitted that the levity with which so many of their leading men have spoken of letting loose this lawless element upon these Provinces is little to their honor. (Hear, hear.) No doubt something is allowable to the exuberance of spirits *consequent on escape from civil war;* something, too, for the feeling that English neutrality was not fairly or fully observed on the high seas. Putting aside—but not for a moment admitting that allegation—[hear, hear]—what possible complaint can they have against Canada? Has not their government officially acknowledged the *bona fide* efforts of our government to enforce the laws of good neighborhood, and to prevent raids across the frontier? We knew that, and they know it, and the truth is, that although so many of their leading men and organs hold the language to which we object, if the Fenians were to violate the Neutrality Act to-morrow, by any public move, the United States authorities would, for their own sakes, pounce upon them at once. [Hear, hear.] It is unfair, then, I say, to us, it is unworthy of themselves, and *it is cruel to those* foolish Fenians as well, to hold a language they would be obliged to abandon, to coquette with questions of peace and war, which they will find time enough to take up seriously, when they have reconstructed their Union, and readjusted their finances. [Cheers.] Having looked so long *across the line, let me now look across the water.* In the month of May last I took the liberty of explaining in Ireland the true relation of the Irish at home to Republican and Colonial America, as I had learned to know it, after twenty years experience. Those who hold contrary opinions, and acted on them, have had reason lately to remem*ber, as they may yet have still greater* reason to remember, my well-ment warning. I told them reliance on American national sympathy was all an idle and distempered dream; and have they not found it so? The Yankee laughs in his sleeve at all these mock Senators and Presidents and Generalissimos, fabricated in New York; he does not conceal his contempt of the whole farcial affair from his English correspondents, and precisely because he despises Irish intelligence and Irish position, he laughs and lets it go on. But let it imperil to the extent of one per cent American credit, and see how mercilessly he will pounce down on these Irish disturbers of his commercial and political relations! But some of my good friends in Ireland and Canada, and in the United States too, who detest Fenianism as candidly as I do, are of opinion that I should have balanced the severity of my strictures at Wexford by a strenuous statement of Irish grievances, and a loud call for their redress. Now, I will be frank in saying that I recognise the existence of certain grievances as fully as they do, and I hold that they are remediable by the action of Government, and that it is to the shame of successive Imperial administrations that they have never been honestly grappled with. Ireland, at the opening of this century, coming for the first time directly under the laws of England, ought always to have been regarded and treated as a peculiar field of legislation. Some great and salutary acts in abrogation of old abuses, such as the Catholic Relief Bill of 1829, have, indeed, been passed; but except within the sphere of the corporate towns, there has been little or no reconstructive legislation applied to Ireland. Franchises were taken away from whole classes, and new franchises were bestowed on them; the Irish tariffs were assimilated to the Imperial; *but the interests* created under the old state of the law were neither considered nor indemnified. The Catholic Church had quasi recognition, as at Maynooth, but another Church remained the sole "established" religion, according to law: a system of education, nominally national, because in spirit, essentially anti national; *the old agrarian ulcer* was neither treated nor touched; in short, a half completed work of emancipation has left Ireland the land of anamolies and unsettlement and disturbance, which we still find it is in the 65th year of the Union. So far as the University question is concerned, I am glad to see that, what seems at this distance, a fair and reasonable proposition has been, the other day, made by Government to the Catholic Bishops—a proposition which, for all sakes, it is to be hoped, may be adopted. (Cheers.) But three or four other questions—social rather than purely political—remain to be solved, and call for some firm *Minister's hand, like Sir Robert Peel*, when he undertook to repeal the Corn Laws, or to throw into market the encumbered Irish estates. As upon these other grievances there have been abundance of Parliamentary Committees granted, but no really earnest attempt to embody into law the remedies which were recommended. I say *this state of things* is a reproach to the Empire, and if any of my friends can devise any national, constitutional effort, by which we can help to impress the necessity of reconstructive and remedial legislation for Ireland on the Ministers or people of the Empire at large, I will go as far as any man amongst them for that object, by those means. I would willingly be one, for instance, to lay any proper representation on behalf of Ireland, from Her Majesty's loyal subjects in British America, at the foot of the throne; and if it were thought inconsistent with my official position in Canada to do so, I declare here, in the presence of my colleagues and constituents, that I would not allow that impediment to stand in the way twenty-four hours. [Loud cheers] This, or any other common-sense course, I will be found always ready to take; but just as ready will I always be to oppose the mad and cruel councils of those who teach a misguided portion of the Irish people at home and abroad to cultivate no other politics but "undying hatred to England." Apart from the anti-Christian blindness and guiltiness of such a popular creed, its folly alone *ought to condemn it. It is dashing* the earthen pot against the pot of iron; it is the weak defying the strong; it is the powerless challenging the powerful. To English reason, and justice and policy, I would appeal; and there is no man living more open to reason, if you do not first provoke his pride, than the Englishman. [Cheers.] But I know full well that a rich Empire will not be bullied by a poor people; that from a first rate power first rate abuse will extort nothing. I speak these words in sober earnestness, to my contemporaries in Ireland and in America, who have been sitting in judgment, and condemning my own course, sometimes with very slender knowledge of the facts which have determined its direction. [Hear, hear.] God, He knows, the Ireland I loved in my youth, is near and dear *to my heart; she* was a fair and radiant vision, full of the poetry and self-sacrifice of the elder time; but this billingsgate bellona, reeling out all dishevelled from the purlieus of New York, with blasphemy on her lips, and all uncleanness in her breast—this shameless impostor I resist with detestation and scorn. [Cheers.] Her manners and her morals were unknown to our fathers, and long may they remain odious or unknown in the land of our fathers.—I return now, Mr. Chairman, from Irish affairs, on which I might enlarge if the occasion was proper, to conclude with the consideration of our own situation; I return to conclude with a subject which I have never lost an occasion to serve—I mean the closer union of the British American Provinces. And *apropos* of this subject, I wish first to acquit *myself* of an obligation due at once to the cause itself, and to a gifted and esteemed friend of mine—Dr. Charles Mackay. [Hear, hear.] When I last spoke in public on this subject, I referred, with some bitterness, through no personal feeling except regret, to what I considered the unfair, exaggerated, and, to us here, the most discreditable allegations [if they were true] which certain Montreal anti-Unionists had induced Dr. Mackay to incorporate into his correspondence for the *Times*, from this city I could not conceive of Dr. Mackay as an enemy of a British Union on this continent, and I feel bound now to say, that having followed carefully his very able letters from the Maritime Province since he left here, that I am satisfied his *animus* was the reverse of unfriendly, and that he was not himself to blame, except for giving the sanction of his name, and the benefit of the *Times'* circulation to the invidious and *exparte* statements with which he was supplied when in Montreal. I make this admission with sincere pleasure, for I cannot but look on Dr. Mackay, both as a writer and a man, as an honor to the profession of letters, [cheers], if I may call it a profession, and naturally I should desire to see his name, where I believe it belongs, on the side of the good cause of Colonial Union. Only six weeks ago, Mr. Chairman, we entertained in this room above 100 of our fellow-subjects from the Maritime Provinces, who had, thanks to Mr. Ferrier and Mr. Brydges, more or less opportunity of seeing what Canada was like—what she produced—how her people lived—and how they really felt as to upholding *their own institutions. Among that hundred*, some were new acquaintances to myself and others, but all were hailed as honored guests among us. [Cheers.] What Irishman would not regret, (speaking only of the Irish portion of those visitors, not to be able to call such men as Mr. Whelan of Charlottetown, Mr. Lynch of Halifax, and Mr. Parks of St. John, by the dear name of countrymen—in every meaning of the word? [Cheers.] I say I was proud in every account to see such men among our guests, and not less so to welcome the Donaldsons and Macfarlanes, and men of other origins, who were of that party? But I was particularly pleased and proud to see the Irish of the Maritime Provinces so well represented here, because I was aware that appeals had been made to them—which ought never have been made—to enlist all their feelings against British American Union. The Orangeism of Western Canada has been held up to them as a bugbear; the crimes and errors of the Irish Union had been artfully placed before them, as a sample of what they might expect in a Union with Canada. If, Mr. Chairman, those inflammatory and unfounded appeals to their hereditary prejudices had taken root, the Irish of the Maritime Provinces would at this moment have been as hostile to their fellow countrymen in Canada as the demented Fenians of New York. But the intelligence of the Johns and Lynches, the eloquence both with voice and pen of such men as Mr. Whelan, *dissipated these clouds of prejudice*, and I have every hope that that portion of the Lower Province people will be found as ready as any other to consider the merits, and to approve, on consideration, the plan of Union now before these Colonies. [Loud cheers.] Since the Maritime visitors were here, a cheering omen has reached us, in the triumphant *election* of Mr. Fisher for the County of York, in New Brunswick. [Cheers] Surely, if ever, now is a time when all British subjects in these Provinces should resolve to draw closer the bonds of Colonial Union, so as to defeat the machinations of conspirators against us, and to demonstrate the hopelessness of attempting to force us into Annexation, either by commercial coercion, or by more violent means. [Cheers.] Now is the time—of all others—for these Provinces to take a step in advance, in order to meet the express wishes of our Sovereign, and to avert, by a timely unanimity, all possible dangers. The text of Union is taken up for us not so much by men as by events; every thrill of the telegraphic wire gives us a reminder not to delay our Union. I speak on this subject with*out exaggeration when I say, that in my delibe*rate, settled opinion, the question before all British Americans at this moment is, "Will you unite, or will you give up your country to another people and another form of government?" [Cheers.] I impeach no man's motives who differs from us in this conviction, but while I see *our situation* so clearly as I do, I cannot cease to cry out, unite, unite, unite! I have been charged by anti-Unionists with saying that the late negociations in England had brought these Provinces "to the threshold of independence." Well, sir, I did use that term in a certain sense, which I explained at the moment when I used it, but which the anti-Unionists have found as convenient not to take as part of the quotation. I was speaking with reference to that delegation to England last summer, which resulted so much to the honour of my friend *Doctor* McDonald, and my other honourable colleagues who are present, and to that of Mr. Brown, whose absence from the Province to-day I sincerely regret, for I know he wished to be with us. [Cheers.] I said the Queen's Imperial Government had treated with us as a *power*; that they had impressed upon us our own duties and obligations, as if we stood on the *threshold* of independence. And if we were ripe for that condition—if there was no likelihood of our repeating here at the North the experience of Texas at the South—premature independence followed by inevitable annexation—I do not think, if we were really anxious to go alone, that there would be any decided hostility to our doing so shewn in England. But that these great Provinces should be wrested or filched from the Empire, only to be added to the extent and resources of the Republic—only to obliterate England from this colony—only to hasten *the establishment of* an exclusive Continental system of trade: This is what, I think, no patriot of any party here or "at home" cares to contemplate as the future of these Provinces. (Cheers.) There are now three North American powers, (four if we include Mexico), the United States, England and Russia. England holds still, *notwithstanding all her former losses*, the second place as an American power, and Russia the third. It is for the statesmen of the Empire to say whether—notwithstanding that by their act, not ours, we have ceased to be peculiarly advantageous to them—whether there are not strong motives of political strategy felt at St. Petersburg and Washington, and not unfelt at London, why they should cling to the connexion for England's sake, as well as we for ours. (Cheers.] We also desire to maintain on our side that connection—to do our part manfully by it; but that we should do so with the best possible effect, it is essential, it seems to me, that these Provinces should be placed under one general government. Without Union we cannot have the Inter-Colonial road, and without the road we cannot have direct intercourse with the mother Country, and, without both, we are at the mercy of another Government and another people. [Hear hear.] I repeat again, all events address this question: "Will you unite, or will you give up your country to another government and another people? Will you consider your situation and the proposed Union, not from any sectional or sectarian point of view, but weighing all the arguments, decide for the general good?". [Hear hear, and cheers] The issue is made up; the question is, do we prefer for ourselves and our children, British Connection or Annexation; do we prefer the British system, purged of every traditional abuse; do we *prefer our ample self-government*, Ministerial responsibility, judicial independance, and executive stability, over and above indissoluble administrations, elective judges, and a chief magistracy turned out of that wheel of fortune called a Convention, every fourth year? [Cheers] These are the alternatives from which it is the high and solemn privilege of this generation to choose for themselves; and I cannot for a moment conceive how any man can hesitate as to the choice he should make. Let us unite then, to meet the express wishes of our Sovereign; that we may extinguish the wild hopes of those who count on finding us a divided people, let us unite. Let us unite, to draw to ourselves a larger share of the world. Let us unite, that by the enhanced credit Union alone can give, we may undertake those enterprises which will help to keep our native population of both sexes prosperously employed at home. [Cheers.] Union has no terrors but for bigotry and mediocrity. For the upright and true of heart it is full of promise and inspiration. [Loud Cheers.] Mr. Chairman—one final word. You have dwelt, in what *you so generously* said of me, on the good feeling and good faith which we all flatter ourselves characterizes this community, and some share of which you have been good enough to accredit to me. I say sincerely that I can pretend to none but a very humble part, in that happily existing state of things. But that it may be lasting among us—as I am sure we all heartily desire—that it may become proverbial of all Canada, and of all British America, let each of us, in his own sub-division of society, do what is possible, that the reign of mutual tolerance may be firmly established among us. Men are born divided by nations and by creeds; far be it from me to affect indifference to these natural and necessary distinctions; but surely a man may be earnest without being offensive, and honest without being overbearing For the great and general society of which we all are members we sacrifice something of our liberties, and something of our self-will; if, also, we sacrificed something of the passion to improve our opinions on others, which, long indulged, hardens into intolerance, we need not on that account be the worse *member of our own particular denominations.* Such, I know, are your convictions, Mr. Chairman; and such you know to be mine; and therefore we agree so well together. If this, in your opinion, is the service in which I can be of most use to the community, all I will promise is, that never did Canadian Volunteers go more cheerfully to the frontier than I shall be ready to go, whenever these principles may require my presence.

THE INSURRECTION IN JAMAICA.

Notwithstanding the incredulity with which the news was at first received, the insurrection of the negroes in Jamaica is a terrible reality. This we know and nothing more. Troops have been summoned from Halifax and Nassau, but this fact tells us nothing. There is no reason to suppose, on this account, that the fidelity of the West India regiments is distrusted. There are two, or detachments of two regiments, in the island, but their number is not sufficient to enable them to