with his accomplices, as soon as the ship got into port. The woman, indeed, had not been seen in her disguise by any one but himself; for he had been first in the engine room when the whistle sounded the alarm, and had managed somehow to get her out of way unseen. 'It would be useless now,' he said, 'to attempt to capture them;' and he implored me not to contradict the account he had caused to be circulated, and so cause his ruin, which would be sure to follow, should his owner learn the real truth of the story. He made the most solemn vows of repentance and amendment, and I believe he was truly sorry for his fault, as well as its consequences; but I was deaf to all until he spoke of his sweet wife and his dear little girl, whom I have seen, as I have said, at New York. He said that his wife was near her confinement, and that he was sure, if she learnt the truth, the blow would kill her Well, sir, at length I yielded, and agreed to confirm the account he had given. You may be sure that the crew, and especially Macpherson and the rest of the watch—who had been drugged—were not altogether imposed upon, and a hundred different versions of the story were flying about. But no one ever knew the rights of the affair. We were not in England, you know, and it was a lawless part of the world. I returned to Europe as I had recovered, and from that time to this I have never told anything, but you know how it all happened, so you see, sir, you alone are in possession of all the facts.

THE FISHERIES OF BRITISH AMERICA.

[From the Halifax Chronicle.]

At the present time, when so much indignation is manifested in consequence of the Governments of Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Canada, having granted to citizens of the United States the right to fish on certain grounds "for the mere shadow of a consideration," and in view of the fact that grave and important results may possibly arise therefrom, a brief history of these valuable sea-farms of the Atlantic Ocean, so long ploughed and reaped of their hidden treasures by the hardy fishermen of this country, will doubtless prove interesting to our readers. History tells us that in the "golden days of good Queen Bess," when the anarchy and confusion engendered of long years of civic strife and turmoil began to pass away, Englishmen first seem to have assumed these habits of industry, and to have become possessed with that spirit of enterprise which has since done much to place the British nation in its present position of power and wealth. Then it was that Sir Humphrey received at the hands of his sovereign a grant of two hundred acres of land at any point he might select on the island of Newfoundland. He soon after started with a squadron of five vessels and a force of five hundred men, and made an attempt to establish a colony on the island, but after battling with the severities of the climate for several months, he went back to England disheartened, having failed in the enterprise and lost a number of his men. This was the first attempt made by the Home Government to found the fishing system in the waters of British America, which has now become a very large and highly important interest. According to the work of Perley, late Fishery Commissioner for the Provinces, which is good authority, numbers of Frenchmen soon afterwards settled and engaged in the fishing business with more success, paying a tribute of 5 per cent. to the British Government on the value of all fish taken in the waters of Newfoundland. Subsequently the right to tax the French fishermen was surrendered, which action had the effect of inducing French adventurers to prosecute the fisheries on an enlarged scale. But the right of taxation was again asserted by William the Third, and was one of the causes of the declaration of war which was made by England against France during his reign. It appears that between the time of Sir Humphrey Gilbert's expedition and the reign of William the Third, a number of Englishmen settled in Newfoundland and engaged pretty extensively in the fishing business. The war ended, and the terms of the treaty of Utrecht gave to France the right of fishing in Newfoundland waters, but reserved the greater portion of the Bank to the use of British fishermen. This arrangement, it seems, did not suit the French fishermen, and disputes were constantly occurring, which in some instances were attended with bloodshed. The importance of maintaining a hold upon the fisheries as a school for seamen, appears to have been fully recognized by France, and the strong fortifications at the harbour of Louisburg, Cape Breton, were constructed at the enormous cost of thirty millions of livres for their protection, the materials for the construction of the forts being all sent direct from France; but the stronghold, as we all know, at length yielded to the assault of the British forces. The fish most taken in the waters of British America are cod, mackerel, salmon, haddock, herring, halibut gaspereaux and seal. During the summer months thousands of men are engaged in the trade in the waters of Newfoundland, Labrador and Nova Scotia, and it is estimated that nearly two million tons of fresh cod are taken every year by the fishermen of the British Provinces and the United States. The seal fishing on the coast of Newfoundland is described as being a very exciting sport, and has proved to be a very profitable business. About 13,000 persons earn their livelihood by seal fishing. Three millions of gallons of seal oil and a half a million of seal skins is the annual average export of Newfoundland alone.

The herring and sea-trout fisheries on the coast of Labrador are wonderfully productive. It is said the shoals of herring are frequently eight miles long, and half that distance in breadth, the depth being unknown. In some instances the herring were taken in large quantities near the shore by means of nets fastened to stakes extending from one to two hundred yards into the sea. An opening into this barrier allows the fish to enter into a pond, out of which they are baled in scoops. Many thousand barrels of mackerel are taken annually. This fish travels in "schools," and are taken with hooks and lines. The rapidity with which experienced hands will haul in this fish seems almost incredible. It is stated on good authority that ten men have been known to take twelve thousand mackerel in the course of a day in the Bay of Chaleur. From these very brief particulars, which we have gathered from various authentic sources, some idea may be formed of the immense importance of all questions connected with the fishery interest in British America. But a majority of the Provincial Governments have unwisely granted the Americans the right to graze upon these rich pastures "for the mere shadow of a consideration," which fact, as Messrs. Cudlip & Snider, of New Brunswick, very aptly say in their annual Trade review, "has done much to retard the fostering and encouragement of this branch of trade which, apart from its pecuniary advantages, has another fully as valuable in the rearing and creation of a hardy body of seamen."

As intimated in the above extract, not only are the fisheries a great source of wealth to the Provinces, but furnishing employment as they do to many thousands of fishermen, they form one of the best possible "nurseries," so to speak, for the reinforcement of the Royal Navy, that important arm of the service, upon the efficiency of which the stability and power of the British Empire so much depends; and it is to be extremely regretted that valuable rights and privileges have been bartered away to a foreign power "for the shadow of a consideration," which, in fact, is no equivalent at all.

THE OIL TRADE OF CANADA.—The oil wells of Canada are now capable of producing about 506,000 barrels of petroleum annually, and new wells are still going down. The only demand as yet is for home consumption. The sales of Petrolia and Bothwell during the year ending Sept. 1st, 1866, amounted to 77,000 barrells. The entire demand for Canadian consumption cannot exceed 150,000 barells, or fifty per cent. of the entire product of the wells now in operation. None of them are working to their fullest capacity, under these discouraging circumstances, and the prospect is that many will be obliged to suspend altogether.

It cannot be that a valuable product, for which there is a sure and steady market in Europe, will long be kept out of that market. The Bothwell oil yields 75, the Petrolia 65¾, and the Pensylvania only 60 per cent. of refined oil. It is furthermore claimed that the Canadian illuminating oil will last one fifth longer than the Pennsylvania article. These advantages must ultimately tell in its favor. In addition to its uses for illumination and lubrication, the opinion prevails in some quarters that it will become available as an article of food. This, we are told, is the opinion of Prof. Brackett, of Bowdoin College, and if the theory is correct, that the oil is derived from an enormous deposit of shell fish, it is not perhaps so improbable as would at first appear, that petroleum may contain nutriment. The demand for established uses, however, is active enough to insure a movement sooner or later. The oil is wanted and will not be allowed to remain in Canada. One cargo of crude oil was sent abroad a few years ago. It was the first attempt to establish a foreign trade, and has not been followed up. Prices have dwindled to $2.50 or $4 at Bothwell, and $1.25 to $1.75 at Petrolia, in gold. A steady demand at $3 a barrel in Bothwell, and $2 or $2.25 in Petrolia, would set all the pumps to work. Such a demand is sure to make itself felt, sooner or later. The St. Lawrence will not afford an outlet for this new trade. It must pass through New York or Portland, and Portland merchants ought to be on the look out for it. The crude oil would probably be brought in iron tanks to this city. It would then be transferred to casks for shipment. This business would naturally fall to us here, and ought by all means, when the time comes, to be secured for Portland.—*Portland Daily Press.*

TELEGRAPHIC INCIDENT.—An English paper tells a story of a singular application of the telegraph, which may well go into the permanent annals of the electric wire. The special correspondent in London of a Glasgow paper was accustomed every evening at a late hour to bring his despatch to a telegraph office in the upper story of a high building, the street door of which was closed at a certain hour, and attended after that by a porter. This functionary, on the occasion in question, went sound asleep, and the most energetic poundings of the correspondent on the door were unsuccessful in awakening him to his duty. After half an hour or so of increasing impatience, the correspondent hit upon a novel idea. He went to an adjoining telegraph station and sent a message to Glasgow, requesting the clerk there to telegraph to the clerk in the inaccessable upper story in London, to go down stairs and awaken the porter. This was done with entire success in about twenty minutes, the message traversing a distance of about four hundred miles to arouse a man only separated from the visitor by a door.

Parsons' Pills are the best known remedy for constipation of the bowels, inflammation of the kidneys, nervous head-ache, sick head ache, irregularity, costiveness, billiousness, dyspepsia, indigestion, influenza, loss of appetite, and loss of strength.

I. S. Johnson & Co., of Bangor, are the manufacturers and proprietors of four standard patent medicines, to wit: Johnson's Anodyne Liniment, Parsons' Purgative Pills, Blood's Rheumatic Compound, and *the popular* Cavalry Condition Powders.

CRUEL CONDUCT OF A FATHER TOWARDS HIS DAUGHTER.—There is much excitement at Norwich, Ct., over the discovery of the fact that a Spiritualist named C. Williams had nearly starved his daughter, aged thirteen, by giving her only one bowl of gruel per day for three weeks, and for forty-eight hours she had nothing to eat or drink. The girl had been kept in close confinement in her room. In attempting to let herself down from the third story, she fell, and was somewhat hurt. When the facts were discovered, some selectmen took charge of the girl, whose recovery is doubtful, and the mob made an assault on Williams, who defended himself with an axe. The authorities interfered, and he has been locked up for trial.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PUBLIC MEETING AT FORT AUGUSTUS.

Pursuant to a public notice a very large meeting of the Third Electoral District of Queen's County, was held on the 9th February, instant, at the house of James McDonald, Esq., at Fort Augustus, for the purpose of receiving from the late representatives an account of their stewardship, during their past term of office, and for the purpose of nominating their Candidates for the approaching Election.

Mr. James Callaghan was appointed Chairman, and Mr. John A. Lawson, of Mount Stewart, Secretary of said meeting. The Hon. Mr. Coles being first on the platform, reviewed, at considerable length, the acts of the present Government during the past eight years, including the Land Commission, the Delegation to England and elsewhere, the Fifteen Years' Purchase Bill, their action on the Loan Bill of their predecessors in the Government, and the Land Purchase Bill of the former Government, which the present parties so loudly censured; both of which measures they have now to approve of and attempt to copy. He also glanced at their amendments and alterations of the Free Education Bill, rendering it almost nugatory; also, the new Barracks and Drill Sheds, together with their oppressive measures against the Tenantry, involving an expense of over £20,000, besides the Seven Miles of Cloth and other military equipments for Militia and Volunteer service, increasing the public debt of the Colony from £39,000 to the ernormous amount of £150,000! and upwards, and which the Government, or its organs, have not presumed to deny; and last, not least, the invidious machinations on Confederation with Canada, which he dwelt on at considerable length.

Hon. Mr. Kelly next addressed the meeting—Said he was much gratified at seeing so many of his constituents assembled from the different sections of the District, to whom he now felt much pleasure to return the trust placed in his hands since the summer of the year 1858, and gratefully to thank them for the high position in which they had placed him from that time to the present. He did not now come before them to solicit their votes to continue him as their Representative, or obtrude himself on their further notice as such, unless his past services and line of policy merited their approbation. As a member of the Legislature, or as a private individual, he would, on all occasions, oppose Confederation with Canada, on any terms; believing that this Colony would not be worth living in if under the control of the Canadian Government. He knew, from sad experience, the misfortune and degradation for ever entailed on his native Island by its absorption or Confederation with Great Britain, effected by the culpable supineness and credulity of its people to the flattery and finesse of Cornwallis and his wily minions—many a bitter day and year they deplored their folly and misfortune. Many were the petitions they got up praying to have their Constitution restored to them—public meetings of millions of them assembled under the peaceful leadership of the late Mr. O'Connell, the then greatest and best man in Ireland, at the celebrated hills of Tara, and elsewhere, to petition for the repeal of that hated union; but from which meetings they were dispersed by parks of Artillery and troops of Cavalry—there was to be *no* Repeal—*neither will we ever get repeal* if once we lose *our* parliament.

Hon. Mr. Haythorne, the new member elect for the Legislative Council, was then introduced for the first time to this part of his constituency, where he was unanimously greeted with enthusiasm. He also reviewed the policy of the present ruling party since their assumption of the Government, contrasting very favorably the acts and measures of their predecessors in comparison to theirs. He gave his views of the Quebec scheme of Confederation at much length, together with that on Education, and all the other topics in agitation regarding the public expenditure, revenue, and many other interesting matters with which the audience was much delighted.

Hon. Mr. Lord also addressed the Electors in a brief, humorous, and appropriate speech, on the different subjects connected with the discussions of the day, which was listened to with marked attention and satisfaction by all present.

After several very appropriate speeches by Francis McQuade, Esq., Mr. John Mooney, William Clark, Esq., and a few others, the following resolutions were put from the chair, viz:

Moved by John A. McDonald, Esq., and seconded by Francis McQuade, Esq.,

"Reso[illegible] [illegible]ence in our present and long tried perfect con[illegible] the Hon. Mr. Coles, as the able Representative [illegible] beneficial measure for the advocate of eve[illegible] [illegible]fully acknowledge his past people's good, [illegible] in particular, and knowing his determined op[illegible] services to this Distr[illegible] [illegible]sition to the obnoxious scheme of Confederation [illegible] [wi]th Canada; we, therefore, respectfully invite him [illegible] again to be one of our Representatives, and [illegible] [illegible]ge ourselves to secure his return at the co[illegible] [illegible]ng Election."

Carried unanimously.

Moved by John A. McDonald, Esq., and seconded by Mr. John McCarron,

"Resolved, That the Hon. Francis Ke[illegible]lly, as the one of our members in the Legislature for [illegible] past eight years, having procured more substantial benefits for this District than it ever before obtained, and having the fullest confidence in his trustworthiness, integrity, and abilities, and being well assured of his opposition to the attempted Confederation of this Island with Canada; we, therefore, also respectfully invite him to stand for re-election in this District, and that we will secure his return."

Carried unanimously.

It was then moved that the chairman vacate the chair, and John A. McDonald, Esq., be called thereto, when a vote of thanks was carried and tendered to the chairman.

It was also resolved and agreed that the report of this meeting be forwarded for publication in the Island newspapers as soon as convenient.

JAMES CALLAGHAN, Chairman.

HON. EDWARD WHELAN—

Dear Sir; I will be obliged to you to correct the following paragraph, a part of my address to the Electors of the 4th District of Queen's County, as it appeared in the *Examiner* of Monday last.

"He had seen State papers that had been laid before the Governor and Council on this matter, some time ago; wherein Mr. P. acknowledged he had broken faith with the Colonel, the Leader of the Government, on this important measure."

It should be corrected to read as follows—

He had seen State papers that had been laid before the Governor and Council on this matter, some time ago; and after carefully looking them over, he formed the opinion that Mr. P.'s acts in Canada were such as to lead the Colonel to believe he (Mr. P.) would support his colleagues in the Quebec Scheme.

Your insertion of the foregoing will oblige,
Dear Sir,
Yours respectfully,
BENJ. DAVIES.

Thursday evening, 14th Feb'y, 1867.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

In an article under the above heading, published in the *Patriot* of 14th instant, Mr. Elder Laird publishes a partial recantation of his former convictions, and would make his readers believe that the "situation is now less puzzling"—"not quite so bad as at first appears"—that in a former article. He, the Editor, *somewhat* magnified the matter.—"The "divisions" can scarcely be said to exist in the *ranks* of the Conservatives"—"The "divisions" are *more* among the *leaders* of the party than the *ranks*; and their causes, so far as public questions are concerned, are few indeed."

How true it is, that "when rogues fall out, honest men get their own." Mr. Laird admits, in the above concessions, that the situation is still puzzling—bad—and that there still exists among the Conservatives, "Divisions upon public questions."

Public Questions indeed! How could Mr. Laird expect any other than that the treatment of Public Questions by the Tory Government, for the last eight years, could produce any other result than "Divisions" among the party? Constituencies will bear long with their Leaders; but there is a point beyond which forbearance is impossible. The Tory Leaders having arrived at that point, found, to their sorrow, that true to the instincts of manhood, their friends would bear no longer, hence, they (the Leaders) are forsaken.

Is it not transparent that every nerve has been strained to satisfy the utmost greed of the Proprietors? No scheme, however low or hypocritical, escaped their notice or evaded their grasp, that would enable them to accomplish their object. Temperance, and even the sacred cause of Christianity, were their hobby horses to ride into power, so that they might do the bidding of the Proprietors; and when in power, no act was too low, mean, base, or unrighteous, by which they might paralyze the energies, and crush the hopes of the Tenantry, and implunge the Colony into debt and disgrace. No stone has been left unturned to effect their object. They were compelled to put their hand to some of the measures introduced by the Liberals, but their touch was of a withering character, for the measures instantly became repulsive and destructive. The Land Purchase and the Education Bills to wit. I might enumerate other vicious acts in connexion with their natural results, but they are patent before the public, and by them every enlightened constituency must judge. I will only further notice the winding up of Mr. Laird's article, wherein he says that, "we say that leaders can do little, when their support comes from men whose teachers are the enemies of freedom and progress all the world over. Stand then by your party."

Is this audacious hypocritical cant, or is it not? Mr. Laird, is not knowledge the precursor of liberty? And have not the Tories done what they can to defeat the Education Act? You know they have!

Was the Loan Bill designed to give more liberty to the tenant or was it not? Yet the Tories defeated that measure, also!! Indeed, their course has been a consistent (but basely consistent) one, namely, the destruction of all good and sound legislation, to the crushing of the masses and the pampering of a few.

Fellow Tenant Farmers, beware of the hypocrisy of David Laird, editor of the *Patriot*.

Yours,
A PROTESTANT TENANT FARMER.

SECOND DISTRICT OF QUEEN'S CO.

POLITICAL MEETING AT CAVENDISH.

A large and influential meeting of the inhabitants of Cavendish and neighbourhood took place at the Cavendish School House, on the evening of Monday, the 11th February, instant, for the purpose of hearing the Hon. John Longworth, one of the late members for the District, who, it was understood, would be in attendance, and of discussing the leading questions of the day.

Mr. Longworth having arrived in due time, the meeting was organized by the appointment of David McNeill, Esquire, to the Chair.

A very lengthy and able address was delivered by Mr. Longworth, in the course of which he touched upon all the public questions now affecting the interests of the Colony, reviewing the policy of the local Legislature during the past four years, and the bearing of the various measures which have become law during that period, including the Fifteen Years' Purchase Act, which not only removed from the shoulders of a large body of Tenantry, £50,000 of Arrears of Rent, but conferred upon them the individual right to purchase their farms at a price never before guaranteed to them by the authority of law, the direct effect of which enactment would be to compel the proprietors, from motives of self-interest, to sell their Estates to the Government, under the Land Purchase Act, rather than suffer them to undergo the process of deterioration, by the loss of the most valuable portions of them, under the recent law, leaving the least productive parts of the Estates in their hands. The law passed by the late House of Assembly, for empowering the Government to assist Tenants in the purchase of their farms, by advancing one-half the purchase money from the Treasury, on a credit of ten years, as well as the law for the establishment of a Savings' Bank, introduced by Mr. Longworth himself, to aid the farmer in the same desirable object by affording him the opportunity of laying by the smallest sums of money from time to time, on interest (thereby, at the same time, inducing habits of thrift and economy), was referred to by Mr. Longworth. Amongst other important subjects, the proposed Scheme of Confederation was ably discussed, and Mr. Longworth's views upon that grave question, and the line of policy he pursued in the Legislature, in guarding the rights of the Colony, by not admitting the principle, met [illegible] full and entire approval of the meeting.

[illegible] the close of the discussion, the Venerable William McNeill, Esquire, (formerly Speaker of the House of Assembly of this Island) [illegible], and submitted the following Resolution:

"*Resolved*, That the Hon. John Longworth, from the [illegible]e and satisfactory manner in which he has [illegible]esented the District in the late House of Ass[illegible]mbly, is entitled to the firm and unshaken con[illegible]ence of the Electors of this District, and to their unwavering support at the approaching Election."

Which Resolution, having been duly seconded and put from the Chair, was carried unanimously.—*Com.*

POLITICAL MEETING AT CANOE COVE.

Pursuant to notice, a meeting of the Electors of Canoe Cove and vicinity was held at the Canoe Cove School House, on the 13th instant, for the purpose of nominating a fit and proper person for the representation of the Southern end of the Second Electoral District of Queen's County, in the Lower House of Assembly.

The meeting was duly organized by appointing Mr. Donald McDougall, Chairman, and the undersigned as Secretary.

The meeting was opened by the Chairman introducing the Hon. John Longworth, one of the late representatives for the District. Mr. Longworth proceeded to give a full and detailed account of his stewardship, and stated his views in a very able and satisfactory manner, upon the prominent questions now affecting the interests of the people of this Colony, including the all-important subject of Confederation; and upon which latter, his views fully coincided with those of the Electors present,—Mr. Longworth having expressed himself as entirely opposed to Confederation. A lengthy discussion then took place, and many questions were propounded to Mr. Longworth, to all of which satisfactory answers were given.

At the termination of the discussion, it was moved by Mr. Duncan McLean, seconded by Mr. Malcolm McNeill:

"That the Hon. John Longworth be nominated to represent this District; and that he is entitled to receive the warm support of this constituency at the forthcoming Election." Carried by an overwhelming majority.

The general sentiment of the Electors present was that they would support the Hon. John Longworth at the forthcoming Election.

Resolved, That the thanks of the meeting be accorded to the Chairman, for his able and impartial conduct in the Chair.

The meeting then dispersed by giving three cheers for the Hon. John Longworth

CHARLES E. DARRACH, Sec'y.

Feb. 13th, 1867.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, February 18, 1867.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.

THE *Islander* of Friday last publishes a statement, from which we learn that the enormous sum of Fifty-Eight thousand eight hundred and eight pounds two shillings and eleven pence (£58,808 2s. 11d.) has been added to the public debt during the past year. The balance against the Colony on the 31st January, 1866, was £74,640 0s. 1¼d.; now add this to the above sum of £58,808. 2s. 11d., and we have the rattling debt against the Colony of One Hundred and thirty-three thousand four hundred and forty-eight pounds three shillings—(£133,448 3s. 0¼d.) It is true there has been a large land purchase effected during the last year, but there have been large receipts from the sales of the land to the occupiers, and those receipts are included in the general revenue. The expenditure for the past year, including payment for land, was £154,251 0. 0; and the revenue for the same period, from all sources, (land sales included,) was £95,442. 17. 1d—thus making a difference between revenue and expenditure, as before stated, of £58,808. 2. 11d., as a very handsome addition to the previous large debt of the Colony. The people of this Island have now an opportunity to decide whether this big debt, with the heavy taxation which it must entail, was the result of good or bad finance management on the part of our rulers. We suspect it will not be praised over much.

THE COMING STRUGGLE.

As the time for the general election approaches the public excitement seems to increase. From all parts of the country we receive the most favourable reports of the progress of the Liberal candidates in their canvassing work. The Conservatives are very despondent, and appear to have made up their minds to an overwhelming overthrow at the hustings to-morrow week.

There is every prospect of a close contest in Charlottetown. Mr. F. Brecken offers again, and T. W. Dodd, Esqr., has been solicited to take the place held by the Hon. D. Davies, and he has consented to run for it. Dr. J. T. Jenkins comes out in opposition on the Liberal side, and is received most encouragingly in all directions. P. W. Hyndman, Esqr., also comes out in opposition on what is called "the independent ticket," and he will be an opponent that will give abundance of work to the friends of Messrs. Brecken and Dodd.

A MEAN ELECTIONEERING TRICK.

WE had not time to notice in our last a little matter connected with one of the late political meetings in the Belfast district. At one of the meetings referred to, the Hon. James Duncan is reported to have asked Mr. Davies to pledge himself to prevent, as far as he could Mr. Whelan's appointment to the office of Queen's Printer, in the event of the Liberal Party coming into power. This thing read so like a joke we laughed at it, and thought no more about it, until we were assured that Mr. Duncan was never more serious in his lifetime than when he made this novel application to Mr. Davies. We have always regarded Mr. Duncan as being an exceedingly stupid man, but we had no conception of the depth of his stupidity and the meanness which he displayed in the instance referred to, if there was no dark design in it. He saw that Mr. Davies is very likely to win his election, and that the Liberals are about returning to power with a large majority at their back,—he has laboured with all his might to destroy both; and finding himself and his party retreating into the dark shades of Opposition, he, one of the miserably vanquished, proposes terms of surrender to his victors! Impudence and stupidity are the mildest terms by which we can characterise such a proceeding. Why did not Mr. Duncan name other gentlemen who should be excluded from office as well as Mr. Whelan? What has the latter done to provoke his especial antipathy? Why did he not name him who should *not* be Secretary, and him who should *not* be Attorney General, and so on with all the offices? Ay, this would be carrying the joke a little too far. But the meaning of the whole thing is this: he cannot beat his opponent in a fair fight, and knowing that Mr. Whelan is somewhat unpopular with the Belfast people, on account of some harmless expressions which fell from his lips in the House of Assembly a few years ago, he thought he could damage Mr. Davies by connecting his name with that of Mr. Whelan. It was a shallow and contemptible trick, unworthy of the most stupid canvasser that ever plied his vocation. [illegible] were prudent and right to bring personal [illegible]onal reminiscences to in[illegible] character and pers[illegible] [illegible]d and forlorn [illegible] fluence public affairs, how wretc[illegible] would be the plight in which Mr. James Duncan would be placed! Mr. Duncan pretends to be a friend to the Belfast people, but *they* ought to remember that he belongs to a party who were their bitterest foes by keeping them in bondage under the proprietary system. Mr. Whelan and the party to which he is attached laboured to carry the Purchase Bill—Mr. Duncan and his party opposed it; had they had *their* way the Belfast people would still be slaves on the Selkirk estate. It is true that property was purchased by the Conservatives under the Liberal measure. They could not help themselves when the offer was made, unless they repealed the Purchase Act; but while Mr. Whelan promptly voted for the purchase, as earnestly as any member of the Government, was Mr. Duncan signalising himself in any especial manner in order to give effect to the measure? No—no—he has not the shadow of a claim to the gratitude of the Belfast people on whose prejudices and credulity he now stoops to trade.

THE *Patriot* having been wretchedly disappointed in its appeal to the anti-Confederate Liberals to join the ranks of the anti-Confederate Conservatives, now makes (in No. of the 14th) a whining appeal to Conservatives of all shades of opinion to forget their differences, and stand together for the support of the old Conservative party. It is too late. The *Patriot* has, by its violence, and incessant abuse, on a pretended plea of patriotism, disgusted and driven into private life the very ablest men of the Conservative party, whose followers and sympathisers will be counted by thousands on election day. Does any one suppose that those gentlemen can ever be reconciled to a party which accepts Mr. Laird as their literary organ? The thing is absurd. Mr. Laird has been doing the work of the Liberal party. He has rent the Conservative party in twain by his wild and worthless writings, and it is impossible for them to come together until he ceases to control their action as a public journalist. We cry *Vive la Patriot* (until after the general election at least), for it has been a great help to our cause.

The whining appeal of the *Patriot*, above referred to, concludes with the following words:—

"Stand, then, by your party. Purify it of its dross, or its unfaithful men, if you please, but stand by your Conservative principles, and uphold your Protestant banner."

What the "Protestant banner" can have to do with this election, we cannot understand. The trick to alarm and excite Protestantism in certain quarters, is entirely too stale. The people are far too sensible to be deceived by it now; and the man who resorts to it exhibits merely the weakness of his cause and the laxity of his principles of political morality. Depend upon it, Mr. Laird, the religious ruse will not bear repetition.

WE quote the following from the *Patriot* of the 7th inst.:—

"The simple truth appears to be that Mr. Whelan has backed flat down before his constituents in order that he may secure his election again for St. Peter's."

This is one of the "*simple truths*" we frequently read in the *Patriot*, and can only deceive simpletons. There has been no backing down on Mr. Whelan's part—he merely told his late constituents that he would not vote for Confederation in opposition to their wishes. His resolution in the House of Assembly last Session contains a declaration to the same effect, intended for the whole Island. Ever since the question of Confederation was discussed in 1864, it has been Mr. Whelan's avowed and invariable policy that the question should not be forced in opposition to public opinion. He tells his late constituents the same thing now, and they are willing, we believe, to renew their trust in him.

WE very seldom read all the rubbish that appears in the *Herald*—a paper so vile and so violent as to leave it without character or influence in the community. It was with reluctance, therefore, we have glanced over the No. of the 6th inst.—at the instance of a friend—in which we notice the following insinuation:—"The time has gone by when he (meaning Mr. Whelan) could boast with truth that St. Peter's would elect Black Bill if *he* desired it, and that a few kegs of bad rum could buy all their votes." The malice of this insinuation is, that Mr. Whelan was in the habit of making such a boast. Now, he most positively denies ever having used language so derogatory to his constituents. He believes he has too much good sense ever to have been guilty of such folly, for he might know that it would recoil upon his own head. We, therefore, stamp the insinuation as basely false and mean—invented by a weak and malicious mind solely for the purpose of prejudicing Mr. Whelan in the eyes of his old and well-tried friends in King's County. Mr. Reilly will discover by to-morrow week that this trick will be of no service to him.

A later No. of the *Herald* contains a whine over Mr. Whelan's unkindness in not "taking a young man" like Mr. Reilly "by the hand." From the time of the Quebec Conference in 1864, until within a few weeks ago, Mr. Reilly seems to have cherished the notion that he could drive Mr. Whelan out of the St. Peter's district, as he was supposed to have become unpopular on account of his connection with the Conference, and keeping that end in view the *Herald* has almost unceasingly poured out a stream of the vilest and blackest abuse upon Mr. Whelan, which, our readers are well aware, we very rarely noticed. What a wonderful claim, then, this "young man" has to be "taken by the hand," and patted and encouraged by the one whom he sought to crush. All his malicious lies, like full fledged chickens, are coming home to roost. Let him brood over them.

THE QUEEN'S SPEECH.

CONFEDERATION A GOVERNMENT MEASURE.

THE following is a portion of the Queen's Speech, at the opening of Parliament on the 5th inst:

MY LORDS,—In again recurring to your advice and assistance, I am happy to inform you that my relations with Foreign Powers are on a friendly and satisfactory footing.

I hope that the War in which Prussia and Austria have been engaged may lead to the establishment of a durable peace in Europe.

I have suggested to the United States a mode by which questions pending between the two countries arising out of the Civil War may receive an amicable solution, and which if met, as I trust it will be, in a corresponding spirit, will remove all grounds of possible misunderstanding and promote relations of cordial friendship.

Resolutions in favor of a more intimate Union of the Provinces of Canada, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick, were passed by their several Legislatures; and Delegates, duly authorized and representing all classes of Colonial party and opinion, have concurred in the conditions upon which such a Union may be best effected.

In accordance with their wishes A BILL WILL [illegible]TED TO YOU, which by the consolida[illegible]rests and resources, will [illegible] members of [illegible] of Colonial [illegible] give strength to the Provinces [illegible] same Empire and animated by feel[illegible] loyalty to same Sovereign.

ARRIVAL OF THE ENGLISH MAIL.

THE R. M. S. *China* arrived at Halifax on Friday morning last. The Mail for this Island reached here last evening. The latest dates are to the 3d instant. Of course we have not the full text of the Queen's Speech, at the opening of Parliament, as that event did not take place until the 5th. We insert a few items of news, gathered from our latest papers.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, FRIDAY.—The Vienna papers state that the Porte has refused to evacuate the citadel of Belgrade, but consents to the evacuation of the other Servian fortresses garrisoned by Turkish troops. The Porte is also said to agree to such a reduction of the Turkish garrison in Belgrade as to render the occupation merely nominal. No definitive declaration has yet been made by the Porte in reference to the proposals of mediation from France and Austria. An Austrian man-of-war, commanded by Captain Herzfeld, has left for the waters of Candia.

NORTH GERMANY.

The semi-official *Provincial Correspondence* confirms the intelligence that the North German Parliament will be opened on the 24th February. It also announces that the preliminary deliberations on the draft of the Constitution for North Germany are progressing most satisfactorily, the essential basis having been already agreed to, and regard having been shown in many respects to the particular wishes of the separate States.

The Conferences of the Plenipotentiaries will shortly be closed.

RUSSIAN DESPOTISM.

The despotism of Russia has once more asserted itself. An Imperial decree has been issued closing and dissolving the provincial estates on the ground that they have adopted an attitude opposed to the laws and hostile to the Government. Ancient excuses!

THE EASTERN QUESTION.

ST. PETERSBURG, THURSDAY.—It is stated, that in reply to the circular despatch addressed, by Turkey to the protecting Powers of Greece on the 26th December last, the Russian Government has informed the Porte that it is at present unable to judge whether the charges brought against Greece can be maintained, but that, in any case, efforts shall be made to prevent any further violation of the international law. The Russian Government is, however, of opinion that nothing short of a magnanimous initiative on the part of the Porte itself can put an end to continually existing conflicts, and reconcile the interests of Turkey with the sympathies of the Greeks.

GREECE.

The Government have brought forward a bill in the Chambers raising the Greek army to 31,000 men, 14,000 of whom will constitute the standing army and the remainder an auxiliary force. The Minister of War justifies this measure by the armaments and the threatening notes of Turkey, and the imminent rising in her Christian provinces. Greece, he says, offers provocation to none. She desires peace, but without humiliation.

OPPOSITION TO AUSTRIA IN CROATIA.

PESTH, THURSDAY.—The Emperor Francis Joseph is expected shortly at Buda.

Intelligence from Agram, published here, states that the Aulic Chancellor of Croatia has ordered that the Imperial patent, relative to the re-organisation of the army, shall enter into force at Croatia without delay.

AGRAM, FRIDAY.—The municipality of this town has refused to carry out the Imperial Patent relative to the re-organisation of the army.

THE STATE OF IRELAND.

Will the Queen's Speech hold out any promise of beneficial Legislation for Ireland? We are in military possession of the sister island, but we do not govern her, and, indeed, the position of the people is now more unfortunate than ever. The *Habeas Corpus* Act has been so long suspended that precisely that portion of the truth which is necessary to our complete information is kept from us, nor is it satisfactory to be told from day to day that such and such a citizen, generally a man of antecedent repute, has been taken into custody, having been denounced, as in one case, by one of his own debtors. We have tried for seven hundred years to rule Ireland, and we have failed, lamentably failed. We have tried bayonets, muskets, the scaffold, the hulks, and the prison; we have tried Proclamation Acts, Peace Preservation Acts, Coercion Acts, and Treason Felony Laws, but they have all failed; we have tried the Church, the Law, and the landed tenures of England, and they have all failed. Our failures, however, have not been so conspicuous in the province of Ulster, as in Leinster, Connaught, and Munster. Why? Because in Ulster the custom of the people has done that which has not been done by statute for the other three provinces. In Ulster the people are thriving; in the other three provinces they starve. There is certainly one thing wanted to give contentment to Ireland, and that is what custom has given to Ulster—tenant right. It is easy for Englishmen to argue upon paper, or in England, that tenant right is a delusion, and that it is opposed to all our English notions of the rights of property. It is sufficient for us that the people of Ireland believe it to be important to them to have some fixity of tenure which is only to be secured by the tenant being secured for repayment of the improved value he creates. We might do a bold thing, if we were inclined to regard the pacification of Ireland as superior to the sacredness of the theories of tenure. We could allow the landlord to receive a ground rent to him and his heirs forever, and give to the tenant and his heirs forever the surplus or improved value, created by the application of capital and industry. We are a timid race in Legislation, and do not like any alterations in our Norman tenures—which are so good that they have starved the Irish people, and would have done as much for the English people, if Landlords could have had their own way.—*London News of the World*, *Feb'y* 3.

Great distress prevails in England, because of the cold, the suspension of work, and from other causes. One journal says:—

"From various causes the poor in many districts and suburbs of the metropolis are threatened with utter starvation. The effects of the frost are but too apparent in the streets. Here a gang are met carrying a board on which is read "Water-side men out of work," and there is a group of stalwart men singing the words "Poor working men, got no work to do." The work at Blackfriars bridge have been stopped during the week, and also the works at the Thames Embankment and other large undertakings. Very little navigation can be effected on the river. The Rev. Canon Miller, vicar of Greenwich, writes that there will be actual starvation in East Greenwich unless prompt aid be forthcoming. He appeals for funds, which he says, "shall be distrbuted as wisely and with as much of enquiry as the extremity allows." One of Dr. Miller's parish officials told him on Thursday that his house was beset from morning till night, and that he really feared the people would drop in the streets: the doctor himself adds that he is not without fear of disorder and even riot in Greenwich, if something be not done immediately. In Deptford and Rotherhither the greatest distress prevails, owing to the stagnation in the shipbuilding trade. Many heartrending tales could be told of the privations endured in these districts."

We have already referred to the dreadful accident at Regent's Park, London. The *Times* graphically sums up the disaster thus:—

"A more distressing calamity has seldom happened than the accident which occurred in the Regent's Park. In mere loss of life it transcends any ordinary catastrophe. For railway accidents, even of the most serious character, seldom occasion the death of more than ten or a dozen victims. A disaster on the Alps sends a thrill of horror through the country, yet it is rarely that more than two or three travellers are lost. But in this instance, in the heart of London, and in the presence of a thousand or two of spectators, between thirty and forty human beings have been suddenly plunged into eternity. Death in the midst of a pastime is always appalling; but it is hard to imagine a more horrible sight than must have been witnessed by the unhappy spectators of this calamity. There is something particularly exhilarating in the sport of skating, both to the skaters themselves and to the lookers-on; and the moment before this accident the ice must have presented a most animated scene—skaters and [illegible]ers, young an old, in the full enjoyment of the sport, and numbers of women interested and excited at the spectacle. In a moment the whole scene is changed to one of terror and despair; two hundred people are struggling for their lives in freezing water and amid broken ice; the spectators are nearly helpless, and add to the danger by their shrieks and confusion. By wonderful good fortune the great majority escape, but there is a large number whom it is impossible to reach. They are seen clinging to a bit of broken ice in the midst of the broad sheet of water, struggling and crying for help; but the cold gradually overpowers them, and they drop back one by one into a miserable death. Such a heartrending spectacle has, perhaps, never been witnessed before, and we trust may never be seen again."

THE Ship *David Cannon*, Michael Walsh, Master, from Mobile, arrived in Liverpool, England, in thirty-two (32) days—the quickest passage on record, the distance run being (5,600) five thousand six hundred miles. Owners of Charlottetown & Liverpool traders, can your clippers beat that? The above ship is owned by our townsmen, Hon. W. W. Lord and Artemus Lord.

AN inquest was held before Dr. Beer, one of the Coroners for the County, on Wednesday, the 6th inst., on the body of Mary Nayer, of Winsloe Road, who was found dead in her house on the night previous. Verdict, "Death from visitation of God."

The Liverpool *Mercury* gives a detailed account of the bread riots at Liverpool. A crowd numbering several thousand persons sought the different shops and places of business, crying for bread. The early pressure of the police prevented much mischief from being done. For a while there was great excitement, and considerable alarm among the more respectable portion of the inhabitants.

It is said that a branch of the bank of Montreal is soon to be opened at Halifax.

Hon. T. D. McGee went to England in the last steamer. On her arrival at Halifax he was made the recipient of a complimentary address from a number of gentlemen of the Confederate party living in that city.

MELANCHOLY ACCIDENT.—A most distressing accident occurred recently at the Nova Scotia Iron works. A young man, Philip L. Maitland, was engaged in clearing away the chips from the planing machine when his head got caught and crushed in the most frightful manner between the sliding part of the machine and the end of the frame in which it works. Death was instantaneous.

Shortly after the occurrence of the appalling accident in Regent's Park, London, a large black Newfoundland dog was seen jumping from block to block of ice as if in search of something—occasionally swimming through the water—and all the time howling piteously. Throughout the night and next day the dog remained about the same spot on which he had taken up his quarters, and could not be induced by gentleness or threats either to leave the place or partake of food. Eventually the police removed the poor animal, and have him in safe keeping. It is stated that the dog's master is among the drowned.

HOME ENTERPRISE.

[From the Patriot.]

It always affords us great pleasure to notice local improvements, and to encourage home enterprise of every kind, but more especially so when it is directed to the introduction of machinery for agricultural or manufacturing purposes. Until within the last year or two, the farmers of this Island, in our opinion, have been in advance of the mechanics in turning the inventions of the day to account in lightening labor; of late, however, the latter have been making rapid strides on the path of progress. Not long since we had occasion to give the particulars respecting two large steam tanneries at present in full operation in our city; and now we purpose to notice two cabinet-making factories, in both of which steam power is now most successfully employed. We refer to the establishments of Messrs. Mark Butcher and George Douglass, both on King Square. In fact that part of our city is really going ahead by steam, as four engines are daily at work there within a circle of a few hundred yards. We allude to those already mentioned, and to the one at Mr. Morrissey's foundry, and at the shop of Mr. Archibald White, engineer and blacksmith.

We will, in this issue, only particularly notice the splendid establishment of Mark Butcher, Esq., through which we were kindly shown the other day by the enterprising proprietor.

In the furnace room, the first apartment, there is a ten horse tubular boiler, 9 feet long, 3 feet diameter, with safety valve, water gauge, &c. In the workshop, which is the next room on the first floor, there is the most complete vertical engine in this city, which can be worked to six horse power. It has all the latest improvements, being regulated by the fan governor, and "Ashcroft's" patent steam gauge. It has a 12 inch stroke, and averages 100 per minute. On the same floor there is one of "Moyse's" patent self-feeding planers, that will plane 24 inches in width, and over 8000 feet per day; "Amy's" superior vertical boring and morticing machine; a large jig saw; a double saw-bench, with circulars, from 4 inches to 18 inches diameter, for ripping, cross-cutting, rabitting, grooving, and mitering; also three lathes that will turn from the smallest article to a column 23 feet long. Adjoining, on the same floor, is a well-filled wareroom of good and substantially made furniture, of the best description, and not excelled by anything of the kind imported.

On the second floor is the work-shop, with nine benches, two jig saws for light work, a horizontal boring machine, machinery for blinds, and dowell making of every size, besides a lathe for the Elizabethan turning, the only one, we believe, in the Lower Provinces. Also on the same story is the upholstering apartment, and another for varnishing, polishing, &c.

The whole establishment is heated by the exhaust steam from the engine, which is afterwards carried down into the well immediately under the engine for the supply of the boiler. When the engine is not at work, a direct supply is taken from the boiler to the heating pipes of about 1000 feet in double and treble strings of inch steam pipe. The average is about 100 cubic feet of area to one superficial foot of pipe-heating surface. This is one of the most economical and comfortable modes of heating which have yet been adopted, and it will probably ere long be more generally used than any other method for heating shops, churches, and factories.

We conclude this imperfect notice by expressing the hope that Mr. Butcher will meet with that success and encouragement which his enterprise so richly merits. The day, we trust, has at last arrived when "Furniture" will have no place in the list of this Island's importations.

We learn that a contract for providing the New Brunswick Government, or rather the Railway Commissioners, with thirty-five thousand sleepers, containing 1,179,000 feet of Hacmatac and Pine, to replace the decayed sleepers on the E. & N. A. Railway, has been taken by Archd. McKay, Esq., of Moncton. He has also secured the contract for constructing 50 miles of fencing—25 miles on each side of the road—between Moncton and Shediac, which will require sixty thousand fence poles.

Mr. McKay is an Islander and well known to the shipbuilders of this locality. By dint of perseverance and enterprise he has attained his present not unenviable position. He has undertaken some of the heaviest contracts of the E. & N. A. Railroad, and is the party who performed the contract of building the immense warehouse of Owen Connolly, Esq., Charlottetown. His card can be seen in another column.—*Summerside Journal.*

FROM MEXICO.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 3.—The Mexican Consul in this city has received official information of the capture of the important town of Carnarats, 4 miles from the city of Mexico, together with the Imperial forces, commanded by Col. Mandina, who was shot by order of a court martial. General Palaccio routed the Imperialists at Morelia, in the State of Mechocoa, and captured the city.

A CREW AND VESSEL LOST.—A St. Andrew's correspondent sends us some details of a heartrending disaster, to which a brief reference has been made in one of our contemporaries:

"On Wednesday, the 26th Dec., the schr. *Vandelia*, John McMullen, master and owner, left St. John for St. Andrew's, and during the gale of Thursday 27th is supposed to have been driven on the Eastern side of Bliss's Island, and all on board perished, viz: McMullen, his two brothers, and a sailor boy said to belong to St. Stephen's. The fragments of the wreck were all strewed about the beach, with some turnips which he was bringing back from St. John. No tidings of any of the crew have been found, with the exception of a few clothes washed ashore, and a mitt belonging to one of the McMullens, which his sister identified by a mark she had worked on it. The vessel was broken up into pieces small enough for kindling wood."—*St. John Telegraph.*