It now appears that Gen. Sedgwick did actually enter Matamoras with a body of United States soldiers. In a letter dated Nov. 22nd, he wrote to Gen. Sheridan:—

"The condition of affairs along this border, and especially the state of affairs now existing in Matamoras, renders it necessary for the United States to interfere, in order that the lives and property of the American citizens may be protected. Canales has just declared to his men that they 'must help themselves.' This means indiscriminate pillage, robbery, breaking open of stores, &c. Canales has of late frequently violated the neutrality laws now existing between the United States and Mexico; and in view of all these facts, I deem it my bounden duty to interfere, and shall this day demand of Canales the surrender of the city of Matamoras, which I shall hold until I receive instructions from you."

Sheridan wrote to Grant that he used every possible effort to prevent Sedgwick's carrying out his intentions. He says he thought Sedgwick was deceived by some persons who had furnished supplies to Canales, and wanted security for payment which Escobedo, who was besieging the place, refused to give. The following is the account of Sedgwick's expedition, and of what followed:—

GALVESTON, Dec. 5.—By the arrival of the steamers Blackbird and Elizabeth Read, we have Mexican dates up to Saturday evening. She left Brazos at 5 P. M., and the Blackbird at 6 P. M., on Saturday.

At eleven o'clock on the 23th a pontoon bridge was thrown from Brownsville to Matamoras, on which detachments of U S. forces under Col. Perkins crossed and took command of Matamoras. It is alleged that Gen. Canales and his forces were to sack the city and Gen. Sedgwick sent his troops to protect American citizens.

Gen. Sedgwick then escorted Gen Canales out for an interview with Gen. Escobedo. No terms were agreed upon.

Gen. Sedgwick then took Gen. Canales back to the city at half-past five o'clock. Next morning Escobedo opened fire on the city. His forces then charged Monterey and were repulsed and pursued by Canales. Escobedo's loss was 450 killed and wounded and 300 prisoners. Canales lost 25 men killed. Late in the afternoon the Americans withdrew outside the city. M. Canales, a brother of the General, was killed.

We are without information of the operations on Thursday, but we have private information that a telegram was sent to Brazos on Saturday, at 3 P. M., that Escobedo and Canales met as friends, and Escobedo is now in command of the city.

The special bearer of dispatches on the road arrived on the 30th ult, at Brazos, and it is rumored that the Federal troops went subsequently to the American side.

On the morning after the battle Gen. Albino Espinosa, who was fighting with Escopedo, died of his wounds.

A Washington letter to a Matamoras paper says: "I have sent the instructions of Minister Campbell. They contain the following points:—

First, that the United States does not recognize, neither will it recognize, any government in Mexico than that of the constitutional President Jaurez.

Second, that they do not propose neither do they wish to acquire any part of Mexican territory: that they do not recognize in any manner the claims of France, and that they are willing to extend to Mexico any aid with the object to quell local disorders whenever required by the constitutional government of Mexico or her authorities, without proposing to interfere in any manner whatever in the domestic differences of the country.

Sedgwick was subsequently removed from the command. The United States forces were withdrawn from the Mexican side of the river.

TERRIBLE EXPLOSIONS.—Late despatches over the Atlantic Cable bring accounts of terrible accidents which occurred in York and Stafford Counties in England, last week. Three explosions occurred in Oaks Colliery, Barnsley. At latest accounts the mine was on fire, the flames bursting from the mouth of the main shaft. It is estimated that three hundred and fifty lives have been lost by this catastrophe. The work of drawing out the dead had to be suspended, and the mine is to be flooded with water. The cause of the accident is unknown. On Thursday night, the 13th, a fearful explosion took place near Hanley, in a pit belonging to the North Staffordshire Coal and Iron Company. Two hundred men had gone into the pit in the morning, of whom only thirteen had been taken out alive, and they are seriously injured. At the date of the despatch forty dead bodies had been taken out. These awful calamities have excited a painful interest throughout the kingdom, and subscriptions are being taken in London for the relief of the suffering families of the victims.

MRS. JOHN MORRISSEY, wife of the shoulder hitter Congressman elect, attended a wedding last week, and was gotten up regardless of expense. Says the local Jenkins. "Mrs. Morrissey wore a pearl colored corded silk dress, with black thread lace flounces over which was thrown a black lace shawl. Her hair was arranged for full dress, and upon her head was a silver crown or wreath thickly studded with diamond stars. Upon her neck was a coral and diamond necklace of great value. Upon her feet were slippers of gold color. In addition to this gorgeous display, the lady's hair fairly glittered with diamonds. The value of the precious stones which adorned her person would purchase not only all the dresses worn in the church, but the edifice and its entire furniture."—*Ex.*

A London correspondent says:—The betrothal is just declared of perhaps our wealthiest lady (for Miss Burdett Coutts I look upon as already wedded to her good works), and Dam-Fortune in her blindest mood has decreed that she shall find a bridegroom nearly as wealthy as herself. Such will be the case in the marriage of Earl Beauchamp with Miss Dundas Christopher Hamilton Fisbett, in whom each patronymic is understood to imply a fortune. Lord Beauchamp, well known in the House of Commons as the staunch Conservative member for Worcestershire, succeeded last year, by the death of his elder brother, to the title and estates, estimated at over forty thousand a year. But his bride is even more richly endowed, for it is admitted that she will ultimately succeed to an income of more than sixty thousand a year, to say nothing of an immense and increasing amount of ready money.

FORTY-THREE YEARS is a long life for a patent medicine: few of them in fact live to overcome the prejudice with which they are met at the outset. Johnson's Anodyne Liniment, however is an honorable exception, having increased in popularity during the period above mentioned.

The Mormons threaten to invade Lowell. Brigham Young said, in a late discourse at Salt Lake:—"The last time I was in the city of Lowell there were 14,000 more females than males in that one city. That is many years ago. They live and die in a single state, and are forgotten. Have they filled the measure of their creation, have they accomplished the design of Heaven in bringing them upon the earth? No; they have not. Two thousand good, God-fearing men should go there, and take to themselves seven wives apiece."

A man named Perry was recently caught by Indians, near Ruby City, Idaho. Wooden pins were driven through his body into the ground, and then his legs and arms cut off, in which position he was found.

There are now building in England, or under orders to be built, twenty-six non-armor-plated vessels of war. The estimated expenditure on these vessels from April 1 last to March 31 next, is £256,632. From the return moved for by Mr. Laird relative to iron-plated ships and batteries, it seems that there are thirty iron-plated ships afloat and four building. The floating batteries are the Erebus, Terror, Thunderbolt and Thunder.

Milwaukee is a terrible place. The Young Men's Christian Association of that city have reported that $2,000,000 have been invested in beer there during the last year, and one family in seven is destitute.

Style of living is only a matter of comparison. A millionaire's wife in New York, who claims a separate maintenance, wants a well furnished house and $100 a day—$36,525 per annum. She thinks this is very modest, as she has no extravagant habits. That woman probably has no more money to throw away on subjects of charity than some who would be content with a dollar a day. The great Have is always too short in the sleeves for the needy Want.

Difficulty of passing urine, or thick water. The horse strains in attempting to urinate; the effort is painful, and he is able to pass only a small quantity at a time. Give Sheridan's Cavalry Condition Powders.

The last time George Peabody put his hand in his pocket, he pulled out $150,000 to Mrs. Charles W. Chandler, of Yanesville, O., who is happy to call him uncle. A $20,000 house was thrown in.

CORRESPONDENCE.

EDUCATION.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Dear Sir;

As the above subject is one of vast importance, and one which is too much neglected, I trust that the public will not deem me too impertinent in offering a few remarks for their perusal. I will endeavour to show some of the many inconveniences with which both teachers and pupils have to contend in many of our district schools throughout the Island; and which retards, in a great measure, the progress and advancement of the noble work of Education.

In the first place, many of our district school-houses are in a dilapidated condition—mere hovels—wholly undeserving of the name, and altogether unfit to be occupied as institutions in which is imparted to the rising generation moral and intellectual education. But, in the more enterprising and intelligent settlements, new, respectable, and spacious buildings are occupying the place of the old ones; and, I trust, ere many years shall have elapsed, we shall see all the old dilapidated huts removed, and replaced by new and commodious buildings, which will be in accordance with the requirements of the laws relating to Education, and a credit to the districts.

I am happy to be able to congratulate the inhabitants of Big Cape and vicinity, on their success in erecting, during the past season, a school-house, well entitled to the name—comfortable for the accommodation of teacher and pupils, and a credit to themselves and the district. Much credit is due to the enterprising contractors, who performed the contract faithfully and satisfactorily to all concerned, also in accordance with the specification. Much credit is also due the trustees, who took an active part in the work, and who were instrumental in beginning it. Some of the other districts in this, as well as the other sections of the Island, would require to follow the example of Big Cape, in the school-house line. People require to be energetic and willing; as the saying is, "When there is a will, there is a way," so that if people had the will, they would soon find means to erect a school-house, and that at a very moderate cost. Nothing speaks better of a community than to see it adorned by a respectable school-room; it shows that they are possessed of intelligence, and that they are desirous of instructing and educating their children, thereby rendering them fit to become useful members of society when they grow to the age of manhood. So much for the school-houses.

Now, let the school-house be ever so comfortable, it requires to be furnished. There is a great lack of furniture in many of our schools, which is a serious draw-back to the progress of children. A tradesman cannot work at his trade without he is first provided with proper tools; neither can a school-master make such advancement in learning as he ought, unless he is furnished with suitable books, &c. If parents would provide each and every one of their children with suitable school requisites, it would cost them very little, and the result, to the children, would be very beneficial. Again it is painful to witness the fact that many of our youths, possessed of intellectual minds, are growing up in ignorance; wholly deprived of the priceless blessing of education, in consequence of the carelessness of parents, who would prefer indulging them in idleness about their homes, sooner than take upon themselves the trouble of preparing and sending them to school. The consequence is, that many teachers are unable to make up the required average attendance of their school, thereby causing the Government salary, which, God knows, was small enough before, to be lessened so much for every scholar deficient, all owing to the neglect of parents.

Another thing which I wish notice to be taken of is this—a man sends his child to school a week or two, then keeps him home a month or so. Can a child make any progress at that rate? Most certainly not; so that at the end of the year, that child is very little or nothing better than at the beginning; and very often the fault is attributed, very unjustly, to the teacher, whereas it realy lies with the parents themselves. The notice of one more fact will suffice for this time, which is, a neglect in supplying fuel in the Spring and Autumn seasons, which ought to be remedied at once; for fuel is as much required at these seasons of the year, which are commonly cold and wet, as in winter itself. I will not say any more at present, fearing that I have already trespassed on your valuable space

I remain, dear Sir,
Yours, respectfully,
TEACHER.

Big Cape, Dec. 12th, 1866.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, December 24, 1866.

LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE.

THE English Mail arrived here on Friday from Halifax via Pictou. The principal items of news have been already furnished by the Atlantic Cable; but we give some detailed foreign intelligence which will be found interesting.

DEPARTURE OF FRENCH TROOPS FROM ROME.

ROME, FRIDAY NIGHT.—The 71st Regiment of French troops left Rome to-day for Civita Vecchia, on their way home.

PARIS, THURSDAY.—The *Patrie* states that the scheme which is being concerted between the Catholic Powers, and which is to be submitted to the Pontifical Government, has no political character. It is simply a renewal of the proposal of 1862 for an arrangement by which the Catholic Governments would contribute towards the Pope's Civil List.

FRANCE AND AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, FRIDAY NIGHT.—It is stated that the final negotiations for a treaty of commerce between France and Austria have been concluded. The French commissioners will leave next week. Baron Beust will entertain them to-day at a banquet. The treaty of commerce will come into force on the 1st January, 1867.

AUSTRIA AND RUSSIA.

VIENNA, THURSDAY.—The semi-official *Vienna Journal* of to-day, publishes an article upon what it designates as "wilfully disseminated rumours" respecting alleged tension in the political relations, between Austria and Russia, and concludes as follows:—"We learn upon most reliable authority that the relations between Russia and Austria are most satisfactory, and that nothing whatever has taken place calculated to disturb them in any way. No concentration of troops has been made by Austria in Galicia, nor is such a measure contemplated. Russia, on the other hand, has not effected any military movement out of the ordinary course, or of a nature to give rise to any apprehension."

PRUSSIA.

BERLIN, THURSDAY.—The debate on the Dotation Bill was resumed in the Chamber of Deputies to-day. General von Stavenhagen made a speech, in which he said, "May the act which the Chamber is about to perform, in recognition of the services of our brave army, redound to the honour and prosperity of the fatherland." Herr Hoverbeck's motion, proposing that the dotation list should comprise only the names of Generals von Moltke, Herwarth, von Bittenfeld, von Steinmetz, and von Falkenstein, was rejected. The proposition of the committee on the bill was subsequently adopted by 219 against 80 votes.

The Grand Duchy of Hesse Darmstadt has now notified the Prussian Government of its readiness to send representatives to the Ministerial Conference, to be held on the 15th inst., at Berlin, and also that it will give orders for carrying out the elections for members to the North German Parliament without delay. This the Government of Hesse Darmstadt had not yet taken any steps to effect, and it is believed that the utmost energy will require to be displayed in order to complete these elections in time for the opening of the Parliament.

It is stated that the King of Saxoy will arrive here on the 17th inst., on a visit to the King of Prussia.

The personal intercourse of Count Bismarck will be limited for the present to the King, the Ministers, and the Privy Councillors. The Minister of War will attend the meetings of the Diet when the Income Bill for the army is being discussed. It was for this purpose that he has hastened his return to Berlin.

AUSTRIA.

VIENNA, SATURDAY, DEC. 8.

The official *Gazette* of to-day publishes a letter of the Emperor, dated the 4th inst., and addressed to the Minister of War. His Majesty takes note of the resolutions of the supreme military tribunal, according to which an inquiry should be instituted into the conduct of Field Marshal Benedek and Generals Henikstein and Krismanie during the late war. His Majesty, however, orders that all further judicial proceedings against these generals or any other general, or officer of the staff, on account of similar accusations, should be entirely dropped.

THE CANDIAN INSURRECTION.

The latest private advices report a defeat of the Imperial troops in Crete. The Turkish Government are dispatching fresh reinforcements of troops to the island.

Five hundred and forty Cretans, of whom 340 were women and children, closely besieged in the convent of Arcadia, south of Rethymnos, fired the powder magazine, preferring to die rather than surrender. By the explosion 2,000 Turks were also killed.

CONSTANTINOPLE, Dec. 6.—Government advices received here from Candia, dated 30th ult., announce the submission of the most important districts and the entire dispersion of the insurgent bodies. The Turkish authorities in the island had been reinstated in their posts.

ALLEGED SPLIT IN THE CABINET.

Rumours have been in circulation of a split in the Cabinet on the subject of a new Reform Bill, and it was asserted that Mr. Disraeli had resigned. A considerable minorty of the Cabinet is said to have objected, in the first instance, to the introduction of a Reform Bill at all next session, and two or three Cabinet Councils were held before the Chancellor of the Exchequer was able to carry his point, and induce his collegues to consent to bring in a bill. The principles of the bill having come to be discussed, the leader of the Government in the House of Commons is said to have alarmed his colleagues by the boldness and extent of his views. He protested against bringing in a weak and unsatisfactory repetition of the Derby Bill of 1859, and wished to out-flank the whole Opposition by proposing a wider and in some respect a more democratic measure than that promised by Mr. Gladstone last year. It is said that Mr. Disraeli is in favour of a scheme of household suffrage in towns. He would give up boroughs to democracy, promising his party, by the way, more successes under the new suffrage than they dream of. In the hope of consoling landlord influence in counties, he would eliminate small towns from counties, and give a £20 County qualification. The Chancellor of the Exchequer has been stoutly opposed throughout by the high Tory section in the Cabinet. Rumours have been current that General Peel first opposed the introduction of a Reform Bill at all, and then tendered his resignation, which he has consented, on Lord Derby's personal appeal, not to press for the moment. It is added that General Peel has been persistently supported by Lord Cranborne. Lord John Manners, of course, supports General Peel and Lord Cranborne; while Lord Stanley, Sir John Pakington, and Sir Stafford Northcote are said to range themselves on the side of the Chancellor of the Excequer. The Premier's political sympathies are with the Tory section of his Cabinet. As chief of the party, however, it has been his duty to consider the party consequences of a disruption among its leaders, as well as the particular measure before the Cabinet. He has, therefore, hesitated to range himself against Mr. Disraeli, and he has been, in all probability, supported by what may be termed his personal followers in the Upper House—the Lord Chancellor, the Earl of Malmesbury, and Earl Carnarvon. The rumour at the Carlton Club is that, if Mr. Disraeli should resign, General Peel will lead the Conservatives in the House of Commons, with Lord Cranborne as second in command. Lord Stanley, it is hoped, may be induced by feeling of loyalty to the head of his house to remain in the Government. In this event the present Secretary of State for India will succeed Mr. Disraeli as Minister of Finance. Many of the out-and-out Tories would rather see the party led by General Peel with the flag of "No surrender" than witness another of Mr. Disraeli's flank movements. These reports must not be taken for more than they are worth, but it is very likely a difference of opinion exists in the Cabinet on the question of Reform.

The *Herald*, referring to the rumour that there have been differences in the Cabinet, says the whole story arose out of two very simple facts—the recent frequency of Cabinet Councils, and the absence of Mr. Disraeli from one of them. Both are easily explained. The meetings of the Cabinet are usually frequent at this period of the recess, and any one who knows the State in which the late Administration handed matters over to their successors cannot wonder that the immediate necessities of the public service should require frequent and anxious consideration. The condition of the army, navy, ordnance; the reports of recruiting commissions; the foreign relations of the Government; the estimates; the questions connected with Poor-law administration—these and many other topics demand the first attention of the Ministers, and must have furnished ample occupation for their recent councils. The *Herald* questions whether a Reform Bill has yet been discussed among them, though it must no doubt have had place in their thoughts, as in those of men who do not fill so responsible a position. Among the manny Cabinet Councils held some must have been occupied with truly formal or merely trivial business; and from one of these Mr. Disraeli could without difficulty absent himself, whether from need of a brief rest or from motives of simple convenience. All this may be true; but is not quite satisfactory.

MORE FENIAN ARRESTS IN IRELAND.

Five Fenian arrests took place on Wednesday, viz, James Hannon and Samuel Johnston, immigrants from America. A Federal uniform was found with Johnston. Three other persons were discharged.

James Treacy, the young man who was arrested after the seizure of arms, was brought up at the police-office on Monday morning, and admitted to bail, finding two securities of £25 each, and giving his personal security in the sum of £50, after which he was discharged.

The Titania, which was seized coming into Queenstown with a cargo of coals for Haulbowline, is to be discharged into the man-of-war frigate Liverpool, which is expected to sail in a day or so on a cruise round the coast. No arms were found on board the vessel, and there seems little probability that there will. A rumour has gone abroad, with what degree of truth we cannot say, that the object of the seizure was not alone to look for arms, but for the Head Centre himself. With that view a most minute and searching examination of the entire ship and crew was made, and so zealous were the officers that they penetrated even into the privacy of the captain and his wife, who were on board. Report has it that suspicion was attached to the captain's wife as the undoubted Fenian chief disguised in woman's dress, but the husband threatened to shoot any of the officers who attempted to convince himself of the question at issue.—*Cork Herald.*

BY TELEGRAPH.

News from Europe by the Atlantic Cable.

PARIS, Dec. 18.—It is said that M. Monstier has resigned his position in the Imperial Cabinet, and that Lavolette will be his successor.

BERLIN, Dec. 18.—It is reported from Vienna that the Austrian Cabinet is in despair of satisfying the demands of Hungary, which proposes to give all the various nationalities comprising the empire liberty to agree upon a general scheme of reconstruction.

LONDON, (Tuesday evening), Dec. 18.—It is reported that the fortifications on all the frontiers of France are being strengthened, and that new ones are projected.

LA VALETTA (MALTA), Dec. 18.—The U. S. man-of-war "Swatara" has left here for Alexandria, Egypt, where she will take on board the assassin Surratt, and immediately sail for America.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The message of President Johnson, which has been received in full by mail, is the general topic of discussion by the press and the public. It is argued that the President rather weakens the strength of the Alabama claims, by the manner in which he treats the Fenian question, but that portion of the message which refers to the Fenians is highly spoken of.

BERLIN, Dec. 18.—The Conference of the Northern German States has commenced its session.

ROME, Dec. 18.—Cardinal Antonelli has expressed his regret to Mr. King, the American Minister, for the article that appeared in the official journal of Rome, denying the statement made by the Holy Father in regard to Canada. Cardinal Antonelli explains what the Pope intended to say was, that if the Canadas were to be given up by Great Britain, it was better they should fall into the hands of the United States than into those of the Fenians. With this explanation the Minister of the United States was entirely satisfied.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The delegation from British North America has agreed upon the basis of a bill for the Confederation of the British North American Provinces, and as soon as it is perfected, the bill will be sent to the British Parliament. The amount of the Intercolonial Railroad loan has been raised a million of pounds sterling.

BY TELEGRAPH TO *EXAMINER.*

December 20th, 1866.

Cable despatches reported that the fortifications on the frontier of France are being strengthened.....Reported Bazine ordered to enter negotiations with the United States for the establishment of a suitable Government to succeed Maximilian.

BERLIN, Dec. 19th.

Rumored that strong feeling exists in the Austrian army making Maximilian Emperor of Austria...No news by the *Java*....Gold 135½.

THE COUNCIL ELECTIONS—LIBERALS VICTORIOUS.

THE all-absorbing topic of discussion, during the past week, has been the result of the elections for the Legislative Council. Out of the six seats that were to be filled, the Government or Conservative party succeeded in gaining only one. We have not received, up to the time we write, a full statement of the poll in the several districts, and will probably not know it until after declaration day—Wednesday next. But of this fact we have the most undoubted testimony, that the Liberal Opposition members have carried their elections by triumphant majorities, in the three Counties—the Hon. Mr. Warburton alone excepted. In the first district of Prince County, the Hon. Mr. Yeo has succeeded in getting re-elected, as there was very much reason to believe he would, on account of his extensive dealings in that part of the country. We cannot suppose that the defeat will prejudice Mr. Warburton's chances of re-election to his former seat in the lower House, where we very much prefer to see him. In the second district of Prince County, James Muirhead, Esqr., a staunch Liberal, has taken the place of the Hon. Donald Ramsay.

In King's County, first district, the Hon. James Dingwell had an easy run over his opponent, Mr. Michael Campion. In the second district of the same County, the Hon. A. A. McDonald left the Road Commissioner Hamilton a long way in the rear.

In Queen's County, John Balderston, Esqr., has triumphed over his opponent, Donald W. Palmer, Esqr. The influence of the Tenant League was unquestionably exercised in this election, and is patent in the result. The Hon. Kenneth Henderson, who was the occupant of the seat now due to Mr. Balderston, worked exceedingly hard, all through the County, for the Conservative Candidates; but it is clear now that his influence is gone. This gentleman held a seat in the Executive Council—does he hold it yet? we have not seen his resignation gazetted; but if he has not the decency to resign, he should be told that his occupancy of the seat, while not connected with either branch of the Legislature, is a flagrant outrage on one of the first principles of Responsible Government.—Although Mr. Balderston declared, on Nomination Day, that he would be independent in his political action, yet it is very clear he cannot support the Government in the Council, as indeed he said he would not. He was dismissed from the office of Small Debt Commissioner for connecting himself with the League; and that of itself would be sufficient to drive him into Opposition.

In the second district of Queen's County, Mr. Haythorne has beaten Mr. Goff by, we understand, a handsome majority. There was an immense deal of boasting about Mr. Goff's influence, and what the Conservatives in the district would do for him. "We will put him in by hundreds of a majority," said one of his touters on the hustings on Nomination Day, "and every Conservative will show his colours." Well, the display has been a very edifying one, but we do not think that Mr. Goff rejoices over it.

Now, here is the result in a few words. There are seven Opposition members in the Council to five Government members. There must be an election shortly to supply the vacancy caused by the death of the Hon. James McLaren, who was Mr. McDonald's colleague. The easy return of the latter shows that a Liberal—if a man of good standing be brought forward—can take the vacant place; and thus there will be eight Opposition to five Government members in the Legislative Council; but in any case let the election for Mr. McLaren's place go as it will, the Opposition will still have a majority in the Council. This is a great change from last year, and indicates a great change in the public opinion of the country. The result of the elections for the House of Assembly, which must very speedily take place, can now hardly be a matter of doubt. Let the Liberals be up, and organize, and choose their candidates, and let them not be wholly misled by the cry against Confederation, throwing everything else out of view, because all parties are apparently agreed to oppose Confederation. The party in power, now wofully shattered and tottering to their fall, must get up some other cry before they can indulge the least hopes of success at the forthcoming elections.

Mr. Goff and some of his followers took care to assure us, previously to the election, that the Legislative Council represents "the property and intelligence of the community." We hope he thinks so yet; and if so, he ought to be convinced now that *his* party, in the Council, do not represent "the men of property and intelligence in the community," otherwise popular elections cannot be accepted as tests of such a fact.

[FOR THE EXAMINER.]

OBITUARY.

Died on Wednesday last, between the hours of 3 and 4 o'clock, afternoon, by a constitutional visitation, the Hon. J. Koff. His remains were attended to their resting place, at the homestead, by some 270 devoted friends. The demise of this lamented peer and most valuable public man—a sound patriot, a profound statesman, and a gentleman of high classic attainments, has given a severe shock to the entire population; and his unexpected removal to the cold shades has entailed an incalculable loss upon this people. As a statesman, possessing rare political astuteness, and broad and cultivated legislative wisdom, the dead peer has no living rival. In view of his great public services we may proudly instance one of his statesmanly conceptions and great achievements, consummated in the perfecting and carrying triumphantly, clause by clase, through the House of Lords, by masterly ingenuity and subtle reasoning, the famous Straw Bill, philantrophically founded upon the principle of humanity to Horned Cattle.

As a gentleman of education and refined literary status, cradled by fine natural genius, the deceased peer's reputation ranks high in the various departments of literature. In a condensed obituary of a great man, as this necessarily must be, we cannot detail the productions of his fine mind; but we may select one of the extraordinary efforts of his peculiar genius, elegantly conveyed in a reply to an address from a Lieutenant Governor. This celebrated reply, distinguished for sound mental digest, grammatical acumen, ornate language, and superlative composition, embellished by polished periods, has commanded very general admiration; and upon its great merits, as a literary production, his fame in that class of letters may rest in undiminished splendour.

As an orator the deceased peer may not vie with the polished Grecian models whose eloquent thunders shook the forum, nor be held precisely on a par with the accomplished and amicable Morrissey, who adorns the Congress of the adjoining Republic. Yet justice to his public memory accords him the laurel for elegance in declamation, and for scrupulous avoidment of unfounded calumny and purely fabricated slander, in his oral addresses. These meritorious qualities, which he inherited in an extraordinary degree, were most gracefully displayed in the course of a distinguished speech which he delivered at the grand stand, in the market place, a few days previous to his lamented death.

In this brief obituary to the deceased peer we have spoken of him in his public aspects of statesman, and orator, and as an accomplished student of the Belles Lettres. In these several departments of public life and polite literature his name occupies the proudest pinnacles on Fame's sublime summit. But, alas! the glowing galaxy of his great public virtues, and the noble achievements of his polished mind and diamond pen, could not avert the doom of constitutional fate which suddenly arrested him in the plenitude of his greatness. Then, in much mental agony, he fell as the arch enemy of mankind fell, "never to rise again." But his memory and renown are written on the deathless record; and that name surrounded by a cordon of brilliant sucesses shall have an honored immortality, while public gratitude for great public works shall pay due homage to public worth.

The great man, the talented peer, has passed away; and his rest now is *in* glorious repose beneath the Haythorne tree.

BEREAVED.

[OUR talented correspondent who has lately contributed several able articles to these columns under the head of "Liberalism and Conservatism," still keeps in view, in the foregoing part of the following article, the project of a Coalition. We remarked, some time ago, that it was premature to entertain such a project until the elections for both Houses of Parliament were concluded. We are more convinced now than ever of the impropriety of discussing the question of a Coalition, when there is not the least prospect whatever of arriving at a satisfactory conclusion. One series of elections, those for the Council, have just terminated, — the Liberals have won a splendid victory. They feel satisfied that the same thing can be done in the elections for the House of Assembly, because the country, from one end to the other, appears to demand a change of rulers. The Liberals are in no humour to listen to proposals for a Coalition, under the present condition of affairs; and, therefore, we respectfully submit to our correspondent if it is not a waste of time to discuss the question further at present? If the House of Assembly elections should result in a tie—fifteen to fifteen—or even fourteen to sixteen—it may not then be out of place to discuss the question of a Coalition; but not sooner.

Now, therefore, we hope our able and learned correspondent will postpone the publication of his further views on a Coalition until the character of the new House of Assembly be clearly defined at the hustings.—ED. EX.]

[FOR THE EXAMINER.]

CONSERVATISM AND LIBERALISM.

(Continued.)

The object I have had in view in penning the preceding observations, is to shew that, in the present relative positions of Conservatives and Liberals, in the sameness of their policy and principles, in their near equality as respects numerical strength, and in the *unified* state of public sentiment,—if the country is to have the benefit of being ruled by a Government having in its composition all the elements of efficiency, stability, and permanence, it is to be looked for only in a Conservative and Liberal Coalition.

Even as our parliamentary representation now stands, and although no improvement should be made therein by the rejection, at the ensuing General Election, of some of the dim and uncertain lights of the present Assembly, and the election, in their stead, of such as, although not luminaries of the highest order, might be able to throw at least an occasional ray or glimmer of intelligence upon the legislative path, there are within it a sufficient number of men of general knowledge, shrewdness of apprehension, grasp of intellect, and political sagacity,—aye, and, I believe, of political honesty also—to afford such a Government to the country: a Government upon which every one might depend for the preservation of order, the security of property and persons, and which would enable all, without fear for the present, to look forward with hope to the future.

How far, by what I have already written upon this subject, I have succeeded, or failed, in gaining over to my own views and opinions concerning it, any of our party chiefs, or any of those among the level ranks of the people who have power and influence enough to enable them, at such sensational times as the present, to give tone and direction to the political sentiments of the masses in their several localities, I indeed know not; but, as believing myself to be possessed of information and judgment sufficient to enable me to approach, very nearly at least, to a correct solution of the question which I have raised—in the honesty and sincerity of my convictions regarding it, I feel almost assured that scarcely one of any of the sensible, thoughtful, and moderate men who may have accompanied me so far in my investigation of it, can, in his own mind, have determined otherwise concerning it than I have done.

As to the correctness of my last assertion,—that, in the event of a Coalition of parties, it would not be necessary to look beyond their foremost and leading men now in Parliament, to find the best materials for the construction of an enlightened, progressive, and patriotic Government, I think I shall be best able to prove it by an impartial estimate of the individual political or public characters of these men. Such an estimate I shall, therefore, now essay, commencing it with an attempt at a political portraiture of the Hon. George Coles, who, as the statesman to whom the country is mainly, if not wholly, indebted for the free Constitutional Government which it now enjoys, is undoubtedly first entitled to consideration.

HON. GEORGE COLES.

In whatever light we view Mr. Coles, whether as respects his private life, or his public career, we shall find

"He is not in the roll of common men."

The disadvantages under which he laboured in in early life, were not few, nor of little weight: and yet by sheer energy of character, by indomitable courage and indefatigable perseverance, he overcame them all. As a man of business and as a politician, he has been the architect of his own fortune—truly, in the worldly sense, a self-made man. He was not born to greatness, and neither had he greatness thrust upon him; but most certainly he has honorably achieved it. His education, although the best which, in his boyish days, this Island could afford, was but of a limited character, and very far from being such as to enable him to aspire to reputation as a learned man; but much of his leasure time, after he grew to manhood, having been devoted to the study of historical, scientific, and political works of merit, his mind is well stored with general and useful knowledge; and most undoubtedly he may justly claim to be a man of great political erudition. In his parliamentary career, under the Irresponsible System of Government, he was ever the foremost of those,

"Who, steady to their country's claim,
Boldly stood up in Freedom's name,
E'en to the teeth of tyrant Pride,
And all its tyrant power defied."

The position to which he, at that time, attained as a statesman, he won by tact, courage and perseverance when surrounded by difficulties, to which any other member of his party, in his place, would have succumbed; and when, to crown his patriotic labours, Responsible Government was conceded to the Colony, the position of Premier, unanimously accorded to him by the triumphant Liberals, was a post of honor and difficulty which, notwithstanding the great amount of ability, individually possessed by several other members of the party, there was not another man among them competent to fill: and, indeed, such was his real superiority that it continues undisputed to this very day; and, perhaps, were he now to decline the leadership of the party, there is not another man in their ranks who would willingly place himself "in the fore front of the battle," as he has long done, as a target to the shot of the well-manned battery of the Conservatives.

The preeminence, however, to which, as a statesman, he has attained, and the many wise, beneficial, and patriotic measures which he has brought forward and carried in parliament, have not been accomplished so much by Coles the man, as by Coles the embodiment of the popular character and will. He is indeed not only of the people, but the property of the people; and, as such, they will, I trust, long retain him. Were he, by any chance, to be excluded from the Grand Council of the country, it would be an exclusion therefrom of the people's best and firmest friend and advocate. Such a disgrace and calamity, however, the people will never deliberately draw down upon themselves. They will never cease to hold him in honor and esteem as the assertor and confirmer of their rights—as the man who revealed to them a knowledge of their true moral strength, who clothed them with power to use it, and taught them how best to exert it for the common weal. The present generation throughout the land will continue, until the end of their sojourn here, to hold him in the highest honor and esteem, as the statesman who has placed upon our Statute Book the best laws which, in the peculiar position of the country could possibly have been devised either for the remedy of the great political grievances, or for the correction of the most crying of the social evils, under which the people had long groaned and travailed. And their posterity will hold his name and memory in veneration as those of the lawgiver whose statutes, framed in the light of true philosophy and benevolence, bear upon their face the impress of the Christian spirit which breathes nothing but peace and good will to all men.

The records of his wisdom and patriotism which stand most prominently forward upon our Statute Book, are the Act for the Establishment of Responsible or Parliamentary Government, the Free Education Act, the Land Purchase Act, the One-ninth Bill, and other acts for the protection of the rights and the promotion of the well-being of the tenantry; and to which others of a like character, framed by him, would have been added had they not, at the instance of the great proprietors, been disallowed by the Home Government.

As a speaker or debater in the Assembly, his eloquence, if not most ornate and brilliant, is never surpassed, in point and efficacy, by that of any other of our parliamentary orators. And this has been especially observed in him—that, however unexpectedly any subject may be brought forward, however suddenly any debate may arise, he is never found uninformed as regards the one, or unprepared as respects the other. What is entangled he can unfold readily and lucidly. And not only is his perception quick, but it is, in a manner, instinctively true: so much so, indeed, that, with reference to the many instances of it which I have observed and noted on his part, I have frequently said—still more frequently thought—of him:

"Turn him to any cause of policy,
The Gordian knot of it he will unloose,
Familiar as his garter."

But that the Hon. George Coles has been essentially the true statesman of the country, has been acknowledged, even by his most determined political opponents. Not, indeed, verbally; not "in good set terms" of oratorical eulogium; but by the more convincing—and surely to Mr. Coles the more gratifying—fact of his great legislative measures having been adopted by them, as affording the only sure remedies for the evils of our State.

In this respect he may be regarded as having been more fortunate even than the great William Pitt; for although of "the immortal statesman," it has been truly said, he ruled by his principles after his death, as much as he had governed during his life,—Mr. Coles, now—long as it is since his actual ruling power was entombed in the cool shades of opposition—has, whilst still vigorous in the body, had the felicity to witness the full triumph of his Liberal policy, in its adoption, whole and unimpaired, by his Conservative opponents.

Whilst thus, however, with reference to the struggle for administrative reform and those who were engaged in it, preeminence is most justly assigned to Mr. Coles, still such eminence must not be awarded to him to the obscuration of the merits of those who nobly, bravely, and faithfully kept side by side with him throughout the contest. His was, indeed, the spirit which rode the whirlwind of agitation, and gave direction to the assaulting storm. It is most true "that, like an eagle in a dove-cote, he fluttered *the Exclusives*" in the very heart of their citadel, and stormed their strongholds; yet cannot he say, in the words of the haughty patrician, "Alone I did it!" He was, in truth, the Napoleon of our political Revolution; but just as all the military talent and energy of "the Emperor," without the assistance of generals scarcely less energetic and less versed in the science of war than himself, would never have enabled him to subjugate rulers and peoples, as he did; so neither could Mr. Coles, with all his vigor and ability, independently of the attachment and assistance of such patriotic "aids" as a Swabey, a Warburton, a Rae, a Lord, a Young, and a Wightman, have succeeded in the overthrow of the *Irresponsible*, and the establishment of the *Responsible* System of Government, in Prince Edward Island. Marshalled and led by him, the Liberal phalanx steadily advanced to victory; and, finally, in the complete triumph of their principles, the honor and credit individually achieved by them were, indeed, scarcely less than his.

In the cause of Liberalism—of which Mr. Coles has been the triumphant champion—we may now look around us with honest joy and pride at the accession which, in the open and honorable avowal of Liberal principles, has lately been made to its ranks in the persons of a few of the most intellectual, the most enlightened, and most public-spirited of the Conservative School. In them we behold the most gartifying, the most cheering spectacle of deep-rooted prejudices and the strongest fears entirely giving way before "the light and beauty and religion of Liberalism." These men, although, in the days of its infancy, they were numbered with those who most bitterly scoffed and jeered at its doctrines, are now—as the most sincere, the most noble-minded of converts to the truth of its creed—to be counted and relied upon as men who will yet, in conjunction with some of its earliest apostles and disciples, give new energy to the spirit of its teachings and more extended scope to their operations.

But highly gratifying as, to all true and generous minded Liberals, it must be, to contemplate, in these men, converts to their creed, —most honorably won over to its adoption by the logic of events, which, of late years, has argued so powerfully and convincingly in its favor; still more gratifying must it be to them to be able to assign, as I truly believe they may, this acceptance of their faith to a generous and full, although late, admission of the fact that the spirit of Liberalism, as embodied in Mr. Coles, warred not against men, but against principles. Now that the mists of prejudice no longer darken their mental vision, these converts to Liberalism are found most willing to acknowledge that Mr. Coles—firm and uncompromising as he was in his endeavours to achieve Self Government for the country—was never actuated by feelings of personal animosity or resentment but honestly sought—at all hazards to his private fortunes—nothing but what he was in a manner *prophetically* convinced would eventually be for the common good—for the benefit of all classes of the community—the establishment of popular freedom and political equality, upon the broadest basis of the British Constitution.

It is now remembered and acknowledged, by men who were formerly his political enemies, that, even in the first full flush of his success—a success of that kind, before which the honor and wisdom of moderation and justice have, too often, altogether disappeared—not one of his administrative acts could justly be ascribed to the influence of ungenerous exultation, or of vindictive recollections. As regards the distribution of offices, he, in the first place, as it concerned himself, exhibited, in a pecuniary sense, a very rare example of entire abnegation of self; and, as respected others, no other man, in the position in which he was placed, could have manifested sounder discretion, more discerning judgment, or a higher sense of propriety than he did.

But in no appointment which he made, nor in any of his administrative acts, did he so conspicuously manifest a just and independent judgment and integrity of public principle as in the elevation of the Hon. Robert Hodgson to the office of Chief Justice. When, by the death of the late Hon. Edward James Jarvis, the office of Chief Justice became vacant, the Hon. George Coles, as the Leader of the Government—unwarped by party prejudice, uninfluenced by party claims, or party obligations, and altogether regardless of the fact that the Hon. Robert Hodgson had been numbered among the opponents of the established Govermental Reform—beheld in that gentleman only the man, to whom—as the lawyer, the patriot, the philanthropist, the man of unblemished honor, the man of "firm, unshaken, uncorrupted soul"—immediate succession to the appointment was preeminently due; and, with a truly noble and generous independence of spirit, he at once, on his own responsibility, gave effect to his jugdment, even to the complete exclusion of claims which, according to precedent, might possibly have found acceptance had it been left to the Imperial Government to decide concerning them.

Than the upright independence and generous appreciation of worth, though in one who had been numbered among his political enemies—which, with respect to that appointment, were manifested by the Hon. George Coles, nothing that he has ever done as a public man—great and many as his meritorious public acts have undoubtedly been—has reflected so much honor and credit upon him; and justly may that appointment be referred to as affording indisputable evidence that, in his determined struggle for the accomplishment of Administrative Reform, he warred against principles not against men.

GARRISON THEATRICALS.—Several of the Officers of the 4th, King's Royals, gave two theatrical entertainments at the Temperance Hall on Wednesday and Thursday evenings last. The Hall was crowded by the *elite* of our fashionable society on both occasions, and the pieces performed and the songs sung were rendered in excellent taste. The performances, on both evenings, are spoken of as being highly entertaining.

THE PHRENOLOGICAL JOURNAL FOR DECEMBER contains fine Portraits of Dore, the great French Artist, the King and Queen of Prussia, twelve distinguished American Clergymen, Miss Kate Bateman, with Biographies and Sketches of Character. Also other interesting matter, including What is Education? by John Neal; Characters of Shakspeare; Thiers, the French Statesman; Orang-Outangs, etc. Only 20 cents; $2 a year. Now is the time to subscribe. A NEW VOLUME begins with the next number. Address, FOWLER AND WELLS, 389 Broadway, New York.

TRADE BETWEEN CANADA AND THE MARITIME PROVINCES.

We are glad to perceive by a prospectus before us that steps are being taken by leading men in Toronto, Hamilton, London, and the Western portion of Canada, by means of an association styled the Intercolonial Steamship Company, to establish a tri-weekly line of first class iron screw steamships, which are to run between Hamilton and other Lake ports, and Shediac, Charlottetown and Pictou, from which place the railroad, now nearly completed, will afford a ready conveyance to this city. The list of Directors of this company embrace the Hon. W. McMaster, M. L. C., and Hon. W. P. Howland, M. P. P., Minister of Finance, both of Toronto, the Hon. John Carling, London, C.W., Donald McInnis and Adam Brown, Esqrs, Hamilton; David Allen, Esq., Guelph, &c., &c. The Provincial Treasurer is John Proctor, Esq., Hamilton. The proposed capital of the company is $250,000 (with power to increase), and the shares $100 each, so as to embrace a large number of interests. We copy from the prospectus:

The Steamers will be constructed after the most approved design adapted for the navigation between the ports on Lake Ontario and the Ports in the Maritime Provinces, with first class accommodation for passengers, and with a carrying capacity equal to 6000 barrels of flour, or its equivalent, 4000 barrels could be carried through the Locks on the St. Lawrence Canals, and the balance of the cargo taken on board at Montreal and Quebec.

"Canada offers to the Maritime Provinces a large and profitable market for their Coal, Fish, Oils, &c, as well as Sugars and other West India products—with any, or all, of which the return cargo could be completed.

"The Coal of Nova Scotia is of excellent quality, both for household and furnace purposes, and also for the manufacture of gas. It is fully equal to, if not better than, the coal now so largely imported from the United States. The consumption of coals is yearly increasing in Canada and must continue to increase. The Nova Scotia coal can be purchased at Pictou at about $2 50 per ton of 2,240 lbs.; so that after allowing a very remunerative rate of freight to the steamers, it could be laid down in Toronto or Hamilton at $5 00 per ton, a price considerably below that of the coal imported from the State of Ohio.

"Besides the great and important indirect benefits which will be conferred by the establishment of this line of Steamers, from estimates carefully made by persons of large experience in the shipping business, of the earnings and cost of running such a line of steamers, the investment cannot fail to be a good one, and the shares should command a high premium. No time will be lost in establishing the line and pushing it forward to completion.

"It has been determined to make the shares $100 each, in order that the list of shareholders should embrace as many interests as possible, and to place it in the power of almost every one to assist in the promotion of this truly national and patriotic enterprise.

"By recent legislation of the Provincial Parliament of Canada, powers have been conferred upon bodies of persons desirous of forming Joint-Stock Companies, for certain commercial purpose, within which are included the objects of this Company, whereby the liability of the Stockholders is limited to the amount of stock held by each; and when one half of the capital stock shall have been subscribed, steps will be taken to bring this Company under the provisions."

There is every reason to believe that the undertaking will prove not only eminently useful, but also highly profitable. The trade between the Canadas and these Atlantic Colonies is already considerable and is rapidly on the increase. Even with the very indifferent means of communication now existing the trade of the past season is 50 per cent. above that of last year. Hitherto there has been no speedy and reliable means of transit. The effort to carry on trade between Halifax and Canada, by the Grand Trunk railway, owing to insufficiency of steam communication between here and Portland, or from other causes, has not proved very satisfactory. It has, however, shown that all that is required to build up a very large commercial intercourse is rapid, cheap, and free communication. We learn that it has been no unusual thing for packages of goods to be delayed ten days in Portland on the way to Halifax. Yet under this disadvantage, the trade is large and growing. With unfettered free trade, such as we shall soon have, and a line of steamers such as that projected by the International Steamship Company, the commercial transactions between the Colonies must assume proportions of which we have at present but a very limited idea.

All who wish well to the Provinces, whether desirous of a political union with Canada or not, must look with favour on this project for fostering and enlarging their commerce. The abrogation of the Reciprocity Treaty, intended as it was to cripple and destroy our trade, may prove to be a blessing. It has thrown us on our own resources, and caused the several communities into which British America is divided, to look to each other for that which was formerly obtained in the States. The result so far justifies the best hopes for the future.

The completion of our new railway to Pictou will be of the highest importance in carrying on the trade between Nova Scotia and Canada; at least till the Intercolonial railway is completed. As before stated, Pictou is to be the Nova Scotian terminus of the new line of steamers. We anticipate a very large traffic for our railway in consequence.—*Halifax British Colonist, Dec. 15.*

THE ATLANTIC CABLE. — We have permission to state that, during the week, two messages have been sent direct to London and Liverpool, per the cable, from this city, by our enterprising merchants and townsmen, Messrs. Hugh Monaghan, of Charlottetown, and J. A. McDonald, of Summerside. The two messages cost $125 in gold. We wish them success, and hope they will be fully remunerated for their enterprise, and be always able to send many more. These two messages are the first from Prince Edward Island, by the Atlantic Cable.—*Isl.*