

cell, by abolishing the prerogative of the Crown over that body, was a direct infringement of the Constitution; yet he would attempt to frighten them with the cry, it would be unconstitutional to pass the Bill which was then called for. In his (Mr. W.'s) opinion, the Bill which was then in contemplation was one which should stand on its own merits. The reasoning employed by those who spoke against the Bill, were, he considered, mere apologies for arguments. He thought the Bill was of that nature that it would commend itself to the good sense of every member in the Committee. (To be continued.)

LATE UNITED STATES NEWS.

GEN. SCOTT'S PROGRAMME OF THE WAR.

A Washington correspondent of the N. Y. Times gives the following outlines of Gen. Scott's plans, obtained from an authoritative source: "Unless something should transpire to hasten events, we are further than ever removed from battle. Gen. Scott has no purpose of risking a general engagement. The only conflicts between our troops and the rebels, which are likely to transpire for some time to come, are the skirmishes that proceed from the scouting parties of the two forces encountering one another. The first step in Gen. Scott's programme is the concentration of federal troops in Virginia and the other border States in such large bodies as to make it madness for the rebels to attempt an attack. While thus intimidating them, the presence of our forces will encourage the loyal citizens to rise in sufficient numbers to prevent any further outrages, to cut off their resources, increase the dissatisfaction in their camps, and cause desertion, and by thus harassing them ultimately demoralize the rebel forces and drive them from the border States. He is confident that this accomplished, the loyalty of the border States is fixed. Then it is his purpose to transport by sea an immense force to operate against the Gulf States. They will be landed under the protection of our men-of-war at the prominent points on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts, and thus threatened by approaches from the sea, the authorities of the different States will at once recall their troops from the main body, and thus break up their grand army and make it powerless for any offensive movement. The fragments in the different States being then cut off from supplies from the border States, will be driven to accept terms from Washington. It is in no part of the plan, as at present arranged, to attack the debris of the rebel army, or to attempt to retake any of the forts, as the restoration of them will be made one of the conditions dictated to the rebels when they find themselves forced to accept terms. Gen. Scott is confident that the troops will not be compelled to remain at any point more than two or three days, which will suffice to accomplish the purpose of defeating any further offensive movements of the rebels. This will avoid the danger of an exposure to the malaria of the Southern coast during the hot months. By January he thinks that the rebellion will be entirely defeated, and the Union reconstructed."

ITEMS OF WAR NEWS.

Affairs in Washington have not assumed a very important aspect within the past twenty-four hours. A rebel soldier who had been arrested made a very full statement relative to the position and condition of the rebel forces. He says that there are not more than six thousand men between the Union lines on the Potomac and Manassas Junction, and states further that great discontent exists among a portion of the troops—officers as well as men—owing to the bad treatment they are receiving, and that many of them are determined to abandon the rebel service as soon as their term of enlistment expires.

Information was received in Washington lately from Texas to the effect that the Western frontier of that State was preparing to follow the example of Western Virginia and East Tennessee, by organizing a formidable movement against secession, and adhering to the Union in the shape of a new State.

Nothing of importance has taken place at or about Fortress Monroe, although considerable excitement was created there on Friday by the arrest of Col. Allen, of the First New York regiment, by order of Col. Butler, for trial by court martial. The particulars of the charge have not transpired, but from all we can learn it appears to be based on the following facts:—It seems that on Thursday afternoon information reached Col. Allen that a number of negroes and white men were gathering in a field of wheat, five miles distant, belonging to Major Thompson, of the rebel army, and were going to convey the same to Yorktown for the aid of the rebels. Some of them demanded from Col. Allen the horses, previously confiscated from the rebel soldiers, to convey the wheat to the army.

Col. Allen refused to give up the horses, and sent a squad of soldiers to prevent them from taking the wheat. Soon afterwards the wheat field took fire, and twenty acres were destroyed. It being supposed that the wheat field was burned by Col. Allen's order, he received the following note from Gen. Butler:—"Col. Allen, commanding First regiment New York Volunteers, is ordered to report himself to me, under arrest, at these quarters, forthwith. The command of his regiment will devolve upon Lieutenant Col. Dyckman, of his regiment, who will report to me for further orders. Charges and specifications for trial will be furnished Col. Allen at the earliest possible moment."

We learn that the British Admiral, Milne, in command of the American squadron, has issued orders to all the naval officers under him to watch our blockade with the greatest care, in order to protect the rights and maritime interests of England, and to be particular that the blockade is conducted according to the strict letter of the agreement adopted at the Paris Conference of 1855. He further orders them to pay no attention to the blockade unless where it is absolutely effective.

Southerners sojourning in the Northern States have been notified by letter from the authorities of the bogus Southern Confederacy that if they do not return to their homes by the 15th day of July they will be considered as aliens and enemies to the Confederate States, and their property will be confiscated.

A special messenger from Alexandria to the agent of the Associated Press brings the following: This morning at day-break fourteen rebel scouts attacked three pickets of the Fourth Pennsylvania Regiment, stationed at Shutter's Hill, wounding one and killing Thomas Murray. The pickets returned the fire, killing two of the rebels and wounding another. One of the slain was a sergeant of the Letcher Guards. The enemy beat a hasty retreat.

New York, June 30.—The Tribune's special Washington despatch says: "The whole number of rebel troops in Virginia, by a rebel estimate, is 80,000, of which 55,000 are armed, but not over 20,000 can be concentrated at a given point. The largest number now at one point—Manassas Junction—is 18,000. There are 9000 choice men at Yorktown. The number at Richmond don't exceed 6000. Norfolk is regarded as impregnable. They do not intend to make a stand against the Government troops at any point, and will only hold their position at Manassas a short time if attacked. It is not their purpose to engage in a pitched battle, but to harass and pick off our men in guerilla warfare. Gen. Beauregard's force is camped from Springfield to Fairfax Court House, mostly in a dense forest between the river and the Little River Turnpike. In this labyrinth they doubt wish to draw the Federal troops. The premises of the farmers in the vicinity have been ransacked, and all the grain taken without an equivalent."

(By Telegraph to the St. John Colonial Empire, July 10.)

BOSTON, July 9.

All accounts agree as to the weakness of the rebel forces at Richmond. The masses are prevailing extensively in the rebel camp.

Gen. Scott is hourly expecting to have a report of a conflict between Generals Patterson and Johnson.

A large force of gunboats has left Fortress Monroe to attack the rebel battery at Sewell's Point.

There is considerable excitement at Washington regarding the mission of Major Taylor, with a flag of truce from the rebel army, intimations being freely made relative to a compromise and cessation of hostilities.

A company of the Garibaldi regiment at Washington have continued—these complaints being that they had not received rations of sufficient food. They have been disgraced and imprisoned.

The House of Representatives has passed a Bill, appropriating six millions of dollars for three months pay of volunteers. \$300,000.

The following has just been received: Boston, July 9, P. M. Taylor's mission has proved a failure, the President refusing any compromise with Jefferson Davis.

Taylor was sent back under a strict guard. His real object was supposed to be the communication with the Secessionists at Washington, and to obtain information.

A rebel recruiting office has been opened at Louisville. Howe to-day passed a resolution exempting the army from the duty of capturing or returning escaped slaves.

IMPORTANT DISPATCH FROM GENERAL PATTERSON.

10,000 REBELS ROUTED!

WASHINGTON, July 3.—The following was received this morning at 2.15: "Hawk River, near Martinsburg, Va., July 2.—To Col. E. Townsend, Assistant Adjutant General. Left Williamsport at 6 A. M. to-day for this place. Drove and routed the rebels, about 10,000 strong, with four guns, and now occupy his camp, with the loss, I regret to say, of three killed and ten wounded. (Signed) M. PATTERSON, Major General Commanding."

It is said that General Scott was much gratified with news, and the President was awake from his sleep to receive it. The Cabinet met to-day with much better spirits than usual in consequence.

193 REBELS KILLED.

A Washington correspondent of the New York Tribune, speaking of the growing Union feeling in Texas, makes the following: On the 3d inst., Gen. C., at the head of 207 Mounted Rangers, made a descent upon an armed camp of 457 Rebels, and killed 193 on the spot.

The rest fled, leaving everything behind, glad enough to escape with whole skins from a man who treats all traitors who fall into his hands as they deserve, who knows their hidingplaces, and is sure to be at their backs when they least expect it.

It is said that the ladies of Troy have invented a new feature in their fairs. A parcel of handsome girls set themselves up and allow the "fellows" to kiss them for twelve and half cents a kiss. One girl made \$62 in one evening. One man took \$11 worth.

GREAT FIRE IN EAST BOSTON.

On the afternoon of the Fourth, East Boston was visited by one of the most extensive conflagrations that has occurred in this city or vicinity for many years. The fire broke out about a quarter to two o'clock, and raged with great fierceness until evening, at which time, with assistance from the surrounding cities, the firemen succeeded in getting it under their control. In that short space of time the fire spread with such rapidity that a very large amount of valuable property, covering ten acres of ground, was completely destroyed. The citizens of East Boston were perfectly panic-stricken, and the idea was quite prevalent that a party of conspirators, in the interest of the secessionists, were going to destroy the entire city. The property destroyed included sixty dwelling houses, two salt mills, seven wharves (including Nickerson's, with all the valuable property on it), one of the largest lumber yards in the city, an extensive foundry and machine shop, one of the best sectional docks in the country, and eight vessels, some of them containing valuable cargoes. The origin of the fire is not certainly known. It is supposed to have originated in Rodney's rigging loft, in a large wooden building on Aspinwall's wharf, from an India cracker, which was carelessly exploded in a quantity of very combustible material.

The Examiner.

Charlottetown, P. E. I., July 15, 1861.

LATE INTELLIGENCE FROM EUROPE.

The English Mail brought by the R. M. Steamship Canada to Halifax, where it arrived on Wednesday last, reached here on Friday. The news brought by the Great Eastern on her way to Canada with troops, is nearly as late as that brought by the Halifax steamer. We give below an extensive summary of the news by the latter arrival. We have not noticed anything of importance in the papers brought by the Canada.

NEWS BY THE GREAT EASTERN.

FATHER POINT, July 6.—Steamship Great Eastern from Liverpool 27th ult., passed here this morning en route for Quebec with soldiers. Her advices are four days later. She left Liverpool about noon on the 26th.

Steamships Prince Albert and America arrived at Queenstown on the 23rd, the Hibernia the 25th, and the City of Washington on the 26th. The Sultan of Turkey died on the 25th, and was succeeded by his brother, Abinal Aziz Khan. All was quiet at Constantinople. The Bombay mails of May 27, Calcutta of May 22, and Shanghai of May 4, have arrived at Marseilles. A panic prevailed in Calcutta owing to opium speculations. The Chinese rebels have taken Hankow. The letters from India and China were delivered in Liverpool this morning. Those from Bombay will be here tomorrow morning. Cotton was advancing in price in Bombay, and silks also were rising.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Lord Chancellor Campbell was found dead in his bed-room on the morning of the 23rd. He retired in the evening previous in good health. His death was caused by the rupture of a blood-vessel.

Sir Richard Bethell, the Attorney General, succeeds to the Chancellorship.

Sir J. Ferguson, in the House of Commons, condemned the policy of sending a reinforcement to Canada. Mr. D'Israeli also thought the Government was incurring a serious responsibility. Lord Palmerston defended the Government, and said it was the usual precautionary measure of all governments in the immediate vicinity of hostilities. This step, he said, indicated no distrust of the good faith of the Northern States, and betrayed no want of confidence in the Canadians. The time was fit and proper, because reinforcements can only be sent to Canada in the summer time.

The Times continues to maintain that Americans have no ground for abusing England, beyond mortification at England's lack of appreciation, and says the Northerners have thrown themselves into a passion, and must be left to recover.

Sir Archibald Allison, in a letter to Cassius M. Clay, contends that the American Constitution is a failure, and recommends a national church and a monarchy as a remedy.

The conflagration in London, briefly telegraphed by the Persia, was the most disastrous that has occurred for generations. Immense piles of warehouses, on the Surrey side of London bridge, filled with all kinds of produce, were destroyed. The loss exceeded two millions sterling. Some of the estimates make the extent of the loss from three to four millions sterling. Nearly all was insured. The probable sales of consols by insurance companies caused a decline in the Stock Exchange, and some articles of produce advanced in consequence of the quantities consumed.—The fire was still burning in some vaults, but it was becoming gradually subdued, and the danger of further explosions had passed.

The business in Parliament on the 26th was wholly unimportant.

The great seal of the Lord Chancellor was formally conferred by the Queen on Sir R. Bethell vice Lord Campbell, deceased.

The Prince and Princess Frederick William of Prussia had arrived in England on a visit to the Queen.

The Prince of Wales would proceed on the 29th to the camp at Carragh, Ireland, to take a course of military duties.

Mr. Cobden addressed his constituents at Rockdale on the 26th. He eulogised the French Government and the commercial treaty with that country, denounced the volunteer movement in England, and ridiculed the bugbear idea of a French invasion.

The Cunard steamer Scotia had been successfully launched.

The funds on the 26th were firmer, the late fire having induced purchasers. Consols advanced $\frac{1}{2}$ l. Money is in moderate demand. Six per cent. was generally demanded. Increased ease was anticipated.

The Board of Trade returns for May show increased exports over May of last year, notwithstanding the American crisis. The Bank of Madrid has altered its rate of discount to 7 per cent.

FRANCE.

Political news unimportant. The recognition of Italy by France has been formally announced in the *Moniteur* by Ricasoli in the Italian Parliament. The latter said the diplomatic relations of the two countries would soon be re-established.

A party of Bourbonists who landed near Syracuse were arrested by the troops, and 23 were afterwards shot. The new treaty of commerce between France and Brazil is confirmed. It will involve a general remodelling of tariff duties.

The Paris Bourse had an improving tendency on the 26th; rents were quoted at 67 $\frac{1}{2}$ G.

ITALY.

The Chamber of Deputies on the 26th debated the bill relating to the loan of five hundred million francs. Ferrari opposed the bill, and attacked the whole system of the Government. Dessanais replied, and demonstrated that the government was following Cavour's system. The debate was then adjourned.

The official *Gazette* contradicts the reports of the landing of Bourbonists and other disturbers of public order in Sicily, and says only three Bourbon brigands had landed there.

The Paris correspondent of the London *Times* says, Ricasoli's note, in reply to the French declaration, is firm and uncompromising. He does not admit of reservations, and declines entering into any engagement as to the future, which would interfere with the completeness of the new kingdom.

The Italian Chamber have adopted the bill on National Armaments.

The Pope is ill, but was improving at last accounts.

SPAIN.

The Spanish proclamation relative to the American war, says, the Queen is determined to observe the strictest neutrality between the Federal States of the Union and the Confederate States of the South. With this view it is prohibited to arm, build, and fit out privateers, no matter under what flag, in any Spanish port. Ship owners and captains are prohibited from accepting letters of marque, and from contributing in any way to the armament and fitting out of privateers. Privateers and prizes are prohibited remaining over 24 hours in Spanish ports, save in case of urgent necessity, in which case the harbor authorities are to compel them to proceed to sea as early as possible, and not allow them to ship only what is necessary, and never, under any pretext, arms and ammunition. No articles belonging to prizes are allowed to be sold. The carriage of goods to non-blockaded ports, is guaranteed, except war materials and letters which are prohibited. Officers are responsible for their own acts, and have no claim for protection. Spaniards are prohibited from taking service on either side, and are enjoined to abstain from all acts which may be regarded as opposed to neutrality. The decree is dated June 17, and countersigned by Collantes, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

INDIA.

Mr. Lating, the Indian Finance Minister, had taken a sea voyage, and partially recovered from his severe illness. Mr. Barnes, Foreign Secretary, is dead. The famine had been effectually relieved. There had been slight disturbances in the Southwestern provinces and indigo districts. The Calcutta produce markets are more active. Imports are affected by embarrassments occasioned by opium speculations. Exports are languid.

POLITICAL MEETINGS IN THE THIRD ELECTORAL DISTRICT OF QUEEN'S COUNTY.

MEETING AT FORT AUGUSTUS.

Agreeably to public notice, a meeting of the electors was held in the above populous settlement, at the house of Mr. Owen Simpson, on Tuesday last, at about half past three o'clock. The meeting was called by the Hon. Messrs. Coles and Kelly, to enable those gentlemen, being the representatives of the district, to give an account of their votes and proceedings in the House of Assembly during the last Session—to inform their constituents regarding the general state of public affairs—and to show the delusive promises of the Government with regard to the benefits to be derived from the much vaunted Land Commission. Advantages were also taken of this opportunity to organize a Branch of the Central Liberal Society, a proposal which was readily accepted by every person present at the meeting. The Meeting was presided over by James McDonald, Esq., and was addressed at considerable length by Mr. Coles, whose explanation of, and remarks on public affairs were listened to with great attention, and elicited frequent bursts of applause. Messrs. Kelly, Whelan and F. McQuaid addressed the meeting also, and they were received in the most flattering manner. The resolutions passed—against which there was not a dissenting voice—have reference mainly to the organization of the Branch Society, and are as follows:—

Moved by Francis McQuade, Esq., seconded by Mr. Wm. Smith. Resolved, That a Branch of the Central Liberal Society be established in this Settlement, in order to promote an effective organization of the Liberal party, and thereby secure the spread of Liberal principles.

Moved by Mr. Michael Hughes, seconded by Mr. John Kelly. Resolved, That the following gentlemen be a Committee to carry out the objects of the foregoing resolution, viz: Hon. F. Kelly, Messrs. Terence Carroll, Patrick Clarke, John Mc-Aron, Robert Webster, James Wisner, Owen Simpson, James Callaghan, James White, Dennis Egan, John Coninsky, John A. McDonald, and James McDonald, Esqrs.

Moved by Mr. Owen Simpson, seconded by Mr. Patrick McKown. Resolved, That Hon. F. Kelly be President; James Callaghan, Treasurer; and James Wisner, Secretary to this Branch of the Liberal Society.

Moved by Mr. James Wisner, seconded by Mr. Francis Murray. Resolved, That the Committee shall meet once a week, or as often as may be convenient, and the Secretary shall correspond with the Secretary of the Central Society in Charlottetown, and that the instructions received from the Secretary of the said Central Society shall govern the proceedings of this Branch of that Society.

Moved by John A. McDonald, Esquire, seconded by Mr. James Power. Resolved, That this Meeting desire to express their entire confidence in the course pursued by the minority of the House of Assembly during the last three Sessions, in which they have given pleasure in stating that the conduct of the Hon. George Coles and the Hon. Francis Kelly has entitled those gentlemen to the unanimous approval and respect of the people here assembled.

On behalf of the Meeting, JAMES McDONALD, Chairman. FRANCIS TRONKOR, Secretary.

MEETING AT THE TEN MILE HOUSE, ST. PETER'S ROAD.

Shortly after eight o'clock on the same evening a Public Meeting was held at Mr. James Fitzpatrick's, Ten Mile House, St. Peter's Road, having precisely the same objects in view as the preceding one. The chair was occupied by Angus McAulay, Esq., J. P., of Tracadie, and the meeting was addressed by Messrs. Coles, Whelan and several others. The following resolution, drawn up by a Committee appointed at the meeting to prepare it, was submitted after the speeches were concluded, and passed unanimously:—

Resolved, That, as the opinion of this meeting, there be established a Branch of the Central Liberal Society, to include the Ten Mile House settlement and the settlements of Mill Cove, French Fort, Scotch Fort, Johnston's River, Tracadie, and Sandhills; and that the following persons be a Committee and Officers—Messrs. Angus McAulay, Esq., President; Patrick McQuaid, Secretary; Committee—Francis McQuaid, Esq., John Hayden, John McCarron, Hugh McInnes, James Connors, James Fitzpatrick, Daniel Mullins, John Mooney, Patrick Griffin, Andrew O'Brien, Patrick Traynor, Angus McDonald, Donald McIsaac, and James McDonald, Grand Tracadie.

Arrangements were made at both the above meetings for conducting a correspondence with the Central Society, so that the Branches may be put in effective working order. The attendance at both meetings was very respectable. At the Fort Augustus one there were at least three hundred persons present, notwithstanding the intense heat of the day; and at the Ten Mile House Meeting more than one hundred assembled. The attendance here would have been much larger, only that the notice was not generally circulated in the neighbouring settlements. Besides, the time named for the meeting was six o'clock, but it was not convened until about

half-past eight; and many persons who assembled at the former hour left before eight o'clock, under the impression that the meeting was postponed. However, there is no mistake about the feeling of the people in this part of the Island. Every man of them is true to the Liberal cause—a fact which will be made painfully sensible to any Tory candidate who will presume to offer for their suffrages at the next general election. They, at least, have not been deceived by the cajolery and humbug which the Government have practised on the tenantry in regard to the wonderful Land Commission.

THE LAND COMMISSION.

"When the Land Commissioners were appointed the editor of the *Examiner* expressed himself very decidedly in favour of at least one of them, the Hon. Joseph Howe, the other gentlemen, Messrs. Gray and Ritchie, were admitted to be men of ability and honor, but were supposed to be under the influence of the Proprietors and the Colonial Office. Mr. Whelan did not doubt for a moment that Mr. Howe would be true to the tenantry, and do his duty towards them, but he was satisfied that he would stand alone. Latterly his tone has changed, all the Commissioners, including the radical Mr. Howe, are denounced as humbugs; and attempts are weekly made to throw ridicule on their proceedings."—*Islander of Friday last.*

This above extract from the *Islander* contains a dilaborate untruth. The Commissioners were never denounced as humbugs by Mr. Whelan, nor, we think, by any one else. The Commission—the Court—the institution—the Enquiry—call it what you like—is what we have proclaimed to be a humbug, and seven eighths of the people of this Island regard it in the same light. We have as much respect for the Commissioners individually as we have ever had,—we think it would be extremely difficult to find better men for the service in any of the Provinces; but we do think that they have been placed in a false position through the mismanagement and insincerity of the Government of this Island, whose great object has been, and is yet, to strengthen the hands of the proprietors, and confirm doubtful titles to land. The Commissioners are not allowed to make a report on all the points involved in the general Land Question,—they cannot touch the subject of Escheat, nor the fishery reserves, nor the quit rents, nor the loyalist claims,—they can only report on the propriety of remitting some of the arrears of rent, and fix the price per acre at which landlords should dispose of their properties. But even then their report will be merely a recommendation. If they suggest too large a remission of rents, or put what the proprietors may consider too low a value on Township lands, Sir Samuel Cunard has sufficient influence at the Colonial Office to prevent the operation of any law which may be passed in this Island to give effect to the report of the Commissioners. In fact, the landlords can and will do what they like with their own estates, so long as their titles are considered good, and no Commission, constituted as the present one is, can make them yield one iota of their claims. Concessions to the tenantry must be the offspring of their own good will, and not of any Commissioners' report.

The *Islander* repeats the old and very stale delusion about the wonderful efficacy of the Commission for the removal of nearly every ill that tenant-fish is heir to. The editor says: "We have every confidence in the Commissioners, and if they do not satisfy the people, they will at least benefit them—to a very great extent—and thus do more than the Liberals ever did for them." Last Session the House of Assembly addressed the Lieut. Governor, requesting His Excellency to intercede with the proprietors in order to stay harsh proceedings for the collection of rents pending the award. We have no doubt His Excellency complied with the request of the House; and we know the proprietors have been more exacting and oppressive in their demands than ever they were—issuing writs and distrains in all directions. We were told that the Governor's intercession would be amazingly beneficial to the tenantry; and we have no doubt that the Land Commission will be equally beneficial.

The Commission will continue, however, to be a good stalking-horse for the Government, so long as the thing is not likely to come to a termination, and may be misunderstood by the country. The Legislature will, next Session, be invited to go through the farce of passing a Bill to give effect to the award. The Bill will, of course, be extremely liberal in its provisions, but everybody will understand that it is not expected to receive the royal allowance, and most likely it will be allowed to rest in Mr. Pope's private drawer, as was the case with the other Bill, for five months after it shall have been passed here. Meanwhile the summer of 1862 will have slipped away, and the members and supporters of the Government will have gone back to their constituents, asking for a new lease of office, as a reward for the lofty patriotism they displayed in passing this excellent measure. But the introduction of the hateful spy system in connection with the Commission, has, for the present, sadly damaged the little popularity which the scheme enjoyed; so the people's attention must be directed to something else for the present, in order that they may forget or recover from the annoyance they feel at discovering that there has been a Spy prowling amongst them, with the connivance of the Government, to prove that the testimony given before the Land Commissioners was all false, and the delegates a batch of liars. Orange displays, the formation of Orange lodges, continual abuse of the Catholics, and the propagation of the most dreadful apprehensions on the score of religion, should the present pious Government be overthrown—will do very well to keep up an excitement in the meantime.

And, then, there is the Volunteer movement. It is a capital thing to amuse the people, and divert their minds from politics. To be sure, it will cost the country a few hundred pounds every year,—but it puts money in the purse of some friends and supporters of the Government—paying for rent of drill rooms, drill sergeants, Adjutant General's share of the spoil, and a thousand other little pickings that will drop at the feet of none but staunch friends of the Government. Hundreds of young fellows are happy in possessing rifles, without any cost to them, to amuse themselves in their leisure hours, killing dogs, and birds, and bears, and themselves occasionally; and their smart uniform will excite the fancy of the girls. Then the reviews and the tea-parties are great adjuncts to the general ton-foolery of the movement. The Commander-in-Chief appears on these occasions, and makes a brilliant speech. He is applauded to the echo. Beautiful ladies smile their most gracious approval of the warlike man; and the Major of All the Rifles—looking the very impersonation of Valour—makes a soul-stirring appeal to their patriotism, and eloquently exhorts them to conduct themselves like true soldiers when the French shall come to invade their beloved country—(mentally thanking his stars that the French have not the least intention to do anything of the kind.) All this has a fine effect on the Volunteers and on many of the lookers-on. The Commander-in-chief is declared to be the best man and the most gallant officer in the Queen's service; and the praises of His Excellency become vastly intensified if there be a liberal distribution of prizes for target shooting, graciously given by His Excellency or other members of his family; or if the hospitalities of Government House be freely dispensed to the Volunteers. The Major, too, is a very great man on these occasions; and it would be absurd to think that any ill feeling could be harboured against him on any ground whatever, not even excepting politics. So matters jog pleasantly along between the Volunteers and the Government. The former are so intent on their military displays and exercises that they have not time to think of any thing else; and the Government are only too happy that the minds of a large number of people should be thus occupied, so that they may not be left to brood over the follies and short-comings of the Administration.

The Orange system and the Volunteer movement must, therefore, do the work for the Government which the Land Commission will probably, for the present, fail to accomplish. In short, Buncomb, Humbug and Sham meet with the most generous patronage at the hands of Her Majesty's Ministers in this Colony.

The *Islander* of Friday last manifests much aversion at what the editor is pleased to call the "great liberal meeting at the Ten Mile House." The accurate editor says the meeting was held "on Monday last." That is false. He says that "some thirty gentlemen only" attended. That is also false. The sneer conveyed in the misspelling of the word "gentlemen" only serves to show the mortified feeling under which the editor has written his false notice of the meeting. If the people who assembled at the Ten Mile House on Tuesday evening last would obligingly record their votes for Tory candidates, Mr. Pope would praise them up as the most respectable and intelligent people in the Colony.

The editor of the *Islander* further says that "Mr. Whelan told the audience that the Government had recently sent the Colonial Secretary to New Brunswick to tamper with the Commissioners—that the Mr. Whiteman—sent here by the Commissioners—who spent the winter here collecting information, was employed by the Government to deceive the tenants, and induce them to place a high valuation on their farms, by telling them that railways, &c., were to be immediately constructed—that the Government were only humbugging the Tenantry with the Commissioners, and that the Commissioners was a sham—got up to gull the people, and to confirm the proprietors in their titles—and that the Government was the worst that ever existed in the Colony."

Mr. Whelan told the people nothing like what is related in the above extract, and therefore it is likewise false. We may add, that if he had said the Government is "the worst that ever existed in the Colony"—that there was a Spy here last winter in the person of a Mr. Whiteman, with the connivance of some of the Government, who sought to obtain information for the Land Commissioners under VERY FAKE PATENTICES—that the Land Commission itself is a sham, and that the Government have shamefully humbugged the tenantry about it—Mr. Whelan would have stated nothing but the truth, and Mr. W. H. Pope knows it as well as we do.

Mr. Secretary Pope wants to know why Messrs. Coles and Whelan "do not go to Lot 48, Tryon River, Bedegans and Whelan Eleanor's, and there enlighten Her Majesty's liegsmen?" We beg the Secretary not to be in a hurry—the campaign is just opened—the enemy will be attacked in all the places he has mentioned; and "Coles and Whelan" will be ready to meet him in any locality he likes to name.

Mr. Pope says: "We fear they" (Messrs. Coles and Whelan) "will be older men by many years before they get into power again?" The Secretary has expressed him very incorrectly. He should say: "We hope they will be older men by many years," &c., because he fears the very contrary thing, that they will not be more than a year or two older before the consummation so devoutly to be wished by him, shall take place. We mean to ask the question in our next No., "What have the Government done to entitle them to a long power again?" and what eminent services have been rendered to the country by Mr. W. H. Pope, who scarcely ever attends to the duties of his office, and who is one of the most unpopular men in the Colony—that he should consider, like the rest of the old family Compact, that his Island was created by the Almighty for his special use and benefit?

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE—THE CIVIL WAR.

PRESIDENT LINCOLN'S Message, delivered to Congress on the 4th inst., appears in many of the United States papers received during the week. It is a long document, and written in the worst possible style. It is calm and temperate enough, but as a literary production, it must rank extremely low. As the Congress was called expressly to deliberate on the painful occurrences in the Union during the past few months, the Message has reference to these alone. The history of what is called the Civil War, from the bloodless bombardment of Fort Sumter to the present time, is detailed by the First Magistrate at Washington with particularity and correctness; but the recital is of very little interest to us now. His Excellency most positively denies the right of secession to any State, as he did in his inaugural address on the 4th March, and he declares it to be the intention of the Executive to use all the power which the law and constitution of the United States confer upon him to put down the insurrection in the South. To enable him to accomplish this object, he asks Congress for four hundred thousand men in addition to the present military force of the Union, and four hundred millions of dollars. Congress will most likely comply with this request, and the South may be coerced by the vast resources of the North, but as to there ever being any cordial union between the two divisions of the Republic, we think it would be absurd to expect it. Insurrection in the South, as it is called, may be put down by the strong arm of the North; but the result to violent measures will only serve to perpetuate irritation in the South, and make the hot-blooded people of that section hate their brethren of the North more intensely than ever they did.

We give in another part of our paper some telegraphic despatches, purporting to furnish news from the seat of war. The public have been so often deceived by the reports of the telegraph, that they have ceased to place any dependence upon them. The news lately furnished is not of such a nature as to restore confidence in this medium of intelligence; and in giving the telegrams to our readers we must say that we doubt the authenticity of their most important statements.

His ROYAL HIGHNESS PRINCE ALBERT arrived in this City on Saturday afternoon, in the Steamer *Lady Hood*. His Royal Highness was received at the wharf by His Excellency the Lieut. Governor and Suite, and, without any display or ceremony, was conveyed to Government House in His Excellency's carriage.

ORANGE DISPLAY.

On Friday last a number of Orangemen met on the Prince-town Road, about 13 miles from Town, under the pretence of taking a day's pleasure, but evidently to excite a feeling of hostility against Catholics on the part of the Protestants of that district, where good fellowship and kind feeling prevailed for years before Orange Lodges were formed in this Island. We have heard that some hundreds marched in procession with flags and badges. The day being fine, we are informed that a great number of men, women and children, from the different surrounding settlements were on the ground. But the most remarkable feature in the case was that a number of the Volunteers secretly took their rifles, while many more carried pistols and other deadly weapons. This is what we always expected, that Rifle Companies composed of Orangemen, who were allowed to take home their arms and accoutrements, would on some fine day be found making an unlawful use of them; and there is no doubt that if any misguided individuals had, on the above occasion, obstructed the path of the armed Society people, blood would have been shed by the armed Orangemen in the name of Volunteers. We have heard also that very excitable language was made use of by those who addressed the assemblage, and Catholics were reviled and abused in the most unmeasured terms.

CONVENT EXAMINATION.

The annual Examination of the pupils attending the Female Academy in this City, conducted by the Ladies of Notre Dame, came off on Thursday last. His Lordship the Bishop of Charlottetown, several of his clergy, and a number of other friends of the Institution, were present on the occasion. For upwards of four hours the pupils stood a searching examination on English and French Grammar, Geography, Sacred, Ecclesiastical and Profane History, Biography, Rhetoric, Arithmetic, Chemistry, Natural Philosophy, &c.; and by their prompt and correct answers gave great satisfaction to their friends; as well as did honor to themselves, and reflected much credit on the Institution, which is so efficiently conducted by the good Sisters of the Convent. At the close of the examination, His Lordship complimented the young ladies on the progress which they had made during the past year—encouraged them to persevere, and expressed the pleasure which he felt at the successful manner in which they acquitted themselves on that occasion.

ABSTRACT OF THE CENSUS RETURNS.